

so come out for the spring weather and stay for the art. Each weekend afternoon, weather permitting, I give a demonstration for the public at local scenic places. Check the OCN calendar for details. Looking forward to seeing you outdoors very soon!

April art events

Gallery 132 offers local artisan works, 251 Front St., No. 8, Monument.

Southwinds Fine Art Gallery, Second Weekends, the Champagne Tour, Susan Fowler art talk 7 p.m. April 13, Chinese artist Shiyang Fang art demonstration 4-9 p.m. April 13 and 1-4 p.m. April 14, with artist Mariya Zvonkovich. 16575 Roller-coaster Rd.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts exhibition, *Abstraction from Reality*, featuring Douglas Mann and Ethan Ahlstrom, March 27-May

25. 304 Highway 105, Palmer Lake. *Janet Sellers is an artist and writer. She exhibits her paintings and public art sculptures in Colorado galleries and museums and teaches art and movie classes locally. She can be reached at janetsellers@ocn.me.*

Right: Chinese artist Shi Ying Fang will exhibit and demonstrate her art form made with a pointillism etching technique on stone at Southwinds Fine Art Gallery April 13 and 14. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*



Snapshots of Our Community

Benet Hill Concert, Mar. 4



Above: From left are Jacob Klock and Elisa Wicks on violins, Ingrid Rodgers on viola, and Pam Chaddon on cello. On March 4, the Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery hosted a concert of Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ*. There are seven parts in total, echoing Jesus' final hours on the cross. The hourlong musical performance was intermingled with poetry by Michael Dennis Browne. The songs open serenely, sweetly, but become turbulent and dissonant as Jesus is tested by His suffering.

The violins play to Jesus' feelings, while the viola and cello play quaking deep-toned bass to represent the pain of the scene. Throughout the concert, the disparity between Jesus the man and the Son of God is evident. As Jesus' struggle ends, all four instruments play the same notes, quietly together quietly, as if too weak to continue. The final piece of the concert is violent as if the world shattered, as Haydn wondered at the cost to the world Jesus' death caused. *Photo by Allison Robenstein*

AZA at TLCA, Mar. 3



Above: On March 3, AZA brought an international music flare to the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts. Band members Mohamed Aoualou, Fattah Abbou, and Brahim Fribgane used the guitar, banjo, and cajon respectively to bring the sounds and feel of their Moroccan homeland and Amazigh culture to the TLCA stage. Abbou described their sound as "very rich in rhythm and different scales" with its North African influences. He said the band hoped to "give a little picture of Morocco" and by "using folk music instruments as the guitar and banjo, connect with the audience and join the two cultures." *Photo by David Futey.*

Monument Candidate Forum



Above: On March 12, the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce sponsored a forum for candidates running for Monument mayor or trustee. Questions were presented by Evan Pappas of KOAA news 5. Generally, all the candidates focused on water issues, infrastructure, and development. Frequent reference was made for the need to update the town's Comprehensive Plan (which was updated in 2017—see www.townofmonument.org/DocumentCenter/View/681). Pappas is pictured standing, while seated from left are Jeff Bornstein, Don Wilson, Shea Medicott, Kelly Elliott, Jeff Lampman, Ron Stephens, and Laurie Clark. *Photo by John Howe.*

Waterwise Gardening, Mar. 14

Right: On March 14 at the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, Cassie Olgren from the Town of Monument presented a program on water-wise gardening, sometimes referred to as xeriscaping. About 30 people were in attendance to learn about the basic guidelines and challenges of landscaping with water conservation in mind. Olgren's presentation included information on Tri-Lakes-area water sources and aquifers, the guiding principles of water-wise gardening, and suggestions for beautiful, hearty, and productive drought-tolerant and resistant plants. She also discussed common pitfalls and lessons learned from her own landscaping experiences. Olgren cited many resources for gardeners, including the Town of Monument website (townofmonument.org/384/Water-Conservation-and-Rebates), Colorado State Extension (extension.colostate.edu/garden/), and Colorado Water Wise (coloradowaterwise.org). *Photo by Chrystie Hopkins.*

