

JUDY NILSEN TO EXHIBIT AT AFS GALLERY

Visual artist Judy Nilsen will be exhibiting her assemblage art in a show entitled “Spring”, at the AFS Gallery from May 12 - June 23, 2007. Each work is paired with a quotation that inspired its creation, and each includes a spring in its composition. The quotations come from such celebrated sources as Wallace Stevens and Christopher Morley. Nilsen’s assemblage sculptures have a joyful vitality and playful humor which suits the theme of this show. An artist reception, open to the public, will be held on May 19, from 4:00 until 6:00 pm.

Art From Scrap has been a source of inspiration and materials for Nilsen since she moved to Santa Barbara from the San Fernando Valley twelve years ago. “Back then the warehouse was located in an airplane hangar in Goleta down by the airport,” Nilsen recalled. “I would go there for interesting objects and supplies for the elementary art classes I was teaching at the time.”

Nilsen works in many media, including pottery, painting and collage. “Spring” will be her first assemblage show in Santa Barbara. Nilsen’s academic background is in American Folk Art; her assemblage art is lively and inventive.

“I love working with scrap materials,” she said. “Sometimes I’m on a quest for something specific. Other times I’ll notice that an object seems to be waiting to be found.”

As well as teaching elementary school art, Nilsen taught art for adult classes through San Fernando Valley's Pierce College and the Los Angeles Adult Education District. She has also worked for an interior design firm, painting murals and sourcing accessories. Now retired from teaching, Nilsen is active in the Santa Barbara arts community as a member of a number of groups, including the Arts Advisory for City Council where she explores local, long term sustainability for the arts.

AFS Gallery is located upstairs at the Art From Scrap warehouse, 302 East Cota Street, in downtown Santa Barbara. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm. For more information, please contact Art From Scrap at (805) 884-0459.