

SANTA YSABEL ART FESTIVAL

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RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY
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Santa Ysabel, Ca., ---"Full Circle: the art of Ruth Almstedt", a Julian resident, who has been involved in the arts for more than fifty years, is the featured artist at the Santa Ysabel Art Gallery through October 18.

Almstedt is exhibiting a cross section of her work, basketry, paintings and photography, as well as MRRA pieces, which intergrate basketry and pottery.

Almstedt's paintings are in water color, mixed media, and collage and in both representational and abstract styles. Most recently, she has been expermenting with hot wax as a pictorial medium.

During the late sixties, as an anthropology graduate student, Almstedt became seriously interested in California Indian basketry and was concered that the technical skills for their creation were being lost. She determined to learn all she could about the process, materials, and preparation and collection of the fibers used. Her first basketry teacher was Julia Parker of Yosemite who taught her Miwok and Paiute styles. Later she learned from Mabel McKay, Pomo Indian, Geneva Maattz, Yurok Indian, and Joyce Saufke, Hopi.

Her basketry exhibit will include traditional baskets, pine needle baskets, and contemporary baskets of copper and sterling silver.

Almstedt has exhibited her basket work or conducted workshops at the San Diego Museum of Man, Sierra Club Gallery, Pt. Loma College and in the California State and U. S. National Parks.

Photographs by Almstedt have been exhibited in one person shows, the Del Mar Fair, Julian Art Guild shows and published in numerous books, magazines, and newspapers.