

BY ADRIENNE PAPP



ADRIENNE PAPP is a recognized journalist who has written for many publications including *Savoir*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, *Malibu Beach* and *Celebrity Society*, among many others. She is the President and CEO of Los Angeles/New York-based publicity company *Atlantic United, Inc.* Adrienne writes about world trends and interviews celebrities.

ONE FASCINATING LIFE, ONE WORLD-RENOWNED ARTIST: VIOLET PARKHURST ON ART, LOVE, AND FAME

The boundless passion and ageless spirit of world-renowned artist Violet Parkhurst has earned her recognition both as an artist and humanitarian that only a few can dream about. November 3rd was officially made Violet Parkhurst Day by Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor of Los Angeles, honoring Parkhurst for her outstanding achievements and unparalleled artistry, sought after worldwide.

This year, LA Harbor International Film Festival (LAHIFF) featured Parkhurst's painting *Midnight on the Cinematic Bridge*, printed on all official posters and invitations of the festival, then sold by silent auction. The proceeds went to LAHIFF and Animals Rule Placement Foundation, as designated by the artist.

The Golden State Pops Orchestra also commissioned Parkhurst to produce a theme painting, which then was projected as a 15 ft. diameter, round image that glowed on the side wall of the theatre during the concert. The painting was titled *Notes in Sand & Surf*. Proceeds from the canvas and poster sale went to sponsor the orchestra.

Parkhurst has been featured more than 200 times in vari-



Incoming Fog 24x18



Moonlight 24x36



Notes in Sand and Surf 24x18



ous magazines and international publications, television shows, and movies, including *The Supernatural* on WB, and the miniseries *Drive*. Four paintings will appear in the new *Get Smart* movie with Steve Carell (*The 40-Year-Old Virgin*) to be released in 2008, where the filmmakers turned a local storefront into a Parkhurst Gallery with a sign boasting “*New Work by Violet Parkhurst.*”

In 2002 Parkhurst was invited to China by the Chinese government and honored as the first Western artist to have paintings placed in the Great Hall of China and the China National Museum of Fine Arts. Four American and two Chinese presidents have owned her artwork, and she is listed in the *Who’s Who in International Art*.

Over four million collectors have purchased her paintings and books. Owners include King Faud of Saudi Arabia, Angela Lansbury, Hilton Hotels, the honorable mayor of Kobe, Japan, and numerous American governors, mayors, and celebrities. Her scrapbooks contain photos with Margaret Thatcher, Ronald Reagan, President Bush, Bob Hope, and Clark Gable, just to name a few.

Two of her paintings toured major European museums, including the Prado and the Louvre, with twenty-three other artists in the Cultural Exchange and became part of the permanent collection of the Stockholm Museum. In total, her paintings reside in eight museums worldwide.

Parkhurst took the tough path to acclaim, specializing in two genres usually reserved for male artists: Seascapes and nudes. Painting with oils, her male and female nudes are full-bodied, wholly exposed Rubensian figures. Likewise, her seascapes show the ocean in all its violent, beautiful fury, often with crashing waves, white water, and rough, craggy coastlines.


Particularly noted for her exquisite use of color to render startlingly realistic lighting, Parkhurst once spent an entire year studying the complexities of color blending. French artist Rosa Bonheur was a big influence, along with the impressionists. “I didn’t want to be an absolute realist,” Parkhurst says, “I want people to look at my paintings and feel they are seeing the actual scene, but not a photograph.”

Parkhurst was once a foreign correspondent in Rio de Janeiro, at which time she also became a fixture on the Hollywood scene, leading to an affair with heartthrob Clark Gable.

“The reason he thought so highly of me was that I never tried to get into the movies,” she explains. “Every girl he went with wanted a part in a movie, and I didn’t.”

In fact, Gable liked her so much that after visiting her tiny house in Topanga Canyon, he bought her a big house in Malibu. Her new book, *Fame Be My Lover*, reveals intimate portraits of her many adventures, including her love story with Gable.

