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## 'Playful, Funny, Wild and Wacky' exhibit opens in Berkeley

August 6, 2013

11:14 AM MST

"Playful, Funny, Wild and Wacky" is an exhibit at the [Expressions Gallery](#) at 2035 Ashby Ave in Berkeley, near Ashby Bart off Adeline. The show opened August 3, and runs through runs October 18, 2013.

The crowded August 3 opening reception featured food, drink, and live music. The gallery is long and narrow in shape, creating a natural flow of traffic through the spaces featuring wall-mounted art and into the open-air [sculpture](#) gallery in the back. Fun shapes and festive colors connected to the theme of the exhibit.

"Playful, Funny, Wild and Wacky" well describes the exhibit, which features a variety of fascinating, fun works in paint, textile arts, jewelry and sculpture. Sculpture, folded paper, textiles and other three-dimensional, textured forms are well-represented in this collection, which also includes [painting](#) and photography. Fun shapes and vivid colors are some of the methods used to illustrate the theme.



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"Playful Funny Wacky Wild" exhibit opening at Expressions Gallery

*Photos by Sumiko Saulson*



***"A great example of creative energy in such a playful theme. I'm pleased***

## ***to be a part of it," said Oakland artist Richard Kane.***

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Kane's sculptures rely heavily on found objects and recycled materials, and are whimsical works that use colorful geometric objects to create face masks. Nine of his wall-hung sculptures are included in the exhibit; the bright colors and the use of squares, rectangles, and circles in the work evoke images of childhood and toy robots.

Kane is not the only artist who uses recycled materials: in interviews, Mona Ram and Anne Pinkowski also spoke about how objects discarded by others become works of art in their hands.

The exhibit presents the art of many local, Bay Area artists, including Oakland residents Rinna B. Flohr, [Richard Kane](#), [Chandra Garsson](#), [Diane Jacobson](#), John Mallon, [Arlene Risi Streich](#). John Mallon is an Oakland native, and Arlene Risi Streich and Anne Pinkowski were raised in Oakland. The show also includes works from a number of San Francisco, Berkeley, and other East Bay artists.

Sadly, Jennifer Wallace Mack, one of the artists in the exhibit passed away earlier this year.

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***“We are sorry to say that Jennifer Wallace Mack passed away in May, 2013. Her family knows we are pleased to continue to show her amazing work at our gallery.” – Expressions Gallery***

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**Sumiko Saulson**  
Oakland Art Scene Examiner

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