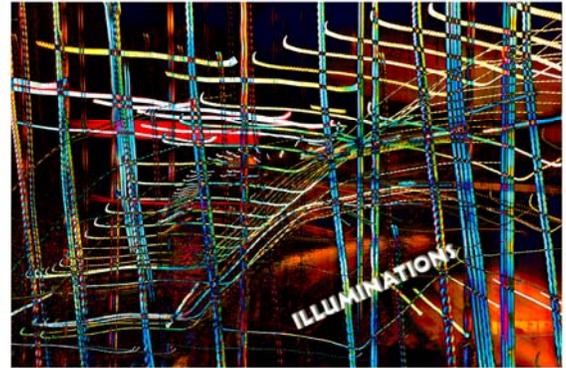


For Immediate Release:**Contact:** Jeanne Tift, co-curator
703.960.3873 or jldtiff@cox.net**ILLUMINATIONS: PAINTINGS, PRINTS, INSTALLATIONS**
Exhibit August 7 - 30, 2009 / Opening Reception Friday 8/7 (7 – 9 pm)

Alexandria, VA (July 13, 2009) Del Ray Artisans (DRA) announces its 2009 annual showing of works by six members of the DRA Board of Directors who have volunteered in that role for over two years. The exhibit showcases several media -- painting, photography, gardening, and painted glass – in a wide range of styles and expressions that are produced by the leaders of this local group of artists and artisans. The public opening of the exhibit will be Friday, August 7, 2009, from 7pm - 9pm.

Painters exhibiting are Michele Reday Cook and Margaret Slipek. Michele's oils and watercolors show the effects of changing weather and light on land, sea, and still life arrangements, as well as examples of her new interest in terra cotta sculpture of the human figure. Margaret's oils, she says, deal with the ambiguities and intangible elements of our existence, seeking to express psychological depths of wonder and magic that lie beyond obvious reality.



Photographers exhibiting are Jeanne Tift and Christina Richardson. Jeanne Tift makes digital photographs, fascinated with the effects of sunlight on different landscapes around the world—mountains, desert, ocean, river valleys—which she manipulates slightly to produce digital pigment prints that look a little like paintings. Christina Richardson is showing a recently-made series of photographs of “Del Ray through the Eyes of Daisy Mae.” (Daisy Mae is her service dog.)

Gardener Nora Partlow will create changing live installations of flowers, herbs, foliage, and natural objects from her award-winning garden, which is certified by the National Wildlife Federation. Her seasonal diary and photographs will also be shown. Donn Grover will show recent examples of his painted glass in old window frames, hung in the entry windows of the gallery.

The gallery, located where Mount Vernon Avenue crosses Commonwealth Avenue, is open Thursdays from noon until 4 p.m., Fridays from noon until 9 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m., and Sundays from noon until 6 p.m.

For more information about the **Illuminations** exhibit, contact Jeanne Tift at 703.960.3873 or jldtiff@cox.net. Visit <http://www.thedelrayartisans.org> for directions and for information about additional programs during the exhibit.

The mission of the Del Ray Artisans is to foster a community of artists and art supporters who are a viable source for the development, teaching, and furtherance of appreciation of the arts through exhibits and events for members and the diverse populations in the City of Alexandria, the communities of Northern Virginia, and the greater Washington metropolitan area.

Special thanks to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Alexandria for their continued support of Del Ray Artisans, a 501(c)(3) organization.

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