



### **In-House Review of MB Hanrahan's "No Hope, No Fear", by Lisa Moore**

This vivid, vivacious Artist's Reception met with fervor and fun was had by all! A tremendous start to celebrating her upcoming 50th "trip around the sun" as her long-time client, Jimmy Buffet has sung.

We, at SBAG, have been so infused with energy due to MB Hanrahan's guest exhibit this year. The first time I was introduced to MB was for the 2006 Dia de Los Muertos call to artists for our annual exhibit. She nearly bounded in with a long PVC pipe saying she wasn't sure if her mural would fit in the gallery and did we want to look at it anyway? The answer was of course yes! What was unfurled fit perfectly with both the largest wall and the theme of Dia de los Muertos. It also demonstrated so many of the elements I immediately admired in this outrageously bold and mightily generous person. The scene depicted a rendering of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party as Calaveras characters. The wham of the scale with that of the humor, drawing connections to Posada's satire, and the love associated with the tales of Alice, set the perfect keynote for that exhibit and the following celebration.

"No Hope, No Fear", shows many more sides of MB's wildness and daring, to which I think she'd say, if there wasn't any daring involved, there'd be no point for her to continue an endeavor. One side I am delighted to see in this rare collection of her work in one place, is the sense that I've entered an Italian festival, set off at her reception by her fabulous suit of red and cream, wide-striped attire. Looking every bit an MC for a Cirque de Soleil performance, her flaxen dreadlocks seemed at times to form a jester's cap, as she strode throughout. Many of her smaller murals were made between 2002 and 2007 for Burning Man, which definitely speaks to being in a different world. Most of the colors are bright and yet soft, and there is a clarity about all the pieces, again reminiscent of the legendary Florentine, Venetian, and Tuscan "light".

Another sense of clarity comes through her show title, named for her recent painting, "No Hope, No Fear". She says this refers to an element of Buddhist philosophy. This perspective, she states, is about "...being, not acting out of hope for something, or some reward, nor acting out of fear, reacting or avoiding something or someone." She says it is a challenge to release her "Hope" habit.

Come visit a galaxy in the corner of the MB Universe!