



Arts & Culture Roundup

KELLIE DAY FINE ART TAKES FLIGHT

By Caitlin Switzer

RIDGWAY--She has climbed mountains and glaciers, worked as a forest ranger, helped launch (with Kim Reynolds) one of the nation's most popular and respected women's ice climbing clinics, and established a successful graphic design business, [Dayzign Graphics](#). And yet, Kellie Day keeps searching for the perfect means of self-expression, the distillation of wisdom and design that belongs only to the realm of fine art.

"I really believe in living life to the fullest," said Day, 42. "I still have not found the one thing that has made me feel that. So art became a strong calling—I started looking at the work of other artists, and

taking a bunch of classes. I studied in New Mexico with Susie Billings for a week in the winter of 2010, and I ended up spending exactly as much money as I had in my checking account—I had just decided to go for it."

Day is herself the daughter of artist Karen Keene Day. "Mom has been pretty successful," Day said. "She is a huge influence on me. My dad was an engineer; if he had raised me alone I would be very logical, and everything would be well planned. My mom taught me to go for

it, even when you're not sure—to be a dreamer." Day's work, which can currently be viewed at Telluride's La Cocina (123 East Colorado Ave.) through January, at Resource Gallery in Ridgway (on Sherman across from Mountain Market) and on her web site, www.kelliedayart.com, is evocative, complex, rich with color and absolutely breathtaking.

"This is very much a deep



Raven by Kellie Day

collection," Day said. "I have spent the last 20 years roaming the Southwest, and exploring—these are things that have moved me. They tend to be bolder, and more colorful.

"I learned from Robert Weatherford in Telluride to paint something I feel very strongly about. I find a deep sense of spirituality when I let go of my brain, and give in."

Although she does not have a permanent gallery spot, Day's work has been selling briskly to eager collectors who seek her out. She writes a blog to share her thoughts on each of her pieces-- <http://kelliedayart.com/mixed-media/raven/> ,

<http://kelliedayart.com/birds/winter-birds/>.

"I am not making a living yet," she said, "for now, I am just starting small—and dreaming big."



Winter Birds Triptic by Kellie Day.

MONTROSE LIBRARY TO HOST PUPPET SHOWS BY PUPPETREE THEATER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Come One! Come All, To the Prince's Ball!(All except Cinderbug, who must stay home and work.) Puppetree

and the Montrose Regional Library present a puppet show entitled "Cinderbug and the Ball" on thursday, Jan. 5, 2012, with shows at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the

Montrose Regional Library meeting room. Everyone welcome...free of charge. For more information call 970-249-9656, option 2.