

Art of the ocean

An artist reception was held Saturday evening for gallery owner/curator Seda Baghdesarian, who as an artist goes by Seda Saar. Saar's exhibit, called Oceans II, was held at the Malibu Lumber Yard Gallery. Malibu locals and visitors enjoyed viewing the mixed media artwork, primarily oil on linen or canvas panels, while listening to Pepperdine student and classical guitarist Alexander Parks. "My inspiration for the collection is my environment—the beautiful coastline and vistas visible from almost every point in Malibu," Saar said. "I hope [the MLY gallery] can encourage connection to nature, conservation and sustainable living through the beauty of the arts." The exhibition runs Jan. 10-Feb. 10. Portions of the proceeds from the show will be donated to Sea Shepherd California.



Artist Seda Saar (center) speaks with guests Bill and Jazan Kozma about her artwork.



Malibu City Councilmember Laura Rosenthal (right), husband Walter Rosenthal (center), and Councilmember Lou La Monte came out to show their support to local artist and gallery curator Seda Saar (left).



Classical guitarist and Pepperdine student Alexander Parks plays while guests enjoy the opening reception of Oceans II.



Enjoying an evening of art and friendship, photographer Janet Swan attends the opening reception of Oceans II.



Visitors Pat Tafoya and Cristela Arriaga take in mixed media pieces of ocean scenes at Saturday night's reception.

Sullivan Hemenez

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Jane Sullivan Hemenez in Malibu in 1948, at her first house on Las Flores Beach. Hemenez, now 97, has written a book about her life in Malibu.

sand, Girl Scout and graduation pictures as well as scenes of Malibu through the years. It includes the some of the writer's colorful paintings and traces the history of the area. She begins with the early origins of the Chumash Indians. Readers can learn about the much-loved Adamson House and the old courthouse and even the relatively new Malibu Country Mart. In addition to the story of Malibu, the book also tells the tale of two families from Ireland who made their way to the United States in the early 1800s. Her ancestors slowly ventured out West, working for Rio Grande Railroad and ending up at the Los Angeles Pacific Electric Railway. Unlikely as it may seem, Sullivan Hemenez eventually landed in Malibu. Jane Sullivan Hemenez has lived in Malibu for more than 65 years. She worked as a physi-

cal education teacher as well as a vice-principal at Palisades High School. In 2003, she was honored by the California State Parks for her tireless volunteer work at the Adamson House and the Malibu Lagoon Museum. She and her husband, Louciano Hemenez, married at Our Lady of Malibu and lived together until his death a few years back. Jane Sullivan Hemenez has certainly seen a lot of changes over the years. She recalls a more simple time and place. "Today Malibu is known for the actors and other famous people who live here in expensive mansions, but when my family first arrived, life was very basic. I have a deep love for the community which has been my home." The book is dedicated to her mother, Alice O'Boyle Sullivan, her father Wilfred Henry Sullivan

Jr. and all those who make up the Sullivan and Hemenez families. Along with an informative history, she wants others to appreciate the Malibu she knows, remembers and still appreciates. The extraordinary collection of memories also includes a forward and words of praise from legendary locals like Ronald Rindge, who marvels at the Sullivan Hemenez get-up-and-go spirit. He writes, "Wow, she just can not sit back and enjoy a carefree retirement. Jane is always pursuing one project or another." The super senior continues to write and paint. Many might ask how she does it. So now you know. Her tips for a long happy life are to "Be friendly. Do work you enjoy. Lead an active lifestyle. Stay close to family. And if you can... live in Malibu."



"Bathing Beauties": Jane Sullivan Hemenez (third from left) and friends soak in some rays at the beach, in the late thirties or early forties. Sullivan Hemenez's book "Malibu: A Good Way of Life," recounts her life in Malibu since 1948.



Above: Jane Sullivan Hemenez's Las Flores Beach cottage (the small one in the middle).