With a hard-driving creative passion, Parkhurst sometimes paints eight to twelve hours a day, and sponsors a yearly award for outstanding artists such as Thomas Kinkade and Cao Yong, who hung their early artwork in Parkhurst’s galleries.

Today, Parkhurst still paints avidly and enjoys her Thoroughbred horses. A vivacious, joyous spirit, still with a twinkle in her eyes, her extraordinary journey is an inspiration to her large audience of collectors worldwide. To meet the artist in person and see her work up close, visit the Parkhurst Art Galleries at 439 W. 6th Street or in Ports O’ Call Village, both in San Pedro, CA. Tel: (310) 547-3158 or log onto www.parkhurstartgalleries.com. 



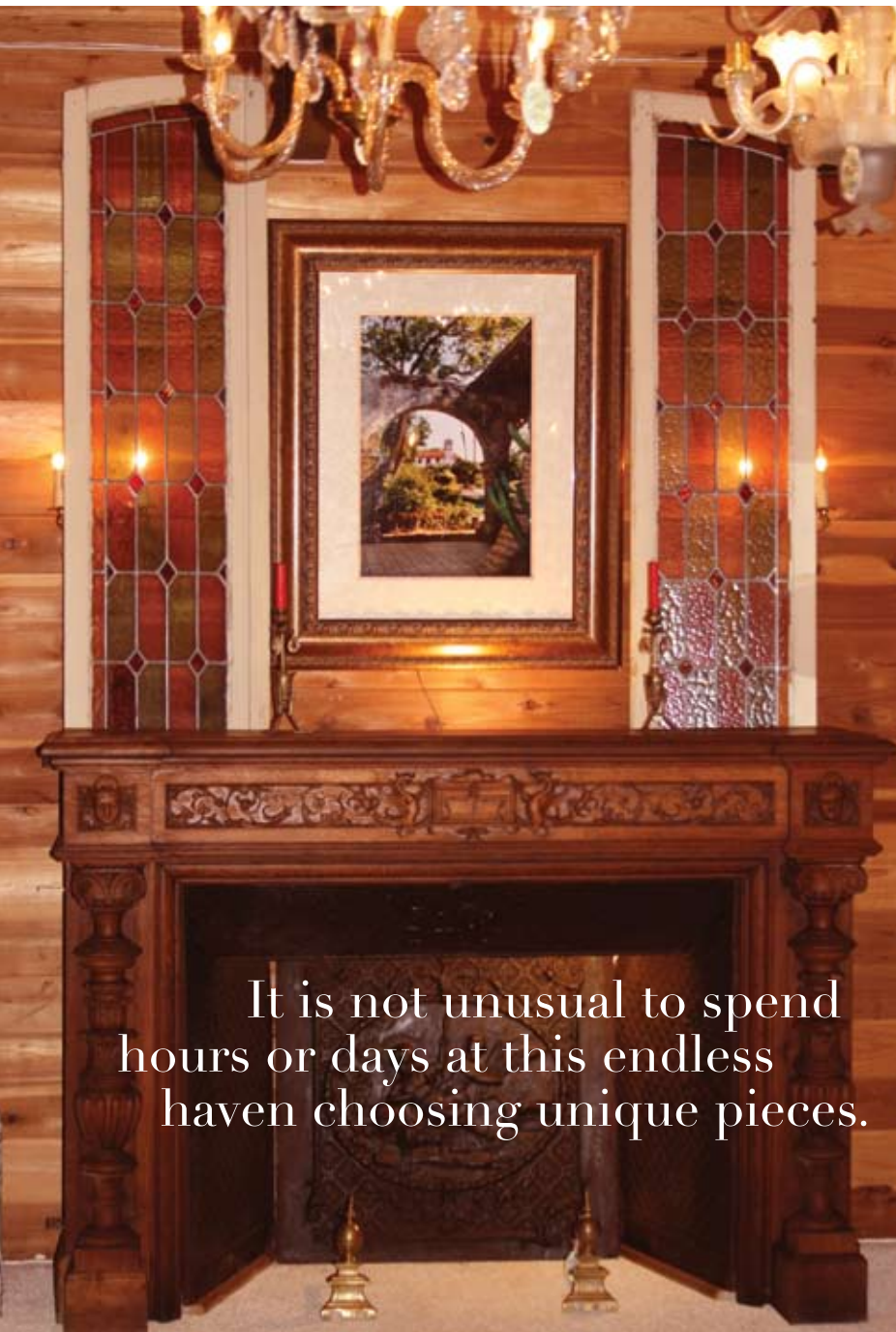
Violet Parkhurst

CHARME



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A French Country Haven in Los Angeles



It is not unusual to spend hours or days at this endless haven choosing unique pieces.

