

santa fean

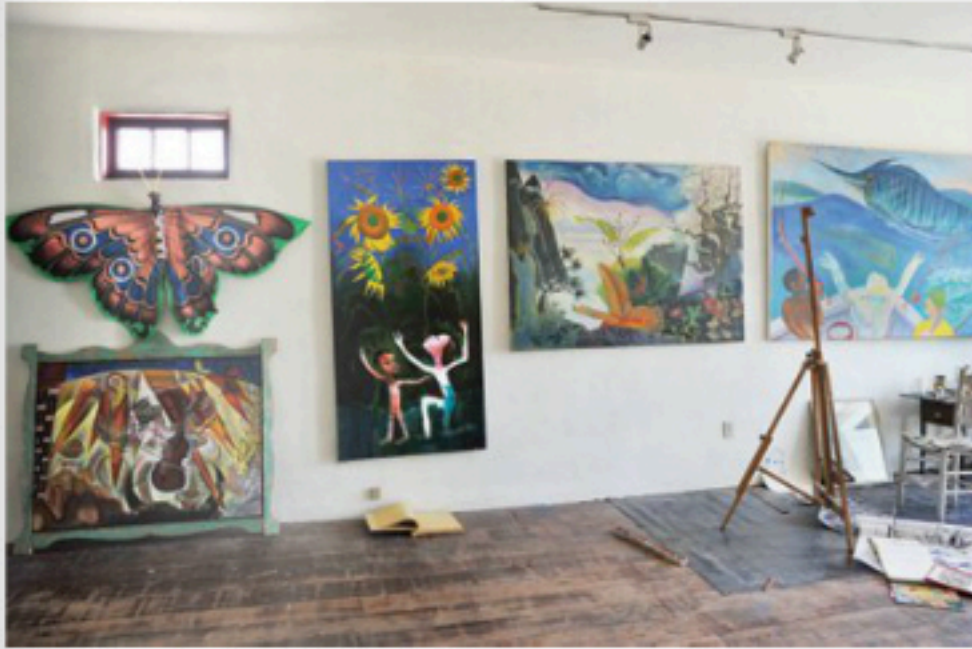
October/November

the home issue

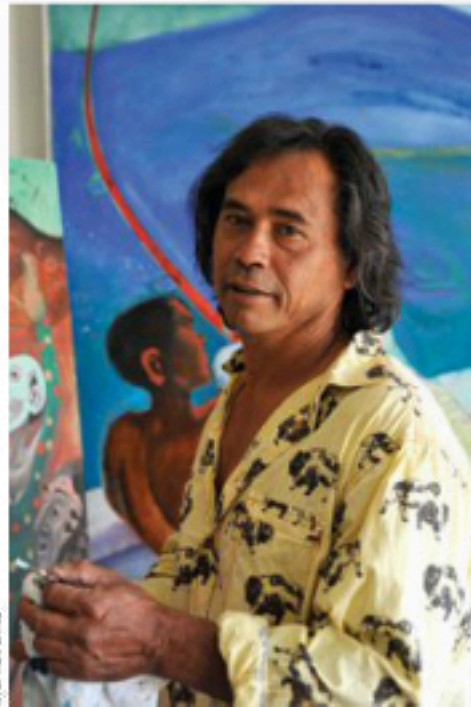
hilltop home, mountain dreaming, enlightened design

Roland van Loon

splashing joy on canvas
by Cristina Olds



MOST SANTA FEANS have seen artist Roland van Loon's exuberant paintings over the last decade and a half, even if they have never visited his studio and gallery at 612 Agua Fria. About 15 years ago, Canyon Road restaurant El Farol commissioned van Loon to paint a mural depicting flamenco dancers and musicians; this year, his painting of lively dancing cows was printed as the menu cover at Cowgirl restaurant in Santa Fe. Two of his paintings will be included in the upcoming International Folk Art Museum's yearlong exhibit *The Spirit of Flamenco* (opening reception with live entertainment November 22, 1–4 PM, internationalfolkart.org). "The dynamic between the audience, the dancers, and the musicians evokes a passion in me that I then paint," van Loon says. "I see the different cultures here in Santa Fe—the Indians, the Mexicans, the Spanish—and I connect the dots to represent how these cultures interact." Living permanently in Santa Fe for the past 15 years, van Loon travels often to his other home in Hawaii where his work is inspired by sea scenes. ■



STEPHEN LIANG

"We're bombarded by so much bad news," says van Loon. "I feel responsible to present the other side and to capture the joy in life."

