



DISSONANT NATURE: TANIA DIBBS

The turning point in Washington, DC, native Tania Dibbs's career involved looking back and greeting what she saw with what felt most appropriate: apathy.

"It was boredom," says Dibbs, 49, of her recent shift from traditional, realist landscape painting to more abstract presentations. She says her newer works "maybe have some dissonance, and may have some beauty, [but] that all reflects our relationship with our world." Dibbs, who moved to Aspen in 1988, says that humanity's relationship with nature has changed. Accordingly, her art, formerly known for warmth and calmness, now mirrors the new interaction she interprets. Her two newest series since 2013, "Metanarrative" and "Anthropocene," demonstrate this dramatic shift in thinking and style.

"The idea of nature as a broad, creative, controlling

force is gone. Now there are only little pockets to preserve," she says. "That's what's going on in our world, and art should be reflecting that." That's where her art headed, and to display that transition Dibbs opened a pop-up gallery on Restaurant Row last winter, which will remain through August. Afterward, she'll continue to display her visions of a changing nature in her recently purchased workspace and gallery in Basalt. Tania Dibbs pop-up gallery, 308 E. Hopkins Ave.; and the studio and gallery in Basalt, 227 Midland Ave., Ste. 17A, 970-948-4075; taniadibbs.com AP

center and its annex-on an annual basis, a showcasing of some of the valley's top talent like Linda Girvin (see profile on page 118), Ingrid Magidson, Sarah Peterson, Allison Stewart, and Campbell Hutchinson. For many, the Wyly offers a space to point up the skills they have refined over the years through workshops and teaching at Anderson Ranch.

But it may be the Wyly's nongallery programs that are having the most impact. Several of its initiatives focus on art as a therapeutic tool. Its powerful Journaling with Images program allows youth in recovery from substance abuse to participate in workshops that foster self-expression. The Mountain Valley Development program brings in developmentally disabled adults for art instruction, which is then displayed in public spaces around the valley, and Imagination Bloom, a collaboration with the Carbondale Council on the Arts and Humanities, is an eight-week course aimed at inspiring valley teachers to fuel their own creative side in order to create more colorful classrooms.

CARBONDALE RISING

THESE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE SET CARBONDALE'S IDENTITY AS AN ARTS AND CULTURE HOT SPOT.

Powers Art Center: A tribute to local collector John G. Powers from his wife Kimiko, this center, which opened last year in a cow pasture just outside town, contains the Powers' permanent collection of Jasper Johns's works on paper. 13110 Hwy. 82, 970-963-4445; powersartcenter.org

Carbondale Council on the Arts and Humanities: The Council has been promoting the arts, artists, and arts education in the valley ever since its founding 40 years ago. This summer, it stages photo exhibits, plays, and more. 520 S. Third St., Ste. 9, 970-963-1680: carbondalearts.com

Studio for Arts + Works: A collaborative space with artist studios and offices for creative professionals, SAW opens its gallery to the public upon request and hosts local art events all summer long. 525 Buggy Cir., 970-510-5523; sawcarbondale.com