

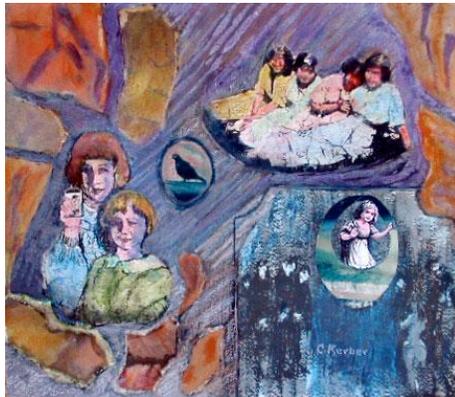


March 10, 2018
San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



Finally...Charlotte Kerber **A Retrospective Art Exhibit** at the San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center

APRIL 3 – 28, 2018
Gala Opening Reception, Sunday, April 8, 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Charlotte Kerber, a prolific Valley artist, who has painted for many years, never desired to have her own solo art exhibit. So one asks the question, “Why didn’t she want to do it?”

Over decades, a very close friend of the family offered to finance an exhibit of her art, but Charlotte’s response was always, “No.” Stan Reed believed in her talent, begging her to have an exhibit to receive the recognition she rightly deserved, for her life’s artwork, and to share the beauty that enhanced her home in the San Fernando Valley. Charlotte wasn’t interested...until finally at the age of 96, she agreed. Sadly and ironically, the exhibit will open April 3, 2018, nearly one month to the day after her recent death on March 2, 2018.

Finally her watercolors, collages, prints and acrylic paintings will be shown. As Charlotte grew weaker, her eyes lit up when hearing of the plans for this project from her daughter, Stephanie and she was very enthused about it. Charlotte’s passing on March 2, was also the exact date of Stan’s 97th birthday. Such is life.

Now the public will be able to enjoy the glorious array of colorful, well-executed pieces of an artist who constantly studied, and had a passion for learning. Charlotte, who decided to study art at California State University at Northridge at age 55, received her Bachelor of Arts degree. She became a member of the San Fernando Valley Art Club, Women Painters West, Valley Watercolor Society, Collage Artists of America and Studio 10. This woman of many talents often attended art workshops, collected art books, and participated in collective art exhibits all over Los Angeles. Charlotte had the mental energy of a young person, always wanting to stay on top of techniques and various art genres. Her pieces vary in size and medium, with her styles ranging from realistic to abstract. Her subject matter came from her many trips to Italy to visit her daughter, still lifes (including many objects that were meaningful to her), and her own family. This wide variety of art will fill the spacious and inviting gallery at the San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center in Tarzana. This solo exhibit is definitely a sentimental and nostalgic journey through the eyes of one Charlotte Kerber.

Why would an artist chose to NOT put themselves in the spotlight, to receive well-deserved praise after creating hundreds of art pieces, and showing so much talent? And why did she finally give in and say yes? Notebooks found in her home, phrases written on scraps of paper and even on the back of her art are beginning to answer those questions. Charlotte was a private person, keeping many of her feelings to herself, and not wanting to put her art “on stage.” A twenty-page autobiography, which luckily was found on the artist’s computer, gives some clues to who this woman really was. These revelations are starting to “paint” a more well-rounded picture of Charlotte Kerber, wife, mother, friend, musician and artist.

Charlotte’s autobiography expresses more of her inner personal thoughts. In fact, during her life she did not want this writing to be opened until after her passing. Like so many women of her generation she spoke of loneliness, and at times feeling a need to be more independent. By working in various fields including doing secretarial work for the Veteran’s Administration Hospital in Sepulveda, CA and Dr. Arthur Cherkin who researched memory and aging, she was able to achieve that independence. She had an astounding and a very organized mind in doing all things with logic and precision. Her inquisitive mind gave her the capability of learning to use (and fix) a computer by herself well into her 90s. She raised four children from two different husbands (the first being Olympic medal winner, Stephan Seymour). The love of both art and music has been a constant in her life. Finally, Charlotte’s spirit will soar through her art and this solo exhibit that took such a long time for her to accept.

Since opening in October 2014, the SFVACC has hosted an impressive roster of art exhibitions. A community as well as a cultural space, the SFVACC sponsors workshops, live performances, meetings, lectures and special events. It is also home to three artist studios. Housed in a 4,595 square-foot venue, the SFVACC boasts a 3,000 square-foot gallery space with expansive walls, sophisticated hanging and lighting systems, T-shaped display walls, a performance stage, and professional sound system. For more information, please visit www.sfvacc.org.

Please contact Carolyn Uhri, SFVACC President to coordinate an interview carolyn@sfvacc.org

