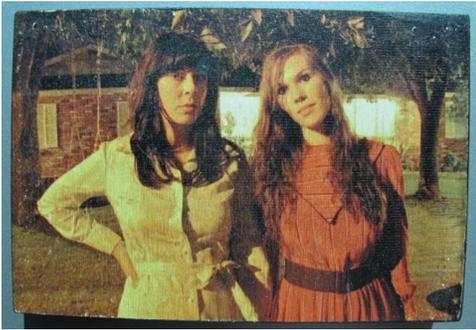


People are People

April 6 - Aug. 1, 2012
Connections Café

Both of the Arizona artists in this exhibition are interested in portraying everyday people. Before the exhibition, the artists had not met. Pamela Carvajal Drapala lives in Yuma and has been making art a long time. Adrian Lesoing lives in Mesa and is a newly emerging artist. After sharing images and conversations in preparation for the show, they found a common interest: tattoos. Drapala has painted portraits of many people with tattoos and Lesoing is a heavily tattooed individual. The shared interests also reveal a common thread of understanding that even though people may look different, at the heart of things, they are all people sharing the same human conditions.

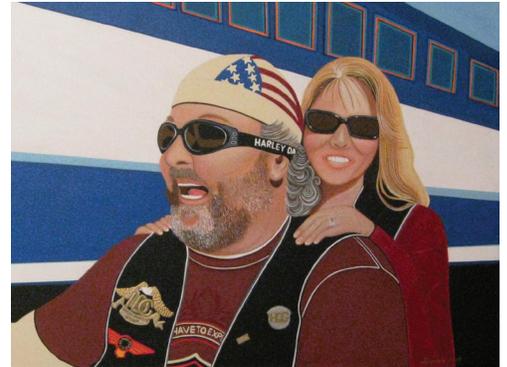


Untitled by Adrian Lesoing

About the Artists

Lesoing grew up in Lincoln, Neb., and earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Photography from Arizona State University. Lesoing's photographs have been exhibited in numerous group exhibitions throughout the United States, including recent shows at the Midwest Center for Photography in Wichita, Kan. Lesoing's photography focuses on issues dealing with food awareness and her experiences with living in the suburbs. Within the realm of photography, she enjoys working with alternative processes in the wet darkroom. Her series, "Sisters," is a collaborative process inspired by a series of questions initiated by Tye Rabens, a professional Arizonan writer of relationships and assumptions.

As a lifelong resident of the Southwest, **Drapala** obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies in English with a focus in Art from Northern Arizona University and earned a nearly perfect GPA. Besides her expansive exhibition history, Drapala has contributed her efforts to many volunteer, educational and membership communities, including the founding of the Vincent A. Carvajal Art Scholarship for high school seniors in Yuma. Drapala most commonly paints faces using line as a primary element of expression. She depicts the wholeness of a person's being through a careful study of that person's life, customs and costumes. Her paintings portray a dignified ethnicity in her subjects whose shapes, she claims, are formed from her subconscious mind.



*2012 Tempe Kevin and Lori
by Pamela Carvajal Drapala*