## SANTA YSABEL ART GALLERY

21979:1900/xxxxx 30352 Highway 78 P.O. Box 480 Santa Ysabel, California 92070 RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY (619) 765-1676

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Santa Ysabel, Ca. - Watercolors by Audrey Dickinson and sculptures by Alan Ashby open an exhibit at the SAnta Ysabel Art Gallery, Saturday, February 19, with a reception for the artists from 4 to 8 p.m.

Dickinson, a Julian resident, creates representational style paintings in her studio overlooking Lake Cuyamaca. A native CAlifornian, she settled in the rural back ountry, developing a love of open space and scenic beautyof the rural area, that is reflected in the subject matter of her paintings, wildlife, old barns and wagons, windmills and historical buildings.

Dickinson's plein air paintings of the mountians and deserts of San Diego's East County are in collections through out the United States and abroad.

Her desire to become an artist has been an obsession sicne early childhood. Encouraged and supported by her early art teachers, but discouraged by her fatheras an impractical avocation, she struck a compromise and graduated in 1946 from San Diego State College as an art teacher, and taught in public and parochial schools, while pursuing her career as a painter. She has also taught art to adults and senior citizens in Julian and Ramona.

Dickinson organized the BAck Country Arts FEstival in 1974 in Julian and was the founding president of the Julian Art Guild in 1975, and has remained an active participant in the community's

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Page 2

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artistic growth.

Dickinson has devoted her energy to the civic growth of the Julian community as well, serving a decade as member of the Julian Chamber of Commerce board of directors and it's current secretary. She is chairperson of the board of directors of Lake Cuyamaca Park and REcreation District and a member of the Triangle Club.

Ashby, a Ramona resident, composes his abstract sculptures of objects found in daily life. In describing the formation of his sculptures, Ashby says, "they are nothing you haven't seen before. By bringing the objects together, they become a profusion of mimicry, appealing to viewer's emotions and a relationship is established between the sculptue and viewer."

The show continues through March 27.

The Santa Ysabel Art Gallery is located at 30352 Highway 78, Santa Ysabel. Hours are 10 a.m., until 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Call 765-1676 for more inforamtion.