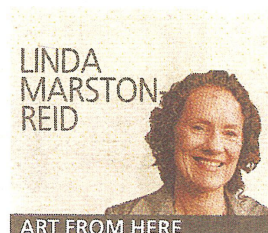


# Arts

## Four artists share vision in Barrett center exhibit



The "Four 4 Four" exhibit at the Barrett Arts Center featuring four artists over four weeks, in four separate galleries, is worth the trip. The artists have expressed their visions through a variety of painterly form: whether it is Anna Weber's narrative realism, Petra Nimtz's abstract expressionism, Nils Hasche-Vásquez's naïve urban landscapes or the paintings of Rachel Weidkam.

The body of Weidkam's artworks, "Solitude," are painted in grisaille fashion, which is a technique used to paint in monochromatic tones using glazes to build up depth within the surfaces. The artworks show a brief moment in time of a single person doing mundane things, whether going up or down stairs, or having a coffee and contemplating the day — these works exude the feeling of singular contemplation.

Hasche-Vásquez's contemplation is from another angle — that of the voyeur watching the parade of New York City's urban world in his "NYC Windowscapes" series. For instance, "Carnegie Cafe" shows the vibrant, neighborhood painted in a lively naïve style. "My paintings are intentionally painted with colors that are not associated with traditional landscape colors and are loud and vibrant," he said. "Windows are everywhere and the dialogue that I choose to



Nils Hasche-Vásquez's "Carnegie Cafe." COURTESY PHOTO

### IF YOU GO

What: "Four 4 Four," featuring the artwork of Anna Weber, Petra Nimtz, Nils Hasche-Vásquez and Rachel Weidkam, is on view at the Barrett Arts Center, 55 Noxon St., Poughkeepsie, through April 26. Gallery is open Wednesday-Friday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment. Call 845-797-7094; visit [www.barrettartcenter.org](http://www.barrettartcenter.org)

describe in my paintings can be found in other surroundings."

Upstairs, Weber's realist paintings are predominately portraits; the most fascinating are those narrative pieces that signify a strange and fascinating tale. For instance, in "Bee-ing," a young woman sits in the leaves of the forest floor at night. She appears to have escaped from a costume party, where she was dressed as a bee. She holds up her magic wand and three golden orbs glow in the night. Another painting, "Vanity," shows two women posing in front of a fireplace. The women are alluringly

dressed and one holds a small hand mirror that reflects her profile. Above the fireplace shines another mirror and a vase holding three wilting white roses is on the mantel. While white roses symbolize purity and innocence; these two women don't fit this description.

Woodstock artist Nimtz exhibits a series of abstract paintings she said are "visual diaries of my inner world." This world is filled with luscious colors, swirling into each other through layering, creating a lively rhythm of color and movement. Nimtz commented on the practice of using her non-dominant left hand to paint: "I am a natural right-hander, but working with my left allows the unconsciousness and imagination to take over, leading me through the process of exploring the canvas with palette knives or brushes by simply being in the present moment."

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