The ambience of a French country estate, with limestone fountains, benches, tables, fireplaces, and architectural antique garden accents, can be yours for the asking. Wander through your wrought-iron pergola with flowering vines, as you traverse the path to gather water from the well, where townsfolk have gathered for centuries. Invite your friends to your personal palace through custom-designed limestone pillars and ornate iron gates.



All is possible with Jacques Marqué, creator of Charme D'Antan ("Charm from the Past"), a very unique place in Los Angeles. Hidden in the historical and scenic "Three Magical Miles" of the Santa Monica Mountains, Malibu, Charme D'Antan gives you the warm feeling that you are indeed out in the country and traveling through time.

Charme D'Antan is an experience more than a shop. With its indoor antiques and outdoor art haven, sculptures, and limestone creations, you might reflect on your fantasies, as these essentials will romanticize your home into a design-book villa.

it to our landscape architects and interior designers to settle on the right fountain, benches, wishing well, statues, and archways. The mouth-watering outdoor pergolas, fountains, and fireplaces will leave you in awe, whether present or just looking at a photograph.

The peacock mascot of Charme D'Antan is alive and well, strutting the premises. When you visit, you may see him regally wandering through the French gardens, with his bright, colorful tail feathers fanned as he attempts to swoon his love, the drab peahen. He shakes and shimmies his fanned tail for days and doesn't give up

from years ago that must be heated on the stove or in the fireplace. They can also provide limestone or terracotta flooring as well as antique shutters.

"I love the old decorations," Jacques explains, as he stresses the importance of the right accessories, or the Pergola, as they say in France. "If you know how to bring out the beauty of each piece, you do not need to spend a fortune to look classy and elegant. You can create within your budget." He continues, "When you get home, you have to be comfortable with your own environment and be at peace. Like what you do; like where you live;

Jacques will make sure that you satisfy a sophisticated craving for European elegance, design, and style.

Evoking the atmosphere of centuries past, causing your spirit to flourish, a personal visit with Jacques will be an experience to remember. The exquisite limestone antiques are made in France and shipped bimonthly, as limestone is not available stateside. If you don't find your dream piece at Charme D'Antan, Jacques will special order it for you from France, searching the ancient palaces or having it made by true craftsmen who will create your masterpiece with the attention and care of the old times.

It is not unusual to spend hours or days at this endless haven choosing unique pieces. Those of us too busy to engage in the beauty of design can leave

until their love affair culminates in a passionate encounter. This fairytale peacock has earned the right to be the signature "ruler" of Charme D'Antan.

You can also fill your home with exquisite French antiques from every period, in both sophisticated and country styles. Whether it is Louis XIII, XIV, XV, or XVI, or even Napoleon, Jacques will make sure that you satisfy a sophisticated craving for European elegance, design, and style.

This unique "charm from the past" will give personalized ambience and character to your kitchen, bathroom, or bedroom, accessorizing down to the coffee cups, a rare antique sink, or an iron

that brings the right vibration that attracts happiness and success. It's all about the quality of life you create for yourself."

Jacques is a man who enjoys nurturing relationships with his clients. Once he gets to know your design passions, "the chemistry is there," as he puts it. No wonder he has built many of the stars' homes indoors and out, and has been filmed many times. Whether it is a castle out of the age of chivalry or a modern villa, Charme D'Antan is a truly unique place in Los Angeles inviting you to create the feel of the era in your home. For a personalized consultation call (818) 889-0229 or visit [www. CharmeDantan.net](http://www.CharmeDantan.net). 