

SoCal.com Art Review – 'Jennifer Vanderpool – Hysterical Paradise'

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Jennifer Vanderpool invites you to her Technicolor garden full of glistening mixed media creations from a wild collection of neon colored plastic roses to bird-topped glistening towers of sticky sweet candy-like creations resting on purple astro-grass to a marshmallow white picket fence covered in sparkling white pebbles and tissue paper blossoms with an embedded video screen lures you into a Vanderpool's hi-def world.

Bright pink hues beam off the walls as you enter the

Bandini Art Gallery that is located in Culver City where Fairfax and La Cienega intersect. A stroll through the rich decadence of Vanderpool's mesmerizing garden evokes more than just your sense of sight, but those of touch as well. "I just touched your art. I couldn't help it!" blurts out a patron of the arts as she waltzes by in amazement. Her creations excite you in a way that reminds you that we are all young at heart and yearn to play.

Vanderpool's obsession as "a collector of incidentals" started when she was very young and inherited from having Eastern European grandparents who amassed goods after having to struggle to survive. Her mother also happens to be a Master Gardener and environmentalist, so it is only natural that Vanderpool's Hysterical Paradise came into full Technicolor bloom. When asked about her artistry, she said her father is reminded of the art she used to make when she was three years old. In a way her artwork is based on the simple tissue flowers and Elmer's glue creations we all have made at some point in our youth, but Vanderpool's creations are much more expansive, expressive and hyper-imaginative.

Where the fashions of the likes of Betsey Johnson or Icelandic singer Björk evoke our own childhood playfulness, Vanderpool's interactive amalgamation of recycled vintage jewelry, multicolored balls of string, plastic beads and "other such rubbish" dares us to feel the uncontrollable passion of being a kid again while promenading through a mind-boggling array of visual treats.



Jennifer Vanderpool's "Hysterical Paradise" exhibit continues through December 26th at Bandini Art, 2635 S. Fairfax Ave., in Culver City. For more information call (310)837-6230. www.bandiniart.com.