

Sculptures by Esther Wertheimer and other local events

March 17, 12:35 PM • West Palm Beach Fine Arts Examiner • Maxine Schreiber



On Friday, March 19, 2010 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Urs Studio Art Gallery is having an opening reception for IZ and Urs Figurative Paintings and Drawings with Special Guest Esther Wertheimer, internationally known Master Bronze Sculptor. Recently, Art in Public Places in Boynton Beach chose her sculpture "The Visionaries" to be on display for one year in downtown Boynton Beach adjacent to the City Hall.

This past September of 2009, Wertheimer was invited to attend the Fourth Annual 100% Pure Florida Exhibition that was held at the Fifth Avenue Art Gallery in Melbourne. Her colored sculpture, "Madre Gambe Incrociate," won best in show out of 99 artists and 277 works. As a result she will be having a solo exhibition in the gallery the month of June.

Born in Poland, Wertheimer grew up in Montreal, Canada where she started painting and drawing in childhood and sculpting by the time she was twelve years old. In her 30's, she began studying at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and went to Italy in 1967 after winning three scholarships. There she later studied in the Academia of Belle Arte in Florence, Italy under the tutelage of sculptor Mario Moschi. In 1973, she received her B.A. in Fine Arts from Loyola in Montreal and in 1975 a Master in Arts from Goddard College in Vermont.

She is as proud of her teaching experience as she is of her art works. She taught in Loyola for four years and is happy to report that her student body grew from forty students when she began to 1,000 students when she left. One can only imagine that she inspired the young artists with her own joyful depictions of humanity. She continues to enjoy lecturing and will be speaking at the Brevard Art Museum this Spring.

Her approximately 34 monumental bronze sculptures, some as tall as 30' (all of which won competitions) grace city halls, performing art centers, museums, and parks in the United States, Canada, and Japan. Her themes of love, families, dancing women, and mothers with children can be also be seen in her smaller bronze and colored sculptures, a number which will be on display in Urs Art Studio Gallery. Sculptor George Wells and painter/sculptor David Alfonsetti will also be exhibiting work. The gallery is located at 802 N. Federal Hwy in Boynton Beach, 561-734-6926.

Also this week the Village Art Studios in Tequesta at 377-387 Tequesta Drive (next to the Lighthouse Center for the Arts) will be having a Third Thursday on March 18, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Meet the artists and enjoy refreshments as well as light opera and jazz.