

The Gallery at Hillcrest Has New Imaginative Exhibit, *The Chrysalis*

Review by Dale LaCasella

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Stepping into the *Chrysalis* exhibit at the Gallery at Hillcrest is like stepping into the mind of artist James Stricks as he contemplates issues of imagination, growth and mortality.



Those who attended the opening of this show on April 16, the second exhibit for this artist in The Gallery at Hillcrest, were drawn into his visions, bemused, sometimes bewildered, but always immersed in the colors, shapes and ideas taking shape on the canvases and non-traditional formats all around them. Attendees were enticed into entering a box – apparently shipped by the Demerge Galactic Center via Intergalactic Mail to Jim Strick, Earth – and titled Food for Thought; finding that the only way to understand the piece was to become part of it.

Other pieces gave a new and different vision of Biblical stories as filtered through the vision of their creator who wishes to imagine how things are viewed in a contemplative state of mind. His works are compelling and original. They are not for sale.

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, and now a resident of Claremont by way of Alaska, with a background in architecture, anthropology and college administration, Jim began working with watercolors in the early 1990s. His wife Ethel is a ceramic artist, although she doesn't describe herself as such.



The *Chrysalis* is available for viewing Monday -Sunday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, free of charge, until June 26 at The Gallery at Hillcrest, 2705 Mountain View Drive, La Verne 91750. Phone: 909.392.4000 Website: www.livingathillcrest.org/events/gallery

About Hillcrest Hillcrest is an upscale 501(c)(3) nonprofit continuing care retirement community (CCRC) centrally located in the San Gabriel Valley, less than 30 minutes from Los Angeles, Anaheim, Pasadena, and San Bernardino and at the gateway to the Inland Empire. Located in a quiet residential neighborhood just off Foothill Boulevard in La Verne, California, Hillcrest offers independent living, assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing, with an emphasis on wellness and health. For more information, visit: <https://liveathillcrest.org/>.

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