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Vivid



Free

A Publication Of Spectrum Art & Jewelry

Notes From Star

Now that summer's over and the days are getting shorter, it is the perfect time to enjoy solitary walks on the beach. It's truly a glorious time to live at the coast. Our cover artwork, by Chapel Hill artist Ginny Chenet, beautifully captures this. "First Light" evokes the dreamy, moody side of the sea and shore.



STAR SOSA

select galleries.

This month's ViViD Home highlights the wonderful style of Lou and Jeanne Criscuolo. This year marks Lou's 25th anniversary as founder and artistic director of the Opera House Theatre Company. Enjoy the two page feature about this pillar of the Wilmington artistic community!

As the holidays approach, we remain firm in our belief that the best ornaments are the kind you can wear! ViViD Style features a spectacular array of our jewelry offerings.

Charlene "the Bon Bon Queen" is back with more ViViD Entertainment tips. Check out her suggestions for dazzling, stress-free holiday parties. You'll also find unique and thoughtful hostess gifts.

We've gathered more great offers from our business partners as well as wonderful recipes and wine suggestions. Don't forget to enter in the raffle for a \$500 gift basket. Details are inside.

We are truly appreciative of your continued support and feedback. We are proud to offer ViViD as an e-zine. Simply visit www.ViViDLifeStyles.com to subscribe.

Have a delightful and vibrant holiday season!

Sosa owns Spectrum Art & Jewelry

www.spectrumartandjewelry.com



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Mark Rosenbaum

A long-time resident of Louisiana, Mark experienced first hand the aftermath of Katrina and is gratified to participate in the rebirth of New Orleans. Concerned about the rapid loss of wetlands in the Gulf coast, he has developed the Reeds & Rushes vase. This design evokes the graceful sway of the grasslands.



Reeds & Rushes 18" tall \$395

ViViD Artist



Medallion Vases 9" tall \$210

A donation will be made from the proceeds of these vases to the "Voices of the Wetlands" in an effort to save this important ecological treasure.



Wavy Bowl \$375

Artist's Statement:

"After more than twenty-five years of working with glass, I have gained an understanding of the constant dialogue between artist and material. A lapse of concentration can ruin a piece, but a controlled flick of the wrist or light breath through the blowpipe can give the piece a subtle curve or movement that makes it extraordinary. This controlled spontaneity is what makes glass so magical."

TOP: Handkerchief Vase \$590

Want to see your ViViD Home featured? Contact Spectrum Art & Jewelry at (910) 256-2323. Don't forget to ask about our upcoming ViViD Home Contest!

Vive Bene

With collectors Lou & Jeanne Criscuolo

By Nancy Noel May

Over the fireplace in Lou and Jeanne Criscuolo's new home is a wonderful carving that reads: "*Vive Bene ~ Spesso L'Amore ~ Di Risatta Molta.*"

Translation: "Live Well... Love Much... Laugh A Lot." That describes their life to a "T".

It has been my delight to know Lou for more than 15 years. He has always impressed me with his love of the arts and especially his avid support of local artists.

Their recently constructed and historically-inspired downtown home is truly a treat. The bright red front door sets the tone for an explosion of color and style waiting within. An eclectic mix of art,





antiques and colorful fabrics are a feast for the eyes. The spacious interior provides room for family, entertaining and their extensive art collection. Everywhere you look you'll see art, hanging in spaces over windows and doors, marching up the stairwell and even in the elevator!

Jeanne personally designed much of their new home working with designer-builder, Rob Zapple.

Lou and Jeanne can't say enough good things about Rob; his attention to detail and easiness to work with made the process a joy. They spent their first night in the new home exactly four years to the day from the day they met.

When asked about his art collecting style, Lou stated that not only does each item have to "grab me" but it also has to be something that he can live with. Other than that he's pretty open. Both the Criscuolos emphasized that while they usually agree on new art purchases, it is not the final factor. If either one loves it enough, they get it.

Lou came to Wilmington over twenty-five years ago from New York City at the request of Lee Yapp to participate in a play he was directing. Lou fell in love with Wilmington and recognized the lack of theater companies as a golden opportunity. He

founded Opera House Theatre Company and has served as its creative director for the past twenty five years. Over the years Lou has had a profound influence on the local arts scene and now there are over twenty theatre groups in the Wilmington area.

This year marks Lou's transition into semi-retirement. Ray Kennedy will take over as creative director of Opera House. By next summer, Lou and Jeanne expect to finally be able to make spontaneous weekend plans, enjoying more time together.

On November 6, 2008, Opera House Theatre Company will host "ANDIAMO", their renowned and fabulous fund raiser. Loosely translated, andiamo means "let's go!" The gala event will be held at Thalian Hall and will offer an exciting evening of entertainment, food and spirits with an art sale and auction. For tickets contact the Thalian Box office at (910) 343-3664.



Nancy Noel May is the manager of Spectrum Art & Jewelry and a lifetime artist. She is available for design consultations.

