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Cats on the prowl at town fundraiser

By Sal Pizarro
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Los Gatos is really going to the cats.

For the next month, 32 faux felines designed by Silicon Valley artists will be on display at various Los Gatos locales. The cats are the centerpiece of the Touch My HeART fundraising campaign for the town's art and history museums.

The artists all started with the same acrylic cat body but ended up in wildly different places. One cat has hearts for spots and is standing on its hind legs. Another is encased in a bronze metal body and a couple have scenes from downtown Los Gatos emblazoned on their coats.

The only rule was that a heart -- either in shape or word -- had to be represented somewhere on each cat. At a preview Wednesday at the Los Gatos Art Museum, Touch My HeART chair **Sandy Decker** and cat wrangler **Valerie Hopkins** helped my quest to find every cat's heart. I was successful with 26 of the 30 cats there (two cats were fashionably late, as cats are wont to be). I'm sure someone will find the elusive four I missed.

Every cat is worth seeing, but there are a few that shouldn't be missed: ``Pablo Pawcasso" by **Lorraine Lawson** at the Maid's Quarters; ``Heart of a Tiger" by **Ken Johnson** at the Windermere S.V.P.; ``Hearts in the Balance" by **Bill Vujevich** at Wells Fargo Bank; and ``Cat-itude" by **Sonya Paz** at Alain Pinel Realtors. And wherever you find a cat, there should be a list of where all the others are around town.

If all this sounds familiar, that's because it's a bit of a, uh, copycat: The Los Gatos Arts Commission also auctioned off 50 art cats in 2003 for nine South Bay arts groups. Decker said people have been asking for an encore ever since.

The cats will be auctioned at a Touch My HeART gala at the Los Gatos Opera House on Feb. 12, appropriately just before Valentine's Day. The theme of the event is ``Hail Britannia," and it will include a performance by Beatles tribute group BBC, the auction of a London cityscape painting by artist **Thomas Kinkade**, and a London vacation giveaway.

Tickets are \$75 a person. For more information, call (408) 354-1547.

GRACIOUS WINNER: At Tuesday's Charity Night preview at the San Jose International Auto Show, Redwood City resident **Kevin Enderby** won a \$25,000 credit from the Silicon Valley Auto Dealers Association toward the purchase of a new car.

Well, Enderby already has a pretty sweet ride. He's on the board of directors of the Pacific Region chapter of the Ferrari Club of America and has a new blue Ferrari F430 heading his way (he already owns red and yellow ones). His plan is to work with the SVADA to donate the money to VIA Rehabilitation Services, one of the charities that benefited from the show.

DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES' SIGHTING: TheatreWorks' performance of ``Into the Woods" on Wednesday had its own guest star in the audience. **Harriet Sansom Harris**, who has a recurring role as Felicia Tilman on ``Desperate Housewives," was there to see **Francis Jue**, who co-starred with Harris in ``Thoroughly Modern Millie" on Broadway.

Jue, a San Francisco native and TheatreWorks veteran actor, plays the wisecracking narrator in Stephen Sondheim's dark fairy tale, which runs through Saturday at the Lucie Stern Theatre in Palo Alto.

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