

Press release

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For immediate release:

The Pacific Art League Gallery of Palo Alto presents:

Recycled Metal and Glass Jewelry of Sherry Cordova

Recycled metal and recycled bottle glass feature prominently in the organic jewelry creations of local art jeweler Sherry Cordova

Palo Alto, CA –May 2009 – Treat yourself to a unique experience viewing recycled bottle glass and recycled metal as you’ve never seen before in Sherry Cordova’s one-of-a-kind handmade jewelry. The technique to combine these recycled materials was developed almost six years ago by Sherry to recreate the beach experience of viewing washed up coral and bottle glass side-by-side.

Beautiful blues and greens are among the colors in the recycled glass bottles Sherry uses in her “C Glass” pieces. Bottles that would be headed for the recycle bin are procured, smashed, and tumbled in preparation for becoming wearable art. In addition to works that combine the recycled metal and recycled glass, “C Glass” rings created by Sherry from necks of recycled bottles, although deadly looking, are very wearer friendly. And, they are always a conversation starter.

Sherry Cordova’s fine silver jewelry on display at the Pacific Art League Gallery is predominantly metal clay based. Metal clay is very eco-friendly since the metal clays are made from by-products of other manufacturing and reclamation processes. Small metal particles are bound with organic materials to create clay which can be kiln or torch fired. Once the clay binders are burned off, what remains is 99.9% pure fine silver.

An avid SCUBA diver, Sherry Cordova has witnessed first hand how the removal of coral and shells from live reefs and beaches can harm our fragile marine ecosystems. Coral is very beautiful and offers a seemingly endless number of textures. Sharing the beauty of coral without using the coral presented a challenge. Sherry’s solution is to travel with molding compound. Relaxing on exotic beaches, she molds the washed-up coral, shells, and lava she finds. She

returns them in the condition she found them, only taking molds and memories when she leaves. Molds are then used with metal clay to create pieces in the *Oceanic* collection. Sherry Cordova's jewelry designs are often subtle statements on what society sometimes values more than the environment. Her *Modern Cameo* line of necklaces asks the question "What's more precious, the profile of someone we don't know in a traditional cameo, or our environment?"

The Pacific Art League Gallery is located at 668 Ramona Street, in Palo Alto. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Extended hours the first Friday of every month for First Friday Artwalk are Friday 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Admission is free.

About the Pacific Art League Gallery: At the street-front gallery store, community members can view and purchase quality pieces of original art by local artists. Items available include: jewelry, glasswork, ceramics, paintings, prints, miniatures, hand-painted silk wraps, limited-edition silk scarves, and greeting cards. Further information: visit pacificartleague.org and click on the "Shop" button. Phone: 650.321.3891

About Sherry Cordova Jewelry: The peaceful, varied and fragile beauty found beneath and around the world's seas is represented in the recycled fine silver and recycled glass jewelry of the organic *Oceanic* collection. Each piece of art is created by hand in the San Francisco Bay Area. Further information: sherrycordova.com and sherrycordova.com/blog



“Twenty Two” and “Kelp” Rings



“Drink Up” Green Bottleneck Ring



“Surrounded” Pendant



“Makai” Bracelet



“Big Island” Modern Cameo Necklace



“Individualists” Earrings