

# Santa Ysabel Art Gallery

30352 Highway 78 . P.O. Box 480 . Santa Ysabel, CA 92070 . 760-765-1676

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: ANNIE ROWLEY  
760-765-1676

---

SANTA YSABEL, CA . . .

## **JAMES HUBBELL HONORS SANTA YSABEL ART GALLERY WITH A PARTY AND EXHIBIT**

James Hubbell has a new show at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery. An inspiring installation that he has titled *Totems: A Gathering of Memories, Dreams and Wishes*. To poet Hubbell the name Totems suggests the marking of a path, the marking of a road. Santa Ysabel Art Gallery has been part of James Hubbell's path for 23 years. He is hosting a party and celebration to honor this 23 year old gallery, and the art community that has grown up around it, that will be held in conjunction with the Opening Reception for his *Totems* exhibit. The date for the party and Opening Reception for *Totems* is Saturday, March 7, 4-8 PM. Admission is free. The public is invited.

James Hubbell is an internationally acclaimed San Diego County artist. Hubbell, a sculptor, painter, stained glass artist, poet and designer and builder has created many large pieces of public art in San Diego County and around the world. This new exhibit, *Totems: A Gathering of Memories, Dreams and Wishes* will feature sculpture, assemblage, drawings, paintings and stained glass.

A major figure in the art and architecture world, James Hubbell studied design and painting at Whitney Art School in New Haven, Connecticut until being drafted into the army and serving in Korea. Returning home, he chose to study painting and sculpture at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. In 1958 he married Anne Stewart, a teacher, and moved to Santa Ysabel, in the mountains of San Diego County near Julian. It is here the couple designed and built their home and studio with help from family and friends. They named it Ilan-Lael, a Hebrew name which to them symbolized the joining together of spirit and matter in wholeness. With the building of additional studio buildings and the artistically famous 'Boy's House', an adjunct dwelling that they built for their own four growing sons, Ilan-Lael grew into what is now known as the Hubbell

compound, the place from which James Hubbell has made his art for over 40 years.

The original Hubbell house and studio have been rebuilt in recent years after burning in the Cedar wildfire of 2003. After the fire, the home was designated as an historical site by San Diego County. James and Anne Hubbell host the Ilan-Lael Foundation Open House there, a fundraiser, every year on Father's Day.

Hubbell has designed hundreds of commissions: glass, doors, sculpture, architectural details, fountains and gardens. When building, James Hubbell works in stained glass, forged iron, wood, cement and other materials. He has designed and built restaurants, homes, chapels, schools and parks. He is best known for the Chapel at Sea Ranch, in Northern California, and for the Doors of Abu Dhabi, now in the United Arab Emirates. Current Hubbell projects include three new buildings that will comprise the Ilan-Lael Art and Nature Center at the Hubbell compound in Santa Ysabel, and two large windows that frame the entrance doors of the new Ramona Library.

James Hubbell's work has become known through videos and publications in the United States and from abroad. He is the subject of two KPBS public television documentaries: *The Art and Vision of James Hubbell* and *Eye of the Beholder*. In the past decade he has been honored with several exhibits at the Oceanside Museum of Art and the Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park. Hubbell was also featured and with an exhibit, *The Architecture of Jubilation* at the Shusev Central Museum of Architecture in Moscow, Russia.

For many years Hubbell has led design / build classes with students, with some of these classes leading to the construction of parks around the Pacific Rim. There are now seven Pacific Rim Parks. The most recently completed park was built in Taiwan with the help of twenty-four architectural students from around the world. James Hubbell sees the parks as a way to open up dialogue about evolving Pacific culture and community.

Santa Ysabel Art Gallery is located at 30352 Highway 78 at Highway 79 in Santa Ysabel, seven miles below Julian. Admission to the gallery is free. Gallery hours are Thursday through Monday, 11AM - 5 PM, and by appointment. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. For more information call 760-765-1676.