

THE CARL CHERRY CENTER FOR THE ARTS
PRESENTS

BLACK ISLAND / ISLA NEGRA

AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORK OF
MARY HEEBNER

JANUARY 11 THROUGH FEBRUARY 19, 2011

THE OPENING RECEPTION FOR THE ARTIST WILL BE
FRIDAY JANUARY 14 FROM 5-7 P.M.

Black Island / Isla Negra is a selection from over a decade of work by Santa Barbara based artist Mary Heebner. This exhibit includes paintings, collages, and artists books, drawing upon the poetry of Pablo Neruda, his home in Isla Negra, Chile, and above all, the Pacific Ocean, the source of inspiration for poet and painter alike.

The gallery features Heebner's lush, alluring works on paper that are inspired both by the Pacific Ocean and the poetry of famed Chilean author Pablo Neruda. The books, *On the Blue Shore of Silence: Poems of the Sea* and *Intimacies: Poems of Love* (Harper Collins), pair Heebner's paintings with Neruda's poetry translated by prominent Neruda scholar Alastair Reid.

POETRY READING ON SATURDAY JANUARY 15, AT 3PM

The poet and translator Stephen Kessler will read from *Intimacies: Poems of Love by Pablo Neruda* and *On the Blue Shore of Silence: Poems of the Sea by Pablo Neruda* along with a selection of his own poetry and translations.

"Returning to my studio, I saturated sheets of a thick, fibrous Japanese paper with water laden with bluish-gray pigment. Latent forms seemed to be present in these little seas of color and as I used indigo and earthy sienna colors to bring these forms to the surface, they began to resemble the wooden figureheads I sketched in Neruda's living room at Isla Negra."

from the preface to the artist's book, *On the Blue Shore of Silence*

"Heebner's nudes, rendered on handmade paper in watercolor washes are at once grounded and fragile. Like Neruda's poetry, they relay what Heebner calls the 'naked, exposed, and vulnerable' aspects of love."

MARIE ARANA, Book Critic at *The Washington Post*

PUBLIC EXHIBITION PROGRAM
Opening Reception for Mary Heebner: Black Island
Friday, January 14, 2011, from 5 to 7pm
Poetry Reading: Stephen Kessler Saturday January 15, 3 pm

Exhibition runs from January 11 through February 19, 2011
Cherry Center for the Arts 4th at Guadalupe Streets, Carmel, CA 93921
Tel: 831-624-7491 Hours Monday - Friday 11am-4pm and by appointment

About the Artist:

MARY HEEBNER has distinguished herself as both an abstract painter and book artist, with pieces held in the J.P. Getty Research Center, The New York Public Library, The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Stanford University, among others. In addition to 13 fine press books under the imprint *simplemente maria press*, that include: *Hamlet: an artist's interpretation*; *Western Trilogy* and *Seeking the Open Heart* with poet Michael Hannon, Heebner's paintings have been published in two books of Pablo Neruda's poetry—*On the Blue Shore of Silence: Poems of the Sea* by Pablo Neruda and *Intimacies/Intimismos: Poems of Love*. (Harper Collins) In 2006, Heebner was honored with a solo exhibition at UCLA's Fowler Museum and in 2009 at Queen Sophia Spanish Institute in New York City. She resides in Santa Barbara and is represented by Edward Cella Art + Architecture, Los Angeles. www.maryheebner.com

About the Poet:

PABLO NERUDA (1904-1973) one of the most renowned poets of the twentieth century, was born in Parral, Chile. He shared the World Peace Prize with Paul Robeson and Pablo Picasso in 1950, and was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1971. ALASTAIR REID is a poet, prose writer, translator and traveler. He won the PEN Kolovakos award for translation in 2001. His translations appear in both *On the Blue Shore of Silence: Poems of the sea* and *Intimacies: Poems of love*.

About the Reading:

STEPHEN KESSLER is a poet, translator, essayist, editor and novelist. He is the recipient of the prestigious 2010 Harold Morton Landon Translation Award from the Academy of American Poets for his version of *Desolation of the Chimera* by Luis Cernuda, and a Lambda Literary Award for Cernuda's *Written in Water* in 2004. His most recent book, published by Penguin, is *The Sonnets* by Jorge Luis Borges, for which he served as editor and principal translator. He is the author of eight books and chapbooks of original poetry, including *Burning Daylight*; 14 books of literary translation; a book of essays, *Moving Targets: On Poets, Poetry & Translation*; and a novel, *The Mental Traveler*. He resides in Santa Cruz, California, where he is the editor of the quarterly literary newspaper *The Redwood Coast Review*. www.stephenkessler.com