

What: Jenny Wunderly: Break into Blossom

When: Artist reception: Friday, August 31, 2007, 6-8pm

Exhibition dates: August 31 - October 2, 2007

Gallery Hours: Tuesday- Saturday, 10am to 6pm, Sunday 11am to 5pm, Closed Monday

Location: 246 Commercial Street, Nevada City

Admission: Free

Julie Baker Fine Art is pleased to present a solo show of new paintings by Jenny Wunderly. Oversized painterly flowers hang in suspended fields of bold colors over layers of mark making, drips and gestural abstraction while outlines of children figures emerge from the shadows. Influenced by the natural beauty of her garden in Nevada City and the presence of her children and children's friends running through the property, Wunderly's paintings invite the viewer into her bucolic life. Wunderly writes, "My paintings are mirrors of my life. A perfect lotus flower has its roots in mud – a metamorphosis equal to life when fully realized." Wunderly does not start out with a preconceived imagery but comes to the canvas to discover something new, to see what blooms and emerges. She writes. "I begin with some questions: how is the canvas divided? What are the basic parts? What flower is my subject? What overall color do I want to end up with? Then I discard all design ideas and start working the layers in an intuitive manner, constantly allowing space for errors, without which there would be no new discoveries. Each of my paintings has multiple layers, beginning with dripping and chaotic unprocessed gestures. With each subsequent layer the image becomes more formed, until there is an intimate balance between the raw and the finished, the murky and the exquisite. A successful painting is one that I could not possibly have imagined, a discovery of something new, both internal and external."

Jenny Wunderly was born to two artists in New York City in 1967, one Swiss, the other East German. She grew up in Switzerland, and left her home country in 1986, at age 19, in search of connecting with her father's paintings, found in several prominent art collections in New York and Washington DC. She remained in the US ever since, and after completing a degree in graphic design at California College of Arts, Jenny worked as a graphic designer at Primo Angeli Inc in San Francisco for four years, and began painting full time in 1994. She now lives in northern California with her husband and two children. This is her first solo show at the gallery. Her work was previously included in the gallery's fifth anniversary show "homegrown" and will be featured in the annual on air auction for Sacramento based Public Television station, KVIE.