

'Women In Shock' at the Corner Gallery

By Robert Brune

ANDES — Pia Dehne is an artist with exceptional vision and talent on many levels. Her solo exhibition is at one of the new galleries in Delaware County located in Andes, the Corner Gallery. The presentation of Dehne's 'Women In Shock' is mesmerizing, with images of beautiful actresses, and provocative by bringing the topic of domestic violence to the table in a meaningful way. Each piece is created almost as a dream-like, hazy portrait of deep emotion colored in soft greens, pinks, blues, and black. The portraits are moments captured in movies that Dehne finds reflect how each of the female subjects might have experienced distress in their real lives. The number of women who suffer from violence is staggering. According to the United Nations Office on Women www.unwomen.org, globally an estimated 736 million women, almost one in three, have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their lives. (30% of women aged 15 and older).

Pia Dehne on the inspiration of this body of work, "Processing the ideas of women in shock brought images up from my childhood, youth, and past, my subconscious, and memories of film stars or celebrities and public figures involved in assorted dramas." Dehne explained in our conversation that after World



Artist Pia Dehne with The Corner Gallery Managing Director Angela Blümmis in front of the 'Bride of Frankenstein' (Elsa Lanchester) portrait. *Women Shocked*' is the third exhibition since The Corner Gallery opened their doors this past Spring in Andes

War II, in Germany where she's from, the culture of male chauvinism was prevalent leading up to her years of studying art in college. Dehne studied art under one of Germany's most famous artists Markus Lupertz and explained that, as a woman, it was a tremendous challenge because of the way women were treated differently from the male students.

One of the portrait examples is from classic a German film that was very similar to the story of Little Red Riding Hood. Another is from a Japanese film of two women who were killed and take revenge on the samurai. One of the more familiar portraits is of Tippi Hedren in 'The Birds,' and another is of Edie Sedg-

wick. As Dehne explains, "I couldn't resist including Edie Sedgwick, a troubled and abused soul from a wealthy family in a constant state of shock and delusion, discovered by Andy Warhol and transformed into an icon of a glamorous party world and drug consumption." After years of Warhol's documented abuse, Sedgwick committed suicide. Dehne has at least a dozen examples of stories of these famous women including Tammy Terrell, Ellen Burstyn, Joan Crawford, and Coretta Scott King.

The driving force of this exhibition is described by Dehne, "By using these dramatic icons from films, history, and fairy tales I feel like I'm contributing to a collective healing process for the trauma of women being abused and suppressed throughout human history."

For More Information on Pia Dehne and the Corner Gallery see - www.thecornergallery-andes.com and www.piadehne.com on Instagram @piadehne and @thecornergallery_andes