

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Artist of the Month

Leah Lubin

Painting and drawing

by **Gwen O'Neill**

Where would you choose to live and work if you were an artist whose work reflected nature on earth and in the cosmos? Artist and author Leah Lubin was born in Israel, grew up in England, and now makes her home in Woodside, and maintains a studio in the magnificent redwood forest in Skyllonda.

The influence of this setting on her work is clear. Lubin's paintings and drawings reflect shapes and forms, both abstract and realistic that she finds around her. "I use these elements as a springboard into my philosophy of visionary art. The work reflects my interest in seeing beyond our normal vision into the metaphysical aspect of the uni-

verse," she says.

"It is important to me as an artist that you look at the total image of what my work is about. I consider myself to be a modernist, even though many styles have influenced my work, some of them classical in nature."

The Peninsula Community Foundation has recently awarded her an Individual Artist's Grant. It will provide support for the complete series of six paintings titled Galactic Mysteries, which was recently part of the "Silicon Valley Open Studios 2000" exhibit. Lubin is hoping to expand the audience for her work through exhibits at larger places such as museums. "This is the leap for me. I have been in contact with the top curators of the Bay Area."

Her art exhibition resume is extensive. Lubin has exhibited in the Center For Visual Art in Oakland, NASA Ames Research Visitors Center in Mountain View, Hewlett Packard San Jose Site



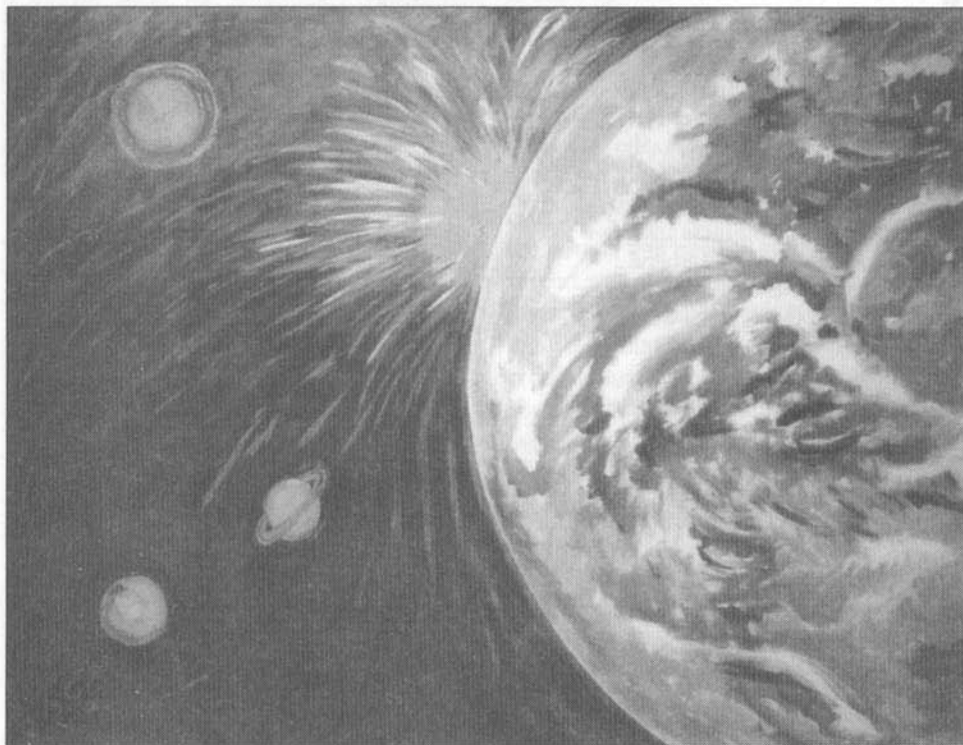
Gallery, as well as the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. In 1995 one of her works was included in the United Nations Women's Conference in Beijing.

About the NASA exhibit she said, "That show was a long-standing dream for me. I was very excited about the level and variety of art and artists that had connected with that show and its theme." It was Lubin herself who first conceived of an art show at NASA exploring space science, and then approached Myrrh, Mike Mosher and Colette Gaiter who all responded very differently to the concept of "space science."

"Local shows are the roots of everything," she said. "But I have an urge to be heard on a larger scale. The Internet has given me access to more places and through the Internet and being admitted to museums, I will be able to reach a larger more national audience."

Lubin has also written a novel, *Between Two Worlds*, about other worlds and realities and is working on her third book of poetry.

Asked how her poetry influences her art or vice versa, she said, "It was only four years ago that I realized I have a writer's voice. The art I can get where I



Galaxies Collide



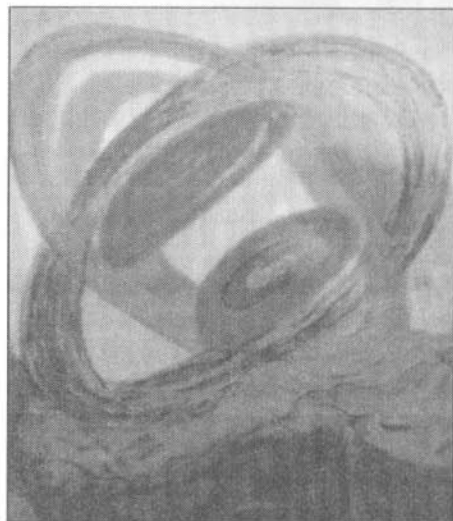
want it to go now, but I am still working on the writing voice. Some of the poetry reflects my artwork- it certainly includes issues that I paint. I am working with them sort of side by side."

Lubin's Web site has an extensive selection of her work. The address is http://home.att.net/~leah_lubin/index.html. The Web site also contains information about her literary works and has links to other Internet sites where her work can be found.

Although she is an exhibiting artist, Lubin welcomes interested people to visit her studio. She can be reached at 650-851-0351 or by email at leah_lubin@worldnet.att.net.



Extended Family



Mars