

summerfun



# ART WALK - SAN CLEMENTE

- Enjoy an Enchanting Evening of Art



and display their creations. Art lovers can indulge in wine tasting at Montouri's or Antoine's.

Artist and owner of BeachFire Grill, Dave Donaldson and George Gooch, president of the San Clemente Arts Association are the visionaries that got the ball rolling two years ago. Says Donaldson, "San Clemente is a historical community that attracts many talented artists, and the streets are lined with an abundance of unique shops. We

Evening scene of the Art Walk on Avenida Del Mar



Ardision Phillips, winemaker & owner of McKeon-Phillips Winery pours wine for guests



Every last Thursday of the month, an enchanting and captivating transformation takes place in the early evening hours of the streets and squares of San Clemente. Local artists, musicians and restaurateurs come alive to share their talents and fill the streets with colorful art, flavorful cuisine and a magical ambiance.

Locals and tourists alike are welcome to be part of this historic community's enchanted event delight, as local artists work on the sidewalk

wanted to bring together local residents and tourists to experience the flavor of our cultural town. We have accomplished this in a very relaxed and comfortable environment."

Expanded greatly this year, the pageantry now includes Avenida Del Mar, the Old City Plaza, San Clemente Art Supply, which offers several classes for children and adults, Pier Bowl, and Casa Romantica Cultural Center, formally the home of Ole Hanson, the town founder,



Carmen Matta, Owner of Dream Gardens

Along Avenida Del Mar, you'll be delighted with an abundance of unique shops, bars and restaurants. One such gallery, Dream Gardens, offers unique gifts, which exudes an eclectic mix of artwork, plants, fashion accessories and home décor. The entire store is a bedded collection of whimsical, one-of-a-kind pieces.

The walls of Dream Gardens are decorated with oil paintings done on canvas that hang as tapestries. Says Carmen Matta, owner of Dream Gardens, "Originally the tapestries were designed for aesthetics, but they were so well received by many of our patrons that today, we sell them right off the wall."

Karen Atkins and Tara Blair, owners of For The Art of It, created the tapestries. They are regularly commissioned to design and install murals in residential homes and commercial establishments, such as the historic Depot in San Juan Capistrano.

The Old City Plaza is much more than just a charming piazza. It is a historic haven and home to the original downtown San Clemente jail and firehouse. Today's plaza shops were once stalls filled with horses and hay. But for Yolondo Schoesch, photographer and owner of Y. Schoesch Photography, the plaza goes well beyond that. "It's a small town environment. Everyone

is friendly with everyone. We feel like one big family."

The Plaza features eight retail stores, five restaurants and five service-oriented establishments. You can find everything from fine oriental silks at Designer Fabric Show Room to unique plaster art at Totally Plastered. Indulge yourself in an array of international delicacies at the Blue Danube or take pleasure in the local cuisine of Los Patios and yes, if you're in the mood for Chinese, New Mandarin Garden is there to indulge your palate. And, if you're an early riser and breakfast tickles your fancy than eat at Adele's before you stroll the shops.

Mark your calendar for July 29, August 26 and September 30 to stroll the sidewalks of charming San Clemente, celebrate your community and meet your talented neighbors. Come early, for the festivities start at 6:00 p.m. and go until 9:00 p.m. ☉

— Leslie Stevens

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