

HQ Gallery Featured Artists: Life Experiences Equal Richness of Artistic Expression By Dina Farris Appel

HQ Gallery features two of their member artists with each show, and the current featured members are photographer Dan Suzio and painter Ebba Navas.

Although their work at first appears to have nothing in common other than its beauty, there are interesting commonalities that appear to a perceptive viewer! What could a subtle photo of an ancient rusted-out car interior have in common with a bright and juicy abstract painting?

Ebba's paintings are abstractions, sometimes explosions of pure color, and sometimes hinting at ethereal landscapes, but always harmonious and glowing.

Dan's crisp and traditional photographs capture subjects as varied as a tropical bird in a misty rainforest, to the ruins of an abandoned bank building in the Nevada desert.

The work of both artists shows the result of many years of focus and effort, as both artists have been honing their respective crafts for decades. These photographs and paintings are the thoughtful compositions of the expert eye, honed to perfection.

There is a depth of quality to the work of these life-long artists that can only come from a life of continued work toward mastery of their chosen craft, but there's another factor at play: travel.

Ebba has had a life on the move: North Dakota, Virginia, San Antonio, and Colorado Springs are among the places she's called home as an "Army Wife" and a career nurse.

Cuba, Ecuador, Tanzania, East Timor, Death Valley; these are among the far-flung places on earth where Dan has searched out his subjects.

The writer Proust once said "the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." The artwork of both Dan Suzio and Ebba Navas demonstrates the effect of having artistic vision renewed again and again.

We're in the last weeks to see the current show at HQ Gallery, "Moments In Time" with featured artists Ebba Navas and Dan Suzio, as well as Guest Artist ceramicist Elizabeth Denton. The last day of this show is February 25th. The gallery (with new expanded space!) is open Thursday through Sunday from 11 -5.

HQ Gallery is located at 333 First St. in Benicia, in the historic Washington House building. Hours are Thursday - Sunday, 11-5.