

California customs

San Dimas Festival of Arts blends Hollywood and fine arts.

Returning for its 41st year with the theme "California Images & History," the *San Dimas Festival of Arts* will highlight innovative work from 30 California artists, paying special attention to Hollywood studio art.

Featured artist Tom Hester's work, which includes an eclectic range of wildlife sculpture and character designs for blockbusters such as *Shrek* and the Oscar-winning *An American Werewolf in London*, exemplifies the theme. On Sunday, April 30, at 11 a.m., Hester will conduct a seminar on applying traditional fine art techniques in a movie-making setting.

For the third year, the festival will host a plein air painting event for both professional and novice painters. The "Paint Along With the Pros" event on April 29 will allow beginning artists to learn new techniques from more practiced painters.

The *San Dimas Festival of Arts* will take place at the San Dimas Civic Center Plaza and kicks off with an opening reception on April 28 at 6 p.m. There will be a quick draw auction on April 29 at 2:15 p.m., and an awards ceremony will honor the winners of the art exhibition and plein air event at 6 p.m. The festival will close on April 30 at 4 p.m. For more information, call (909) 599-5374 or visit www.sandimasarts.org.



Left: Artist Keith Batcheller painting at last year's plein air event.

Below: **Tom Hester**, *Running Lioness*, bronze with red-brown patina on oval black onyx base, ed. of 20, 12¼ x 25 x 6¼"

