



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Transcendental Vision ***Japanese Culture and Contemporary Art***

Opening Reception: Friday, January 27, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Exhibition Dates: Friday, January 27 - Sunday, February 26, 2012
Address: The Independent, 600 Ortiz Ave., Sand City, CA

How has Japanese culture in its myriad forms influenced Western thinking and specifically, contemporary art? ***Transcendental Vision, Japanese Culture and Contemporary Art*** addresses this question through the work of twelve contemporary artists, each of whom is influenced by the Japanese sensibility.

“Although there are obvious visual differences in their work, the artists in this exhibition have transcended the ancient East-West divide to express a vision of spirituality and the sacredness of everyday things.” states Gail Enns, curator of the month-long show.

Enns’ own personal background with contemporary art and Japanese culture stems from having curated exhibitions at the Japanese Ambassador’s residence and the Japanese Cultural Center in Washington, DC, and at the Nippon Gallery in the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in New York City, NY.

Transcendental Vision, Japanese Culture and Contemporary Art will be presented at the Independent, located in the heart of Sand City, with an opening night celebration on Friday, January 27. This month-long installation features works by **Tom Nakashima, Rob Barnard, Jerry Takigawa, Sandy Yagy, Mark Tanous, Masako Takahashi, Laurel Farrin, Lisa Solomon, Grace Munakata, Sharron Antholt, Tamiko Kawata and Mary Annella Frank**. The expressions of art range include ceramics, photographs, sculpture, paintings and installations.

Heroes All: Our Nisei Veterans, by photojournalist Tom Graves, will be presented in tandem with ***Transcendental Vision***. The show honors Japanese Americans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II. Graves’ black and white photographs capture images of these veterans 70 years after America's entry into WWII.

The exhibitions are sponsored by Sand City, the Sand City Arts Committee, the Orosco Group, the Japanese American Citizens League, and produced by Celadon Inc., a 501(c) (3) organization that works to develop partnerships between business, art groups, and society at large.

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Related Events:

Saturday, January 28, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Ceramics Workshop by Rob Barnard at MPC

Monterey Peninsula College hosts a one day ceramic workshop with Rob Barnard. Barnard, a recipient of two grants from the National Endowment for the Art, is a frequent contributor to the *Studio Potter, Ceramics, Art & Perception, American Craft, and Ceramics Monthly*. Barnard teaches ceramics at The Catholic University of America.

Contact Mark Tanous 831.915.7135 or tanousceramics@aol.com (Monterey Peninsula College Art and Ceramics Wheel-Throwing AC117.)

Sunday, February 19, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Day of Japanese American Remembrance

A special ceremony for *Day of Japanese American Remembrance* hosted by the Japanese American Citizens League of the Monterey Peninsula will be held at The Independent in conjunction with *Transcendental Vision and Heroes All: Our Nisei Veterans*. Among the speakers will be Larry Oda, past National President of the Japanese American Citizen League, and Tom Graves.

Friday, February 24, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Sake and Food Tasting Event

Monterey's Downtown Dining sponsors a special Sake Tasting/Food Tasting event for the exhibition *Transcendental Vision, Japanese Culture and Contemporary Art* and *Heroes All: Our Nisei Veterans*.

**The exhibitions run from Friday, January 27 through Sunday, February 26.
Hours are 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Wednesday through Sunday and by appointment.
celadoninc@aol.com. 831.747.1088 or 202.253.4057**

The Independent, 600 Ortiz Ave., Sand City, CA