end Sky': A contemporary art show featuring art glass by California artist Ted Enrich and Santa Fe artist Jim Alfred; April 11- May 9. Reception: 6-8 p.m. April 11.

**Glendale Civic Center:** 5750 W. Glenn Drive. *Arizona Watercolor Association Spring 2002 Membership Exhibition:* through May 4. Reception: 2-4 p.m. April 14.

**Meyer Gallery:** 17873 E. Main St., Scottsdale. (480) 947-6372. *The Chelyene River Travels.* J. E. Krause shows his paintings. Reception: 7-9 p.m. April 11.

**Riva Yares Gallery:** 3625 N. Bishop Lane, Scottsdale. (480) 947-3251. *Sins From An Imaginary Bible:* Roberto Marquez will present his new paintings; April 13-May 17. Reception: 2-5 p.m. April 13.

**Trailside Galleries on Main:** 7145 E. Main St., Scottsdale. (480) 584-8100. *Esbie Coffin:* through April 21. Reception: 7-9 p.m. April 11.

**Vanier Galleries on Main:** 7106 E. Main St., Scottsdale. (480) 946-7507. Theodore Waddell: landscapes of the West, April 11-May 4. Reception: 7-9 p.m. April 11.

**Art museums**

**ASU Art Museum, Nelson Fine Arts Center:** Mill Avenue and 10th Street, Tempe. (480) 965-2787. *ASU Art Faculty Exhibition:* The annual exhibition features new works created by the studio faculty of the ASU School of Art; through May 5. *Hung Liu: New Paintings:* Liu's paintings are loosely based on photographs of historic China, most taken by Western visitors in the early 20th century; through April 28. *Topsy Turvy: Sculpture by Alison Saur:* Saur creates powerful figures carved from wood, given a patina finish and encrusted with found objects and ornamental ceiling tin; through May 5.

**Fleischhauer Museum:** 17207 N. Perimeter Drive, Scottsdale. (480) 585-3108. *Time:* Balenciaga's haute couture designs from the 1930s to 60s; through May 5. *Ideas of Beauty: Traditions of the Chinese Court:* Complements the exhibit, *Secret World of the Forbidden City.* Splendors from China's Imperial Palace; through April 21. *Clearly Thinking:* The Sculpture of Peter Ivey and Michael Scheiner: the glass sculptors will show their works; April 12-Aug. 11. *Dale Chihuly: Installations:* Chihuly's glass sculptures; through June 23. *Reminders of Invisible Light:* Beth Ames Swartz presents mixed-media works from the early 1960s to present; through May 12.

**Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art:** 7380 E. Second St. (480) 694-2877. *Pavilicched:* One of a kind dog houses designed by Valley architecture firms; through April 13. *Cultural Desert: Inside Contemporary Sculptures:* through April 21. *Mauricio Pellegrin: The Water Dream and Other Works:* Pellegrin is known for his poetic arrangements of objects collected during his wide-ranging travels; through May 6. *The Old City's Offerings, Threatening Hospitality:* Works that have been conceived by artists as gifts, dedications, homages, invitations, gestures of hospitality and gratuitous offerings; through May 5. *Selections from the Permanent Collection:* Pieces from the city of Scottsdale's fine art collection; through Aug. 25.

**Shamer Art Center:** 5005 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix. (602) 262-4727. *City: Perspectives on Phoenix in Mixed Media:* Juried works of local artists; through April 12. *The Art of Random Kindness:* Jane Schmidt presents her paintings in oil; April 23-May 17. Reception: 7-9 p.m. April 23.


In which the drunken rogue fell in love, so much the better.

Shakespeare was up against the proverbial rock. Falstaff had wandered as the audience favorite in Henry IV, Parts I and II. Unfortunately, there were political ramifications to the character, and Shakespeare had it in mind not only to bump off the guy, but to do it ignominiously, off stage: Falstaff's demise would rate two brief mentions in Henry V.

Not what Queen Bos wanted to hear, but if she wanted Sir John back in makeup, what was a little political inconvenience?

In no time, Shakespeare was setting pen to parchment, whipping up a comedy in which Falstaff didn't fall in love, but got to tangle with two virtuous women.

The fact that the pair got the best of Sir John probably enhanced the queen's enjoyment, she being a woman who played second banana to no man.

Shakespeare called his comedy The Merry Wives of Windsor, and history indicates it was an immediate success. The play's rowdy wit continues to attract audiences, its latest incarnation being the Southwest Shakespeare Company revival that opens today at Mesa Amphitheatre.

Maren Maclean and Andi Watson are the wives and Gene Gansle is Falstaff for director Jared Sakren. Performances continue through April 20 at the outdoor theater, 201 N. Center St. Tickets ($10-$18) and details: (480) 644-2560.