

Artist, vocalist to bring charcoal work to life

By Dennis Lim
MORE SAN PEDRO

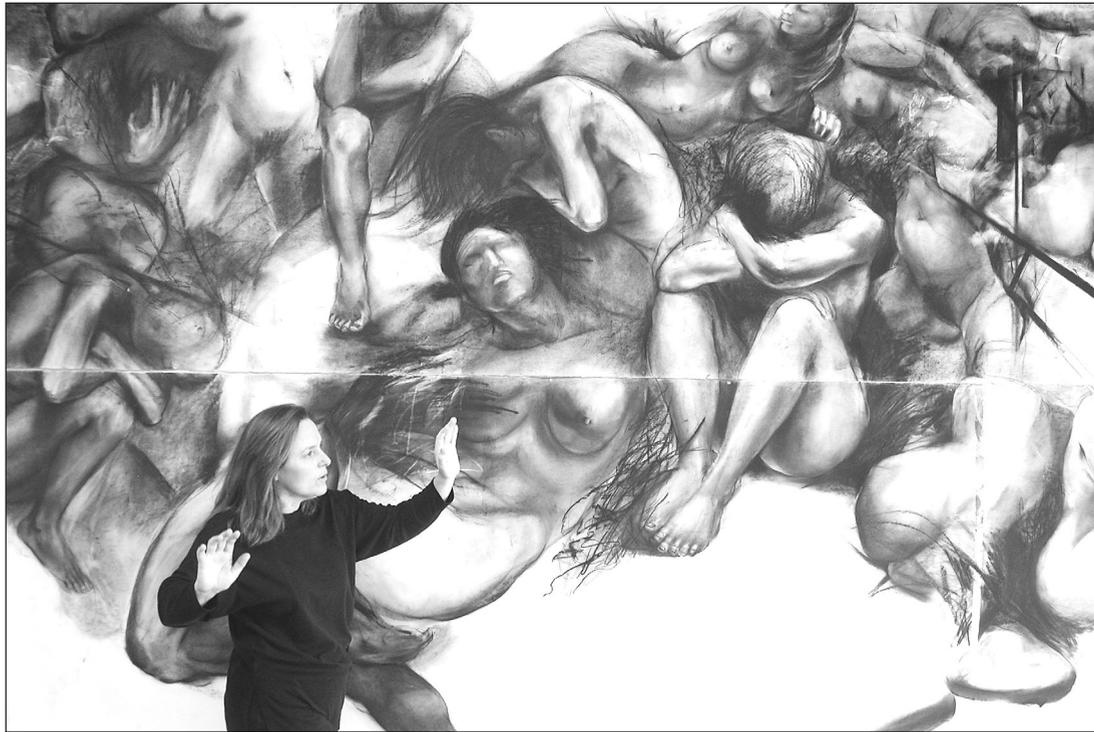
A new art exhibit at the Loft literally will tower over visitors when it opens First Thursday on March 2. It also will serenade them with some unusual tunes, never heard in any San Pedro art gallery before.

The exhibit, "Giving Voice to Vision," will feature five panels of charcoal-drawn art on giant sheets of paper pinned to the wall. When completely rolled out, the work by Uran Snyder, a Long Beach artist, measures more than 33½-feet long and 9-feet tall at its highest point. Each panel differs in height as well as width.

The dark, shadowy figures — nearly all nude females — in the large works reflect the growth of the feminist movement and its enduring themes, according to Snyder. Each panel reflects a different cycle the movement has taken over time.

During the opening exhibit on March 2, artist Sharon Corsaro will sing in a form of music called vocal art. No words are used in her singing, just tones meant to interpret the art work for viewers in an auditory fashion, the singer explained.

"I'm here to embody something — express its deeper essence in a tangible form people can understand and immerse



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Vocal expressionist Sharon Corsaro stands in front of one of the massive charcoal drawings by Long Beach-based artist Uran Snyder. The two artists' show, "Giving Voice to Vision" opens at The Loft on March 2.

their senses in it," Corsaro said.

According to Snyder, the undefinable musical element reflects a separate subtheme of her work about people's inability to communicate. Hidden in her work are scratches meant to resemble Japanese characters. Snyder, who is Japanese, said this illegible writing also is meant to reflect this subtheme of her work.

Snyder and Corsaro met a decade ago at a peace rally, but came up with the idea for their show after Corsaro viewed the charcoal work. Snyder completed the giant drawings as part of her masters of fine art work at California State University, Long Beach 20 years ago.

The exhibit has been shown in its entirety only once, soon after she finished it. Most galleries didn't have enough wall space for the huge work, Snyder said. Those that had the space didn't want to squander so much of it on an item that's not for sale, she went on to explain.

Want to go?

- **What:** The opening of "Giving Voice to Vision," a new exhibit on display at The Loft.
- **When:** First Thursday, March 2 from 6 to 9 p.m.
- **Where:** The Loft, 401 S. Mesa St., San Pedro.
- **Information:** The exhibit is free to the public on opening night. For more information, visit www.thevoicesofvision.com, call 310-991-1998 or e-mail info@thevoicesofvision.com.

Snyder said she also wanted to limit the number of times she shows her work. Because it is made of charcoal, the artist said, it has a limited life span. Every time she unrolls the giant rolls of paper, small bits of it fall off the sheets.

"I've always liked the elusive and perishable nature of it," Snyder said. "Every time I open it and close it, it goes away a little. It almost has a life of its own."

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