

Traumstadt

Studios on the Park
Paso Robles, CA
January-February 2012

This showing of current and recent works is called *Traumstadt* – That is, German for the concept of a Dream City.

Dreams have informed a large portion of my artistic work since my childhood in southern California, when I often painted imaginary forms drawn from dreams with the encouragement of my paternal grandmother, Josefina Topete Ramos.

Every person's inner-child continues to live through dreams, be they of fantastic adventures or enchanting possibilities.

My current exhibit at Studios on the Park thus depicts all manner of imagery that might pertain to a child's dreams. The works in this show are intended to complement those now displaying in the Studio's Atrium which depict the recent products of local elementary school children participating in our ArtSmart Program. ArtSmart is designed to inspire youth artistic interest and expression.

In my works here, the dream concept is depicted in various ways, but always through vibrant coloration and free-flowing forms. These dreamy images pay homage to certain people, places and things that inspire memories of my childhood and maybe yours too: animal and plant life, notions of the rural countryside, music (via the late composer Leonard Bernstein), new conceptual frontiers, and travel destinations (both real and imagined) among them.

I encourage you to view this show through the eyes of a child and to examine with a new appreciation your own dreams – either those still close to your heart and experience or those that time has tucked away in the recesses of your conscience. All of these dreams are worthy of continued care and feeding if we are to remain truly human through the course of our respective journeys.

Please let me know what you think of this show and my work more generally by sharing a comment in the testimonial book I have left on the table accompanying the installation. You can also visit my website: www.mauerkunst.com to see additional works in my collection or to comment via the email address that appears on my Contact page.

Here's to living all of our days in a place called *Traumstadt*.

Henry A. J. Ramos