



A Swirl of Artistic Talent

by Lance K. Pugh

A blinding flash of white teeth, a swirl of long, straight blond hair, an arm full of sinewy, toned muscle rippling under a breathtaking tan. While this may partially summarize Pegi Smith's visual highlights, her artwork has taken the Pacific Northwest by storm. She is an engaging sculptress and musician who speaks while her hands seem to wrap around her words, sometimes for emphasis, other times to caress treasured thoughts of projects past, present and future.

Though now living in the Ashland suburb of the Colestein Valley, Pegi seems to visit our galleries and artists almost daily, sharing her effervescent personality as easily as a cat purrs.

each scene was an original piece of artwork.

She began playing the violin at age 10 and quickly mastered it to the tune of playing classical, rock, blues, jazz and some bluegrass. She has often appeared in concerts and bands as a guest soloist. While serious with her art, she did not fiddle around. She moved through several periods in her artistic expression and is currently working with large sculpted female forms which evoke feelings of primeval femininity.

Her work appears at the Revolution Gallery in Issaquah, WA., the Class Act in La Connor, WA., the Dancing Coyote in Depoe Bay, OR., Earthworks in Newport, OR., Second Street in Bandon, OR., Gallery 803 in Klamath Falls, OR., The Gallery in Mount Shasta, CA., Cottage by the Bay in Florence, OR., American Charm in Kent, WA., the Rogue Gallery in Medford, OR., the Living Gallery in Ashland and soon at



Hands

Pegi was born in Canada to Austrian parents., not learning how to speak English until she was 5 years old. She later moved to Denver with her parents. Her father was an artist and painter as they settled in the Mile High City and she took her first sculpting class as she entered High School. Her artistic abilities could not be kept hidden, insinuating itself into her life in many fashions. As a dental technician she began painting scenes onto crowns and soon had a full-time, lucrative second job that kept her busy well into the wee hours. Demand soon outstripped her ability to produce, as

the upcoming Ploughman's Wine & Cheese Bar in Ashland.

It is clear that the creative process permeates the mind and soul as Pegi lets this energy flow through her to influence everything and everyone she touches as she dances through life. She has come to find Ashland as the perfect focal point of her efforts, this to the benefit of us all. Her new website, www.pegismith.com, will soon be up and ready for your inspection.

(Lance may be reached at: lance@journalist.com, should you have comments or questions).



above: Porcelain below: Everlasting Life



above: Child below: Woman

