

Conversations

July 27-Sept. 19, 2007

Connections Café

This exhibition features two very active, intelligent and dedicated artists, who are as committed to art making as they are to the development of the local arts community.

Jeff Falk has been showing his work since 1973 and **Katherine Nicholson** has been showing her work since 1995. Neither had met one another before this exhibition.

While they found that they have varied experiences, they also share quite a few approaches to making art. They are both

collectors of ideas and materials, they both collaborate with other artists on an ongoing basis and they both share a positive vision for the arts.

It was because of this shared dedication that they were asked not only to show some recent work but also to talk with each other and share their thoughts about art, collaboration and the Valley's art scene.



Marking Time - Collecting
by Katherine Nicholson

About the Artists

Katherine Nicholson received a bachelor of fine arts degree in sculpture and printmaking from Washington University in St. Louis and a master of fine arts in printmaking from Arizona State University. Her current work on paper concentrates on signs of life left behind in the environment. Much like the marks made by artists, these "trails" made by nature, animals and humans reveal tangible evidence of life and time gone by. They mark movement and relationships within the natural world over a non-linear timeline.

The marks for this body of work were collected from the Sonoran Desert and the Salt River east of Phoenix. She recorded the marks left by animals by placing coated copper etching plates in the desert, by pulling sheets of handmade paper directly in the current of the river, by gathering algae and other matter from the river and by making impressions into clay with objects found at the river. The data collection process helped her to define a relationship with the environment and create her own visual vocabulary while doing so in the most non-invasive manner possible.

Long-time Valley resident and Phoenix-based artist **Jeff Falk** has seen first-hand the growth of the city and the art scene. He has studied art at Glendale Community College, Arizona State University and Phoenix College and has shown his work in more than 200 exhibitions in the United States, Canada and Mexico. He has been active in the local art scene for many years and met his wife and fellow artist, Annie Lopez, through M.A.R.S., Movimiento Artístico Del Rio Salado, an artist run cooperative in Phoenix.

2007 has been a busy year for Jeff with a solo exhibition at Burton Barr Library in downtown Phoenix, a two-person exhibition with Annie at the Mesa Arts Center and the Tempe Library Connections Café exhibition. His work has been described by friends, curators and press as subtle narrative, quietly subversive, daunting and beautiful and issue-based. Good friend and local artist, Larry Yanez, says Jeff is a, "contemporary folk storyteller who makes statements about today's trials and errors."

Art Connections Café

With Katherine Nicholson and Jeff Falk
Noon, Sept. 13
Connections Café
Tempe Public Library
3500 S. Rural Road

www.tempe.gov/arts/events/cafe.htm

Connections Café hours

9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Thursday
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday
Noon to 5:30 p.m., Sunday
(Closed on city-observed holidays)