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## NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Wilton Library welcomes winter with six women artists beginning Jan. 23

Wilton, CT – The cold January winds usher in a breath of fresh air when “The Winter Show – Six Women Artists” opens at Wilton Library on Friday, Jan. 23, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The art exhibition highlights the works of the women, many of whom have displayed pieces during the Wilton Artists Summer Show. The Wilton artists are Joan Bepler, Katya Lebrija, Renée Santhouse and Kathleen Wrampe; Marion Pershan, who hails from NY and FL, visits Wilton often as it is the home of her daughter, Diana Moskowitz, and Berenice Pliskin is from Peekskill, NY. The more than 50 works represent myriad styles, subject matter and media choices.

**Joan Bepler**, a prize-winning artist, grew up in Wilton and was inspired early on to make art a central focus of her life by her Wilton High School teacher. She has exhibited her mixed media collage works in numerous juried shows in the region. She has been developing her lifelong interest of portraiture by studying with noted portrait artist Wende Caporale. Joan is exhibiting a selection of her works of oil portraiture in this exhibition.

**Katya Lebrija** has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Graphic Design from Universidad Anáhuac in Mexico City, where she was born. Her roots are frequently reflected in her work, which shows the richness and bright colors of the Mexican culture. She has exhibited her works in many area group shows and has a few solo shows scheduled for the year ahead. She lives in Wilton with her husband and two daughters.

**Renée Santhouse’s** work explores the abstraction and celebration of earthscapes, geological formations and dramatic events in time, based on history and on-site exploration. Her original prints in the exhibition use the artistic process of monotype, a free form technique that requires quick execution, and emphasizes atmosphere and color. Her technique combines original digital drawing with water-based printing ink, using multiple plates and glazing on handmade 100% rag paper. Her paintings on canvas are executed en plein air using acrylics, and subsequently modified in the studio. Renée divides her time between Wilton and California.

**Kathleen Wrampe’s** background is fashion merchandising, living and working in the New York City area. While living abroad she studied drawing and watercolor painting under international artist Antonija Gros in Singapore. Upon returning to the U.S., Kathleen attended Norwalk Community College focusing on Chinese Brush Painting. Since then, Kathleen attends formal classes at the Silvermine School of Art in New Canaan where she was awarded First Prize in Painting for her

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watercolor "Graceful Spirits" at the school's student show. Kathleen has exhibited in many local shows including the library's Summer Show, the Scan Art Spring Show in Newtown, the juried exhibition, "Elements," presented by Loft Artists Association of Stamford and more.

**Marion Pershan's** love of painting and drawing has been a passion of hers for more than six decades. While in high school, she sent monthly drawings to a NY newspaper called *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* and they printed these drawings on the first page of the junior section as a "heading." She received a BA degree from Hunter College and pursued classes at The Art Students League, The National Academy of Design and Pratt Institute. She acquired a solid foundation for painting the figure in oils on canvas and also created watercolor portraits. As art coordinator and teacher within the NYC Public School System, she organized an Art Fair for the community. In addition to her many other accomplishments of awards and exhibitions, she is listed in "Who's Who in American Art" and "Who's Who in the East."

**Berenice Pliskin's** passion for silk painting has kept her involved in local area exhibitions in and around Westchester County for close to 20 years. She has been written about in countless publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Journal News* and *Peinture Sur Soie*, a French magazine for silk painters, for the past fifteen years. She has been honored in "Who's Who of American Women," The National Museum of Women in the Arts and the Westchester Arts Council Award, 2002: Education /Community Award for a significant contribution to the Arts, "A Community Mosaic 9/11." She is a member of the National Association of Women in the Arts, Katonah Museum Artist Association and Surface Design Association.

The reception is open to the public. The majority of the works will be available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library. The exhibition runs through Friday, February 27. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center. For information and directions, visit [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or call 203-762-3950, ext. 213.

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**Rock House—Renée Santhouse**



**At the Opening—Berenice Pliskin**

**Caption:** Wilton Library's "The Winter Show – Six Women Artists" reception is on Friday, Jan. 23, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public. Joan Bepler, Katya Lebrija, Renée Santhouse and Kathleen Wrampe are Wilton residents; Marion Pershan, of NY and FL and Berenice Pliskin of Peekskill, NY complete the show. The exhibition runs through Feb. 27. A portion of the proceeds benefits the library. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT, [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org), 203-762-3950.