

OVER THE PASS



"My husband's co-worker in Washington, D.C., told us about Trinidad so we came to see it in the late 1990s. We were astounded at the beauty of the mountains, the lake, the brick streets, the whole town. We bought property in 2001 and retired here in 2008."

– Judy Fuentes, board member and volunteer, A.R. Mitchell Museum (Trinidad)



"This is where we went to work when we first moved, in 1952. My husband was from Arkansas, a long-haul trucker. I came from Wagon Mound. We like the small town here in Raton."

– Mary E. Johnson, retired personnel training manager, K-Mart (Raton)

TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

"Why do you live here?"

By **Tim Keller**
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

Photos by **Tim Keller** / The Chronicle-News



"We live in a very unique place in America, where we know people 90 miles away like they were next door. The landscape is unique and you can see forever. I've been blessed to live here since 1969."

– Marv Newton, artist (Raton)



"We have nice climate year 'round and very little traffic. I like to walk out my back door and go hiking in the mountains."

– Dr. Bruce Washburn, owner and chiropractor, Washburn Chiropractic (Raton)



"We live up the river and work here in Trinidad. I live here for the slower way of life and clean air. It's better than the cities. We moved here from Denver in 1999."

– Theresa Olguin, owner, Theresa's Antiques (Trinidad)



"I was born here. Except for a few months, I've been in Trinidad all my life. I like the landscape, the mountains, animals, changes in weather, the history and the people."

– John Castellano (Trinidad)

Ladies and gentlemen, for your entertainment pleasure,
SCRT proudly presents

THE 2015 SUMMER PROFESSIONAL COMPANY

- Liz Dapo**, from Silver Spring, Maryland, originally from Trinidad
- Derek DuBay**, from Virginia Beach, Virginia
- Michael Empson**, from Encino, California
- Drew Frady**, from Cañon City, Colorado
- Cassandra Giovine**, from New York City
- Sarah Hinrichsen**, from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Chris Kenning**, from New York City
- Sam Lyle**, from Chubbuck, Idaho
- Justin Mohay**, from Centerville, Virginia
- Jaclyn Rahmlow**, from Honeoye Falls, New York
- David Rivera**, from Syracuse, New York
- Jean Schuman**, from Centennial, Colorado
- Jeffrey Schultz**, from right here in Trinidad, Colorado

Presenting SCRT's summer season

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and technical staff will be working very hard the first few weeks, while they learn the lines for all three shows, plus the songs in "The Music Man," this summer's big musical. They will also be required to develop original Cabaret style acts for special Thursday evening events.

Working along with them will be some of the SCRT Resident Company actors.

Once the shows have opened, however, there will be some free time to enjoy the natural wonders surrounding us and get to know Trinidad's galleries, shops and restaurants. Vaugeois will see to it that they will connect with the Trinidad Outdoors Club to plan some hikes and activities, perhaps the trail up Fisher's Peak or visit to Capulin Volcano.

The group will learn to trust and depend on each other, bonding into a theatrical family relationship they will always remember.

Executive Director Harriet Vaugeois added that the twin goals of The Southern Colorado Repertory Theatre are to provide employment for the actors and to give the public the opportunity to enjoy quality live theatre.

SCRT depends on grants and donations and ticket sales for income. The best ambassadors to the public are the performers themselves, so they have charged the actors with a special task to give free tickets to people who have never before attended an SCRT performance.

Note to readers: *That's one more real good reason to welcome and chat with these talented young performers, especially if*

you've never seen a SCRT show.

There will also be something new and better about this summer professional season. SCRT has added a Saturday matinee, so that the performances will be Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30, plus Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 2:30.

In addition, there will be Cabaret nights on Thursdays, where you will get a chance to see and enjoy these actors' extra special talents in original routines.

Opening night of the musical "The Music Man," directed by Greg Hinrichsen, will be Friday evening June 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Opening performance of the comedy farce "A Flea in her Ear," directed by Vaugeois, will be Sunday afternoon July 5, at 2:30 p.m.

Opening performance of the Pulitzer Prize winning drama "Proof," directed by Harriet Vaugeois, will be Saturday afternoon July 18, at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased by contacting the box office at 131 West Main Street in Trinidad, (719) 846-4765, on line through the website www.scrtheatre.com or at the door on performance dates.

Professional quality live theatre is entertainment at its best. Few communities outside the big cities in Colorado have this performing art form. SCRT's programs and productions were among the many qualifications earning Trinidad the designation of "Colorado Creative District."

So along with barbecues and picnics, why not make live professional theatre an enjoyable part of your summertime life?

SPANISH PEAKS ART COUNCIL

Colorado! art show to open in La Veta: Trinidad State's Tonape to judge work

By **Kathy Hill**
Special to The Chronicle-News

The Spanish Peaks Arts Council announces the opening of the annual judged Colorado! show, with a reception Saturday, June 13, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There are over 50 pieces of original art by 22 area artists, and by show judge, Vilas Tonape, a native of India, and currently an art professor at Trinidad State Junior College.

Vilas Tonape, a native of India, has been creating art for more than two decades. He received his BFA in Drawing and Painting with distinction from the Sir J.J. School of Art, University of Bombay (India). He earned an MFA in Painting from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. His work has been exhibited internationally, including venues in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Ontario and Bombay. Tonape has won numerous

awards throughout the United States and India and his work has been critically acclaimed. Palm Beach Post says: "Tonape's painting can be described as classically inspired, contemporary-realism— interpretive images that enchant the eye".

Working in both figurative and non-representational modes, Tonape focuses on nature. His paintings are "melodies" orchestrated by the artist, rooted in the



Photos courtesy of the SPACe Gallery / Kathy Hill

Professor of Art at Trinidad State Vilas Tonape will be showing his work as well as judging the art show Colorado! that will open at the SPACe Gallery in La Veta on June 13.



visual rhythms of gesture and color, recorded in the subject matter. "Painting to me is music for the eyes, conceived without conscious articulations, sentiments or statement. They reflect my response to nature. They are conceived by an abstract, intangible sensing of nature that erupts into spontaneous imagery."

Currently a professor of art at Trinidad State Junior College in southern Colorado, Vilas Tonape maintains a rigorous studio practice; his work is represented by Infusion Gallery in Los Angeles, California, and Sutlej Art Gallery in New York.

Refreshments will be provided for the opening reception and there is no admission fee. The SPACe Gallery is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and Noon to 4 on Sundays.

Vilas Tonape will be offering a workshop at the SPACe Gallery in pastel July 11 at SPACe.

Call 719-742-3074 or visit SpanishPeaksArts.org for information.