



*Joan Warren-Grady in  
her La Jolla office.*

## *That Aspen Link*

Local art pops at the Residences at The Little Nell.

**W**HEN JOAN WARREN-GRADY CHOSE THE ARTWORK for the Residences at The Little Nell—the new building of 26 condominium properties on the Aspen Mountain gondola plaza—she made sure there was a link with Aspen. “The collection is loosely connected to works relating to nature through the subject matter and the materials used,” she says. “We really made an effort to use artists that work the relationship to nature, and we focused on the local art scene.”

A collection of 60 photographs from the estate of Aspen’s first and greatest photojournalist—Ferenc “Franz” Berko—will greet guests in the public corridors, thanks to Mirte Mallory, Berko’s granddaughter and manager of the Berko estate. “They’ll hopefully be new to the viewer,” says

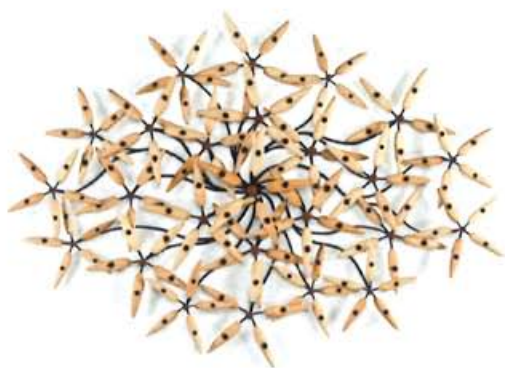
PHOTOS: COURTESY OF JOAN WARREN-GRADY ART ADVISORY



*Untitled - Standing Mare and Colt*  
Oil on Canvas by Joe Ando



*Stone & Glass sculpture*  
by Otto Rigan



*Wood & Steel Sculpture*  
By James Surls


Warren-Grady, "since they aren't published pieces."

Welcoming guests at the check-in desk is a commissioned wall sculpture of carved and burned wood by James Surls, a nine-year resident of the Roaring Fork Valley. Aspen local Kris Cox will have a commissioned work in the main entry corridor; the oil-on-panel piece reminds Warren-Grady of wood grain. "He really works the canvas," she says. "The piece he's doing for us captures the bark of an aspen tree—it has a real contemporary relationship to wood." Rounding out the local artistry are images from noted photographers Burnham Arndt and George Stranahan.

Also selected for the condos: a series of contemporary sepia photographs by Frederic Ohringer, *Aspen Sky* photographs by Jenny Gummersal, oil paintings of aspen trees by Kay Whitherspoon, large stone-and-glass wall sculptures by Otto Rigan, a large black-and-white commissioned oil painting for the lobby by Joe Ando, and others.

Although Aspen is a western town, Warren-Grady chose to forgo the Wild West pastiche. "I strayed away from typical western art—portraits of cowboys on horses and bronze sculptures of eagles," she says. "Not that I don't appreciate that, but it's been done in Aspen before. Aspen is such a burgeoning art center, it was important for this property to speak to that sophisticated sensibility."

And Warren-Grady knows how to fit art to locations, as she has completed more than 200 art collections—Ritz-Carltons, Regents, Four Seasons, and lots more—for the best hotels in the world. Currently on her plate is a new Atlantis hotel on Dubai's Palm Tree Island, as well as other Ritz-Carlton properties.

Developers Centurion and BlueSky Capital have focused on selecting pieces that will resonate with visitors and owners. Brooke Peterson, a partner in BlueSky who worked with Warren-Grady, calls the collection "mountain modern" and is excited to have the pieces she decided on. "I think residents are going to get the opportunity to see art that they won't normally see," he says. "She was willing to take our input and help us pick out some tremendous artwork. Anyone that will see the art we chose will be proud to have those pieces in their home—anywhere in the country, anywhere in Aspen." 

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF JOAN WARREN GRADY ART ADVISORY