Roland van Loon, 612 Agua Fria, rolandvanloon.net

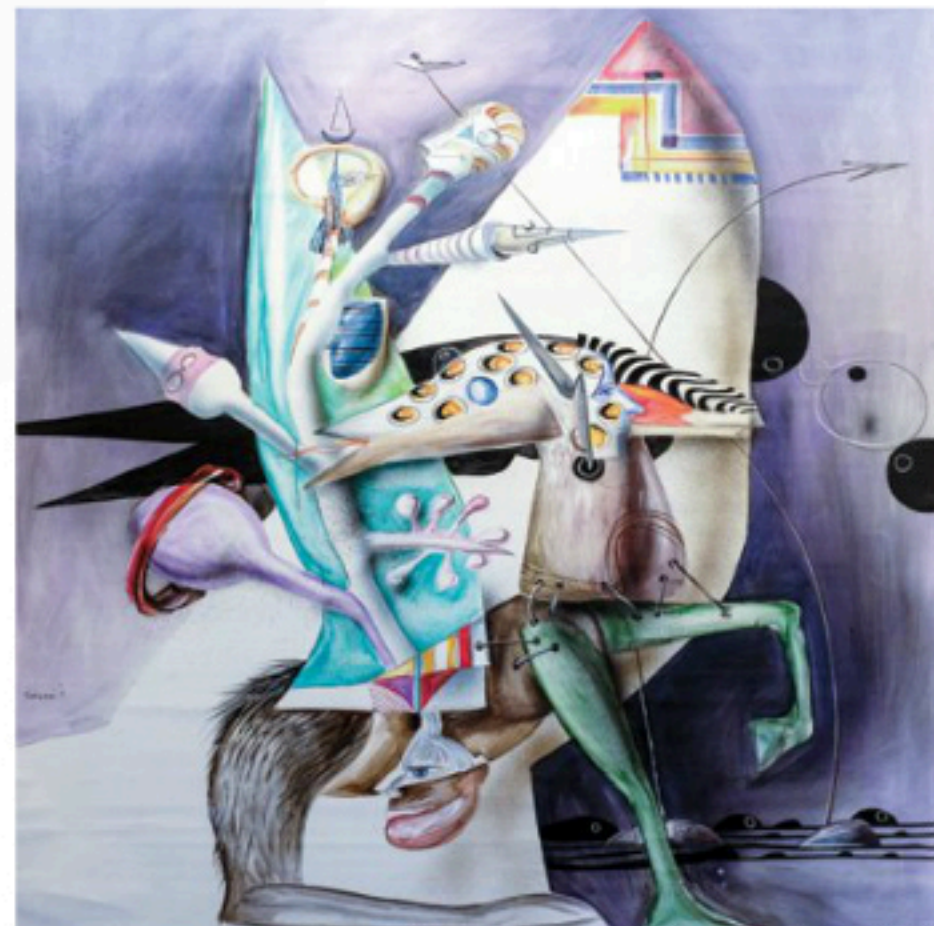


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NICOLAI PANAYOTOV



Seven-headed Rider, Acrylic on canvas, 83"x63"

dining

food | wine | trends | reviews



Cava Santa Fe

The recently completed first phase of renovations at the Eldorado Hotel and Spa's ballroom area include a revamp of the long defunct but much beloved Gallery Bar. Its new iteration, Cava Santa Fe, offers patrons a taste of old Spain from the tapas menu that pairs with a Spanish-influenced wine list. Live entertainment (in the form of Spanish guitar and flamenco dancing) completes the experience from 5–7 PM Wednesdays to Fridays and 6–9 PM Saturdays. Eldorado Hotel's food and beverage director (and the mixologist pictured here), Abraham Juarez, explains that the new lounge is part of Heritage Hotels' commitment to preserving the Spanish culture.

Juarez designed the Cava Manhattan (seen here) as part of the Eldorado's focus on classic cocktails with a special twist. Blending small batch Basil Hayden's Bourbon infused with orange, Carpano Punt e Mes vermouth, and a dash of bitters, the cocktail is served in a 1930s-style Nick and Nora glass.—*Cristina Olds*

Cava Santa Fe, 309 W San Francisco, eldoradohotel.com