

## Pamela Enticknap's *Figures Tasting Life...*

By **Andria Watson** / CASA

**C**APTURING THE MOOD AND MOVEMENT of the world around her, painter Pamela Enticknap finds humor and personality in all things. Her current exhibitions, on display at Chalk Gallery in Carpinteria, The Bakersfield Museum of Art, Sullivan Goss, and Palm Loft in Santa Barbara, reflect the depth and variety in her undulating figurative studies.

"I made my first painting when I was



**Pamela Enticknap**

eleven. No one in my family was an artist per-se, but we were all musically inclined. I play piano and sing for the Santa Barbara Choral Society, but growing up, I loved paint by numbers. As my art evolved and I got older, I knew I wanted to focus on the figurative."

When beginning a painting or pastel, Enticknap makes a quick sketch of the scene in front of her, trying to capture the feeling of movement. She then enlarges the

sketch, making either a full size pastel, charcoal, or a full size oil painting Alla Prima style, which refers to a painting done from life in one sitting. From conception to completion of a piece, it takes Enticknap two months on average.

"It's not that I'm making a larger copy, but rather growing the details in my mind. So it's almost like each stage is its own thought and piece of art, unrelated to the others."

The paintings on view at Chalk Gallery are

Enticknap's depictions of Carpinteria beaches, and the sunbathers that frequent them. She likes to emphasize the contrast between skin and sand, and uses dollops of color like pale tangerine, baby blue, and strawberry red, giving her paintings a light, sunny, and playful feeling.

A relatively new series of work, Enticknap's *Blackbirds*, are on display at Sullivan Goss through January 4th, part of the Small Images exhibit.

"I was at the beach, about ready to sketch a small group of people and I noticed these small blackbirds. I watched them for a long time, and it was interesting to me because they really have their own community, individual personalities, and interact with one another. The sun brought out deep greens, blues, and reds in their dark feathers, and created wonderful shadows. So I see my blackbird paintings as figurative work closely related to my other beach figuratives."

Enticknap was born in Concord, Massachusetts, and she grew up in New England, where her family traditions and roots run deep. She studied printmaking at Rutgers State University, graduating in 1978, earning her BA in Art. From 1978 to 1995, Enticknap opened an award-winning graphic design studio,



*Black Bathingsuit* by **Pamela Enticknap**

Rivermead. She moved to Santa Barbara from Princeton, New Jersey in 1998, where she continued to concentrate on fine art, working primarily in oils and pastels.

"When I arrived in Santa Barbara, I took some Adult Ed classes with Rick Stitch, Rogers Craner, and Jeff Miller. To this day, I still meet for class twice a week to draw. It keeps me fresh. Other artists who inspire me are Red Grooms and Alice Neel."

For her next project, Enticknap plans to create a series of large-scale blackbird pieces.

Chalk is located at 963 Linden Av. Sullivan Goss is located at 7 E. Anapamu St. Palm Loft is located at 410 Palm Av. For information, call Chalk at 450-4701, Sullivan Goss at 730-1460, and Palm Loft at 684-9700.



*Black Birds 1*, 8x10, by **Pamela Enticknap**