

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22-28, 2007 A GUIDE TO THE GREATER FORT MYERS ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

## iridescent



## landscape

>>The Art of **Mark Messersmith**



SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY  
Messersmith's work, such as *Paradise of Sacrifice*, jumps at you three dimensionally.



BY NANCY STETSON  
Florida Weekly Correspondent

**W**alk into Mark Messersmith's "A Southern Landscape" exhibit, and you might take a few steps back involuntarily.

His oversized paintings are bold and initially overwhelming, too much to take in at first introduction. They're chockfull of imagery, and his use of fluorescent colors such as lime green, pumpkin orange, lemon yellow make you suspect his work glows

SEE LANDSCAPE, C4 ►

## Frank Sadera's landscapes: as good as the real thing

His work will be on display beginning Dec. 8

BY EVAN WILLIAMS  
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Frank Sadera's landscapes are extremely pleasing for how they depict nature as mysterious and infinite. His humans have a small place in that, doing their own thing off to the side of the road or frolicking in the sea under a gorgeous, swirling Florida sky, a road disappearing into the sunset beyond them.

His sensitivity to nature's devastating beauty and loneliness echo Van Gogh, but his style is smoother, more realistic. And that's why looking at a Sadera painting can produce that great, visceral feeling



SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Frank Sadera's landscapes will be on display at the Florida Fine Art Gallery in Gannon's Antiques & Art Center beginning Dec. 8.

that if you took a very careful step in the proper frame of mind, you could actually walk into it. It is a measure of his success with style that driving over the Sanibel Causeway and seeing the water, the sky and the air, causes feelings similar to looking at one of his paintings.

That success did not come easily. At the age of 32, Sadera "dropped out," and took his family to a farm in Kentucky, where he spent three years learning how to paint.

"I did whatever I could to be able to raise a family, to buy paint, to buy canvas," he said. "I've taken every kind of job imaginable to keep going as a painter, but now I'm painting full time and it's a delight. I have no regrets. It's a wonderful way to spend my time."

At one point, Sadera was working second shift in a factory, as he raised three children, a condition which went on for about nine years. His children are all grown now, two living in Massachusetts, one the vice president of a hospital in

SEE SADERA, C14 ►

## WEEK at-a-glance



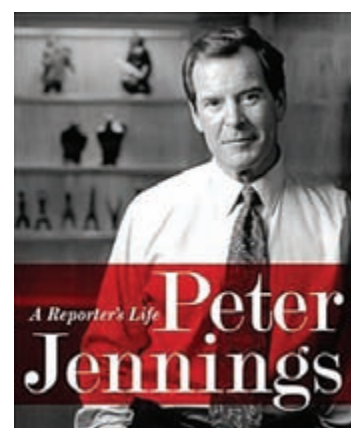
### BIG ARTS

Don't miss the BIG ARTS 28th Annual Art Fair this weekend on Sanibel. **C6** ►



### Good eats, Mexican style

Cantina Laredo delivers great food, gracious service. **C23** ►



### Portrait of a newsmen

For many Americans, Peter Jennings was the voice and face that gave shape to the news. **C5** ►



### From hive to big screen

What's the buzz over Jerry Seinfeld's pet project, "Bee Movie" **C11** ►