

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Sarah Nesbit
972-744-4612 or sarah.nesbit@cor.gov

THE PAINTINGS OF JEANNE SHEFONG BAKER SHOWING AT THE EISEMANN CENTER'S GREEN MEZZANINE GALLERY JANUARY 4-29, 2008

RICHARDSON – Born in Shanghai, China, Jeanne graduated from Su Chow Art Academy in 1954. Working as an illustrator for magazines and newspapers in mainland China in 1950's, she produced over 10,000 sketches portraying Chinese historical figures in stories, and the life of children and common folks. Later from 1959 to 1970, she served as an illustrator for the *Daily News* in Hong Kong. Her drawings depicted Chinese folklore in cartoon and comic series regularly published in the newspaper and other magazines. She also taught art at a Hong Kong public school for a number of years while working for the newspaper.

After coming to America, she attended the New York Art Students League for two years from 1970 to 1972, with a focus on oil painting. At the same time, she was designing floral prints for silk dress material for the Garment Center in New York City.

While residing in Stamford, New York, she held a one-woman show at the Hobart Activity Center—Fine Arts Gallery in June 1978. The exhibit was an exquisite collection of her works done on two continents. Her Oriental art is an expression of people who tell a story. The later oils reflect the Western influence, but retain a distinct Oriental flavor.

In late 1978, she was commissioned by the Museum of Natural History in New York to submit a 34' x 4' mural on ancient Chinese life, a 13' x 4' mural on Chinese palace as well as 12 small round murals on how Chinese people deal with birth, aging, illness and death. All of them were completed in 1979, and have since been permanently displayed in the "Far East" Hall of the Museum.

Jeanne relocated to Dallas, Texas in August 1980, and joined Texas Area Artists (TAA), where she has been a prominent member. Over the years, she has won twelve first prize ribbons at TAA shows. A lot of her works were displayed at Shogun Gallery in the Crescent Hotel, Dallas in early 1990s. A few are still decorating the walls of the New August Moon Restaurant in Plano, Texas.

A long time member of The Association of Oriental Art (TAO), she has participated in the annual group show at the Irving Arts Center for 19 years. She is also a member of the D/FW Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Association and for the past nine years she has been a regular contributor to the association's annual exhibition at the Dallas Chinese Activity Center in Richardson, Texas. Under the sponsorship of the City of Plano's Municipal Exhibit Program, solo exhibits of Jeanne's watercolor and oil paintings were displayed in 2005 at Plano Municipal Center and the Plano Centre as well as the Courtyard Theatre in Plano, Texas.

Gallery hours are 10:00 am – 6:00 pm Monday through Saturday and during all public events. The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located at 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson, Texas 75082 in the Galatyn Park Urban Center adjacent to the Galatyn Park DART rail station. Admission is free. For more information on exhibits and events, visit the website at www.eisemanncenter.com or call 972-744-4650.

Cutline for image: *Japanese Bride* by Jeanne Shefong Baker

#####