



Main Gallery
Photo by Steven Rothfeld



Seated Figure with View
by Thula Frey



"Flute" sculpture
by George Javethorpe
at Hilda's Nest



Art & Nature Walk
in the Sculpture
Meadow

INTRIGUING ART COLLECTION

by RYAN AYERS

The view from the highway should confront visitors immediately that they are entering an uncommon collection of artwork.

The row of white sheep on the hill to the side of the road—two-dimensional wooden carvings of sheep, that is, with one black sheep in their midst—being viewed into a playful mindset that helps when taking a look at what has been called a most unconventional collection of art.

Leaving the main road and moving up the curving drive brings other works into view that are seemingly scattered around the landscape as needed. Everything from sculptures in the more classic vein, consisting of human form and emotion, to those reminiscent of furniture and other objects for the sides of the road and courtyard in front of a stables-like structure that resembles a European chateau.

Around all of this sensory input, wander peacocks—many, many peacocks with their beautifully colored feathers on display. Strolling around the road and courtyard, through the adjacent vineyard, and even in the trees surrounding the house itself, the peacocks wander like carved living pieces of art and fit right in with their surroundings as though they belong.

This entry into di Rosa sets the stage for an adventure like no other museum experience that you are likely to undergo. Part outdoor museum,

Di Rosa brings the audience to the artwork

part gallery, this multidisciplinary gathering of art installations, sculptures, and paintings is arranged in a natural and organic way so that it can be enjoyed in, and as a part of, its surroundings. Just as founder Rene di Rosa and his wife Vivonica intended, the pieces exhibited here are to be enjoyed completely in concert with their surroundings. They are complemented by, and complement, the breathtaking spaces that they occupy.

With two indoor galleries, the historic residence, and three distinct outdoor sculpture areas, di Rosa offers entirely different experiences, depending on the space and pieces that you are viewing. Looking at a brightly colored sculpture of a cow in the middle of the lake while watching the peacocks stroll past is a startlingly different experience than the quiet interior of the gallery and the paintings being tested.

Rene di Rosa was known as a collector of eclectic pieces of art and sculpture, and a passionate advocate and supporter of the arts in the Key Area and beyond until his death in 2010. His desire to see a unique museum in the beautiful Napa Valley was realized in 1997, and his project continues on in his name today.

Di Rosa offers several different varieties of tours to the public at different times of year. For information, call (707)226-5991 or visit dirosart.org.