

"Galaxies Collide," an acrylic on canvas painting, is one of Leah Lubin's 19 works on exhibit at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory.

The sky's the limit

Woodside artist depict the cosmos in exhibit at SLAC

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

Accelerator Laboratory call upon precise and sophisticated tools to examine and explain the cosmos, Leah Lubin of Woodside reaches for her paintbrush, canvas and acrylics to depict the heavenly bodies that fascinate scientists and stargazers alike.

The two approaches to cosmic exploration come together in the Kavli building at SLAC with an exhibit of Ms. Lubin's lyrical interpretations

of galaxies colliding, exploding wormholes, the Big Bang, and other celestial events.

The show features 19 works, including her recent "Galactic Mysteries" series. Some of the work was exhibited at NASA Ames Research Center in 1997.

Her celestial paintings constitute only a fraction of Ms. Lubin's body of work, which includes abstract and figurative painting, photography and photo collage.

Painting scenes of the cosmos is a natural for the artist, for whom abstract shapes such as circles and ovals hold special meaning.

"They mean reality shifts to me, crossing over from what we understand as our reality to a more open thinking, universal reality, especially shapes and forms that can be found in the Cosmos which surrounds us all," she writes in her artist statement.

Ms. Lubin has shown her work in numerous exhibits on the Peninsula. One of her photo collages, "Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters come to La Honda," is on view at the Beat Museum in San Francisco's North Beach neighborhood.

She currently teaches art at the Pacific Art League in Palo Alto.

The public can view the show at SLAC, on Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park, by special arrangement. Those interested should contact Ms. Lubin at leah@leahlubin.com.

Go to leahlubin.com to see Ms. Lubin's work and learn more about the exhibit.