ViViD Style

A Season



Betsy Frost

Sleek and sexy, this bracelet by Betsy Frost captures a gold bead in a cool cage of matte finish silver.

\$290



Cool Jewels

These sterling silver and gemstone earrings by Sierra Design have a casual elegance that is sure to suit any style. Earrings and matching pendants come in a variety of gems set in silver or vermeil.

\$55

Weave a Spell

Brilliant gemstones accentuate the texture of crisply woven silver in these earrings from the "Confetti Collection" by Patty Daunis.



\$900



It's all in the Presentation

Serve up some sparkle with silver, gold and CZ. Engineer turned jewelry designer, Tomasz Plodowski, adopts an architectural approach in his striking creations.

\$395

J. Sparkle!



Winter Elegance

Meticulous engraving accents this richly detailed pendant by Star Sosa. Meticulously crafted in 18k and platinum it features a luscious Tanzanite and diamonds.

\$2,995



Dana David

All eyes are on these stylishly modern hoops by Dana David. Diamonds are cleverly placed on the 18k hoops so they all face forward for maximum bling.

\$770

Dana David

Classic stack rings get a modern makeover. Punctuated with diamonds, these graphic designs are available in white, yellow and rose gold

\$410



Capture a Rainbow

Swing along with this graceful pendant by Walsh & Williams. Each opal is hand-cut by the artists to ensure maximum fire and skillfully set in 14k.

\$945



Rosalee Ring

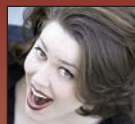
Spectrum owner Star Sosa chose a vibrant pink tourmaline to set in 18k gold. Graceful lines of hand engraving and a scattering of tiny diamonds gives it extra sparkle.

\$2,300

ViViD Celebrations

By Charlene “the Bon Bon Queen”

How do party pros make holiday entertaining look so effortless? Whether you are hosting the office party, an evening with friends or a family get-together, these simple tips will help you pull off a lively and stress-free event!



Tips from South n' France: ViViD Entertaining Made Easy

Involve Your Guests

One of the secrets behind our success is offering a fun and interactive experience. We focus on making crepes or bon bons, which creates instant camaraderie and conversation. Organize a tasting party or have guests create their own pasta or pizza with gourmet toppings. Simple group games like holiday bingo, Pictionary or Bunco liven up the festivities



Sand Dollar Serving Set

Cost: \$125

Available at *Spectrum Art & Jewelry*

www.spectrumartandjewelry.com

Change the Scenery

Avoid holding your office party surrounded by computers and desks. A more festive venue will make the party feel special. No need for a hotel or restaurant, get creative! Choose an art gallery, wine shop or other non-traditional locale (such as a gourmet cooking party with South 'n France, hint, hint!)

Plate by Numbers

Encourage mingling with great hors d'oeuvres. Make sure they are bite-sized, easy to handle, and practical to serve. Offer a balanced selection (you don't want all cheese on crackers). If you're hosting a small group (our parties accommodate 10-16 guests), three to five different kinds are perfect; plan on three of each per person. For larger groups, increase to a maximum of eight different choices. We think a good party should last 2-3 hours. For a longer evening, supplement the hors d'oeuvres with sandwiches or a selection of meats.

Cheers to You!

Full bars are complicated and costly; offer a signature beverage along with a simple selection of wines, soft drinks and water. Our signature drink is a champagne and crème de cassis cocktail called Kir Royale. It's easy and delicious!

Easy but Elegant

It's okay to incorporate a little store-bought help. Just remember, easy can still be elegant. Transfer pre-cut fruit and vegetables from the store container onto nice serving platters and add a unique dip or sauce. Presentation is everything. Garnish the cheese tray with a scattering of nuts, dried fruits and a bowl of chutney.



Bon Bons

Cost: \$7 to \$75 for gift boxes

Available at *South 'n France*

www.southnfrance.com

Set the Stage

Thoughtful details make for delightful ambiance. At our parties, we fill the claw-foot bathtub and sprinkle fresh rose petals on top. Little touches will impress! Candles, lanterns, fresh flowers and evergreen branches add instant enchantment. Don't forget music. Pick a theme and line up your play list in advance.

Handmade candles by Becky Hemby

Cost: Start at \$25

Available at *Spectrum Art & Jewelry*

www.spectrumartandjewelry.com

Keep It Merry & Bright

Make your primary goal to have a good time with your guests! Consider getting some help with chores you'd rather avoid. Hire someone to clean, cook, decorate, tend bar or do the dishes. Better yet, book a party at South 'n France. We'll take care of everything, allowing you to enjoy your event while impressing your friends with your fabulous taste!



Shell Collection Napkin Rings

Cost: \$90

Available at *Spectrum Art & Jewelry*

www.spectrumartandjewelry.com

The following recipe from Charlene "The Bon Bon Queen" makes the perfect starter for that holiday party!

