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Art Full of Life, Tri-Countywide

COMMUNITY ARTISTS FROM THE TRI-COUNTY AREA SHOW THEIR WARES AS PART OF A SELECT GROUP CHOSEN FOR A PRESTIGIOUS JURIED EXHIBITION

By Josef Woodard,
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"Joie de Vivre: Tri-County Juried Exhibition"

When: through June 18
Where: Westmont Ridley-Tree Museum of Art, Westmont College, 955 La Paz Rd.
Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, closed Sunday
Information: 565-6162, www.westmontmuseum.org

Up on the idyllic, nearly bucolic campus of Westmont College, students have left the buildings, in the main. The graduation/commencement ceremony a few weeks ago spelled the finale of the academic year's completion, and the annual Senior art show — an impressive one — has come and gone on and off the walls of Westmont's still-young-ish and luminous Art Museum. It must be time, by the cultural clock on campus and in Santa Barbara, for the long-standing community engagement project known as the "Tri-County Juried Exhibition."

As for the show's sculptural component, the muse goes playful, and distrustful of the things and the putty we know. An artist familiar from previous shows here, Joan Rosenberg-Dent returns with her refreshingly disorienting aesthetic, in the form of "Danseuse Argent" ("Money Dance," in English). It is another of her crafty, senses-tweaking manipulations of expectations about the behavior of



Courtesy photos
Joan Roseberg-Dent, Danseuses Argent

materials. What looks like delicately folded and furrowed paper or textiles is, in fact, the hard, fast and shiny stuff of bronze. We appreciate both the sensuality of the piece, and the trickery we've been harmlessly led into.