

BERKELEY TIMES

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STAYING POWER – Ferni Aloe Maple, 17 x 13 in, woven cotton and rayon, by Lia Cook, 2022, one piece of a triptych titled “Spring Upstart,” 2023. Cook’s fabulous weaving is just one of the eye-dazzling artworks now being exhibited at SHOH Gallery (700 Gilman St., shohgallery.com), as part of an all-women show titled, “Staying Power: Women Artists Forging Through the Decades.” About this collection of artworks, some current and some from back in the day, exhibition curator Jan Wurm commented: “It’s our culture, it’s our legacy, and it’s important.” It’s also not to be missed. To read more about “Staying Power,” turn to page 14.

INSIDE	CITY NEWS	3	BACK TO SCHOOL	9	ARTS CALENDAR.....	13
	RICHARD DIXEY BOOK.....	4	FEATURES	10	STAYING POWER	14
	COMMUNITY CALENDAR	6	JUANA ALICIA SYMPOSIUM	11	DIARY OF A LADY	15
	SCHOOLS	8	ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT.....	12	POEM & DEDICATION	16

SHOH Gallery presents *Staying Power: Women Artists Forging Through the Decades*

BY R. TODD KERR

Staying Power: Women Artists Forging Through the Decades, the current exhibition at SHOH Gallery has a “Whodunnit?” quality. Crisply curated by Jan Wurm, one of the shakers and movers within the Bay Area Women Artists’ Legacy Project (bawalp.org), this show features the artworks of eight Bay Area artists, just two works each (with one exception), all women who have managed to stay productive through decades of artistic struggle: Kim Anno, Lorraine Bonner, Lia Cook, Diana Krevsky, Jeannie O’Connor, Hilda Robinson, Livia Stein, with two paintings (from 1980 and 2022, see images #5, #6) by Wurm.

This exhibition presents works from each artist that were produced back in the day along with another created more recently. But each pair is presented separately, not adjacent to its sister, forcing gallery viewers to sleuth out the pairs...and then attempt to fathom the decade of origination. Who knew that an art exhibition could be so stimulating, especially for someone whose mind’s eye came of age in the second half of the 20th century.

One leaves this show feeling so proud of the artists it shows, so satisfied by the experience of this exhibition, and so glad for the perspective of its curator, Jan Wurm, who has shown all the women in *Staying Power* during her previous incarnation as artistic director of Richmond Art Center (2014-2018).

“It’s our culture, it’s our legacy, and it’s important,” Wurm told *Berkeley Times* about her inspiration for this show.

Staying Power opened on Sunday, Aug. 17, and runs through Saturday, Sep. 23. An opening reception will be held Saturday, Sep. 9, from 5 – 8 p.m. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

SHOH Gallery is located at 700 Gilman St.; hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon – 6 p.m. For more info, call (510) 504-9988 or go to shohgallery.com

Upcoming artist talks

Thursday, Sep. 14, 6 – 7 p.m.: **Jan Wurm in conversation with Diana Krevsky, Livia Stein, and Hilda Robinson**; SHOH Gallery, 700 Gilman St. Free

Saturday, Sep. 23, 2 – 3 p.m.: **Jan Wurm in conversation with Kim Anno, Lorraine Bonner, Lia Cook, and Jeannie O’Connor**; SHOH Gallery, 700 Gilman St. Free

Show highlights: 1. Staff photo of the current exhibition at SHOH Gallery, “*Staying Power: Women Artists Forging Through the Decades.*” • 2. **Wounded World Healer** – 19 x 12 x 16 in., clay, by Lorraine Bonner, 2017. • 3. **Vices** – 36 x 30 in., oil on panel, by Livia Stein, 2023. • 4. **What Time Is It?** – 62 x 22 x 4 in., assemblage of wood with mixed medium and found objects, by Diana Krevsky, 2017. • 5. **Wyatt Earp & Annie Oakley** – 72 x 71 in., oil on canvas, by Jan Wurm, 1980. • 6. **Anthropology** – 36 x 36 in., oil on canvas, by Jan Wurm, 2022.



images courtesy of SHOH Gallery