

## Eklektikas II Premieres French Watercolorist

Silver City gallery Eklektikas II has the distinction of

presenting the North American gallery premiere of watercolors by French artists Lucienne Aman. Jim Madsen and North Johnson became acquainted with the artist and her work when she came to Silver City to visit her cousin Bonnie Maldonado, a friend of the gallery owners. Interest in her work developed over time, culminating in the current exhibit, "Les Aquarelles."

Aman was present at the opening and took great pleasure in meeting the public and answering their questions.

Aman dreamt of attending the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris as a child. At the encouragement of her family, however, she pursued a career in business. Today she works in marketing for a Swiss pharmaceutical company and commutes daily from her border town home in France. Ten years ago, Aman discovered watercolor and took advantage of her geographic positioning to take workshops from both Swiss and French masters. She also had the opportunity to study with Quebecois watercolorist Jacques Hébert, founder of the Canadian Watercolor Society.

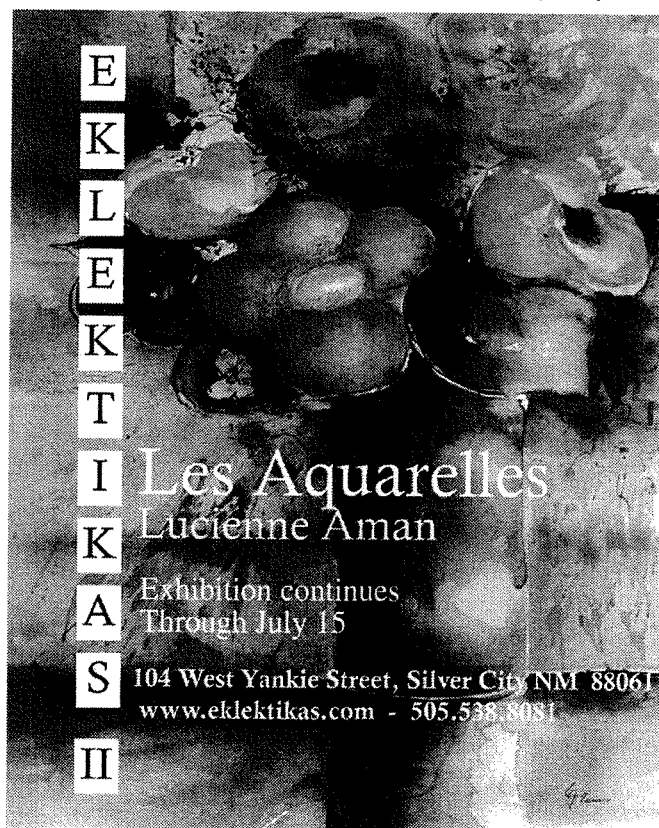
As Aman's aesthetic developed and technical knowledge grew, she began to exhibit extensively. She has participated in

18 shows since 1997 in France and Germany, earning many awards.

Aman keeps her subjects simple, a cluster of flowers, a few pieces of fruit or a distant farm house on a country road. Her true subject is the color that dominates the background in checkered planes, intersecting and interacting with the objects. This is pure painting—an investigation of color, texture, and medium over subject. She harnesses and exploits the unpredictability of watercolor, building up bold washes to define negative space. This in turn shapes the object. The technique has captivated the artist. "I am literally subjugated by

colors being metamorphosed by water. Fantasy, coincidence, colors running demand new ideas giving a painting a surprising new turn," Aman explains. These joyous paintings from a gifted artist are orchestrations of surprise.

"Les Aquarelles" runs through July 15. For more information, call 538-8081.

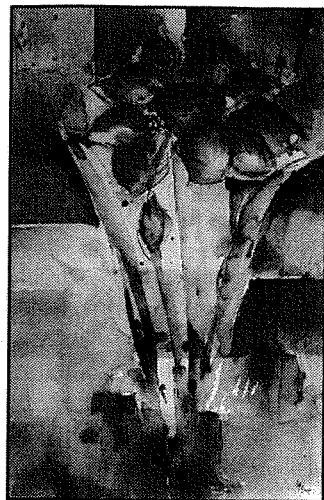


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**Les Aquarelles**  
Lucienne Aman

Exhibition continues  
Through July 15

104 West Yankie Street, Silver City NM 88061  
www.eklektikas.com - 505.538.8081




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**Chamber of Commerce**  
201 N. Hudson Silver City, NM 88061  
1-505-538-3785 • www.silvercity.org

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