Bacon-Wrapped Pecan-Stuffed Dates

30 Medjool Dates (Pitted)

30 Pecan Halves

10 Slices of Uncooked Bacon

30 Wooden Toothpicks

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

Stuff each date with a pecan half. Cut each slice of bacon into 3 pieces. Wrap 1 piece around each stuffed date and secure with a toothpick. Dates can be stuffed and wrapped in bacon 1 day ahead and chilled, covered. Bring to room temperature before baking. Line a cookie sheet with aluminum foil. Place dates on foil and bake in preheated 400 degree oven for 12-15 minutes or until bacon is crisp. Remove to rack or paper towel; drain. Serve warm.

Wine Recommendation

Rich Miller, owner of WineStyles, custom picked the following wine to compliment our featured recipe. Enjoy!

White (Crisp) Pierre Sparr Alsace One from France

This wine is a blend of six different grapes. It fits perfectly with spicy dishes, Asian food, BBQ'd meats, salads, pasta and cheese. It has floral, citrus and peach notes on the palate.

\$14.99 Retail *\$13.69* Wine Club

10% off a bottle of wine

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from \$10- \$25

WineStyles

256-0911

1319 JJ

Military Cutoff Rd

www.winestyles.net/landfallcenter



Opera House

Theater

The Gala fund-raiser
Andiamo

Thursday November 6

Thalian Hall

Doors open at 6 p.m. for pre-show reception
Curtain is at 7:30 p.m.

Act I - Jukebox Review
Act II - Cabaret Act

Tickets start at just \$25

Box office: (910) 343-3664

Expires 12/31/08

Spectrum Art & Jewelry

Custom Jewelry Design

Let us make your jewelry fantasies a reality! By appointment only, call today to make yours.



\$50 off one custom jewelry design project

The Forum

(910) 256-2323

ViViD Inspiration



Owner of Spectrum Art & Jewelry, Star Sosa, has been designing unique jewelry for over twenty years. Learn more about how she came to this career below.

"I never expected to make my career in art and jewelry. I was always artistic but have no formal training. That can be seen as a benefit because I started out free from preconceptions and rules. I've been designing fashion and fine jewelry since 1987, selling at craft shows and galleries across the country. In that time, I was fortunate to receive a number of design awards.

I'm a firm believer that jewelry, as wearable art, must be well crafted, comfortable and durable as well as beautiful. I've always made a point to partner with talented craftspeople. My communication skills and drawing ability allow me to translate a client's dreams into reality. Then my jeweler brings these ideas to life.

Last year I added an on-site workshop to the gallery, planning to hire a jeweler. Shortly after we opened, I met Michael Chapman. A gold and platinum smith with over 40 year's experience, I offered him a job on the spot. Now Spectrum offers complete jewelry services including repair, restyle and custom design.

Working with people makes custom jewelry design so rewarding. The look on someone's face when they see the miraculous transformation of a sketch and raw materials into the final result is priceless. I treasure being a part of that."

"My custom design experience with Spectrum Gallery was unbelievable... Star and Michael are not happy until you are happy... I have already referred my friends to Spectrum. I love you Spectrum Gallery... Thank you." S.S.

ViViD LIVING



Expires 12/31/08

[Bangz Hair Salon](#)

Spa Services

Pamper yourself with artistic hair cuts & color, skin care, massage and more. Expert skin care, massage, manicures, pedicures & more.

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(910) 452-4247 1203 43rd Street Wilmington, NC



Expires 12/31/08

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Two Guest Free at one of our exclusive parties

(910) 762-6882

www.southnfrance.com

Drawing Takes Place on 12/1/08 at Spectrum Art & Jewelry

ViViD Gift Basket Raffle

WIN \$500 In Gifts!

Filled with great goodies and coupons from Spectrum Art & Jewelry and all our business partners.

To participate in raffle, log on to www.ViViDLifeStyles.com & sign up for the e-zine
Or visit [Spectrum](#), [WineStyles](#) or [Bangz](#) to apply.

(910) 256-2323

Expires 12/31/08

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Expires 12/31/08

Russ May

Coldwell Banker
Sea Coast Realty

Send me an e-mail with "ViViD" in the subject. On December 31, I will draw one name from the entries to win a \$100 gift certificate.

russ@russmay.com

\$100 Gift Certificate

(910) 619-1501, 800-RUSS MAY

Spectrum Art & Jewelry

November 14 6 - 8 p.m.

Open House & Wine Tasting

Featuring a holiday gift preview



December 12 6 - 8 p.m.

Open House & Wine Tasting

November - December

Spectrum Holiday Sweepstakes

It pays to shop early this year at Spectrum. Every purchase in November enters you into a drawing. Each time you buy, a copy of your sales receipt goes into the jar. On December 15, we will draw one receipt. The lucky winner will get a gift certificate for the average value of the items on their receipt, up to a maximum value of \$500!



*Start Living Life
in Vibrant Color*

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To Spectrum Art
& Jewelry's
Newsletter &

ViViD E-Zine TODAY!



Details at www.ViViDLifeStyles.com