

Frederick County Art Association Exhibits “Reflections”

64 contributing artists have interpreted this year's theme, reflections, in diverse ways. Whether it's with water or mirrors or, more abstractly, through memory or spirituality, the means of exploring the idea is as varied as the artists themselves.

At the January 5 opening reception, FCAA President Barbara Gere introduced the exhibit's judge. Montgomery County artist Michael Piechocinski is accomplished in a variety of media, including iconography. Because judges don't always attend openings, his presence was a welcome surprise.

When selecting pieces for the awards, Piechocinski walked through the gallery a few times, making notes on ones that caught his attention. After a few more rounds, taking a thorough look at each image, he narrowed down his selections. These were based on conceptualization, composition, creativity, control of media, and complexity of exploration of the visual idea. After a lunch break, he made his final choices which had changed only slightly.



Best In Show: Robert Hobba, “Adobe House”

Our website

<http://www.fred.net/hummer/fcaa/>

General Membership Meetings:
2nd Monday of the month, 7:30
Delaplaine Visual Arts Education
Center, 40 South Carroll St.
(except Jan., July [FCAA picnic], and Aug.)

Please NOTE * Newsletter Deadline:
the 1st Mon. of the month

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First Place: Mick Williams, “Koi Pond”

While he wasn't consciously trying to choose a variety of media, Piechocinski says, “I was surprised and pleased to see my final choices reflected the broad range of the exhibit.”

Best in Show went to Robert Hobba's “Adobe House.” It stood out for its visual risk-taking and artistic vision.

“The shape symbols reflected more than traditional representation. The initial subject was secondary to the process of creatively organizing the picture plane which was supported by the balance of color, close space and line. The result was one of a memorable bold visual impact which left me with a desire to see more of the artist's work,” says Piechocinski.

Winner of last year's Holiday Poster Design competition, Mick Williams took First Place. His winning watercolor, “Koi Pond” is in the style of expressive realism. Though the inspiration for this piece was his father-in-law's pond, he added a different background and details from different photos.

After graduating from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Williams spent most of the past 25 years as a graphic designer. He's more recently become a successful full-time artist.

Nature was also the inspiration for Donna Timm's Second Place drawing, “Evening on the Potomac.”

“This is a small-scale study of color and serenity which evokes a particular place and time,” says Piechocinski. “The use of color evoked a nineteenth or early twentieth century master, but with further study, a contemporary spirit made its presence known. The layers of explored options in the pastel were a delight which allows the viewer to be taken beyond a direct observation of a river scene.”



Second Place: Donna Timm, “Evening on the Potomac”

Third Place winner, “Blue Herons,” is a different interpretation of the natural world. Catholic University graduate, Frank du Val describes his style as extremely late mannerism, modeled on the drawings of sixteenth and seventeenth century Italy, flavored with the mentality of abstract expressionism and pop art.”

Du Val's most recent exhibition was a solo show at the Blanche Ames Gallery at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Frederick.

Tom Clark's untitled photograph and Karen Peacock's collage entitled “Headed for Extinction” were awarded Honorable Mentions.

Those attending the opening were tied in their voting for the People's Choice Award.

Anthony Allegro's work is a hybrid of digital photography and painting. He works as Lead Multimedia Artist for BAE Systems and has been participating in the FCAA's members shows since 2002.

Allegro was selling his prints in a craft show at the Urbana Firehall when he found the subject of “At a Moment's Notice.”

“I saw the coats and hats lined up and was imagining the rush of adrenaline the firefighters must feel when they have to stop what they're doing and rush off to a fire or emergency,” he explains.

Sonia Gadra, the other People's Choice winner, is an organizer of the FCAA's scholarship program.

Her painting, “Eyeing the Ice Cream” came about when she was simultaneously watching her grandson eating ice cream and “desperately seeking ideas for the show.” After several photographs featuring grandson, sunglasses and ice cream, a concept was born.

Welcome New Members

Gail Spertzel
Tom Clark
John Connors
Shannon Beatty
Bonny Sydnor
Ann Cummins
Scott Grove
Rachel Downing
David & Julie Humke
Patrick Hiatt



Third Place: Frank DuVal, "Great Blue Heron"

Reflections, coordinated by FCAA Recording Secretary Peter Plant, was displayed in the Kline and F&M galleries at the DVAEC through January 26. If the show left you wanting more, these artists can be seen in other venues in and around Frederick:

Mick Williams sells his originals at McGuire's Fine Arts in Frederick and at the Benjamin Art Gallery in Hagerstown. His prints can be found at 12 West Main Gallery in New Market and at the Antique Station in Frederick.

In March, Frank du Val's drawings based on French masters such as Delacroix and Boucher will be shown at Evangeline in Frederick.

Karen Peacock has a solo show at the Cultural Arts Center in downtown Frederick through February.

To see more work by Anthony Allegro, visit: <http://www.anthonyallegro.com>

FCAA Plein Aire Painting Group

*From our Recording Secretary,
Peter Plant*

How would you like to have an FCAA plein aire painting group? I would be willing to help organize it if you want to participate in one. Though at this point nothing is firmed up, tentatively we would try to get out and paint twice a month. A small committee (3, 4, or 5 people?) to help decide on painting sites for the group would be useful. Painters would have to be FCAA members. We will try to get started in March.

Please add your name to the list of plein aire painters at the Feb meeting, or email me at plantpet@comcast.net



Honorable Mention: Tom Clark, "Untitled"



Honorable Mention: Karen Peacock, "Headed for Extinction"

2009 Member Show Theme, please vote!

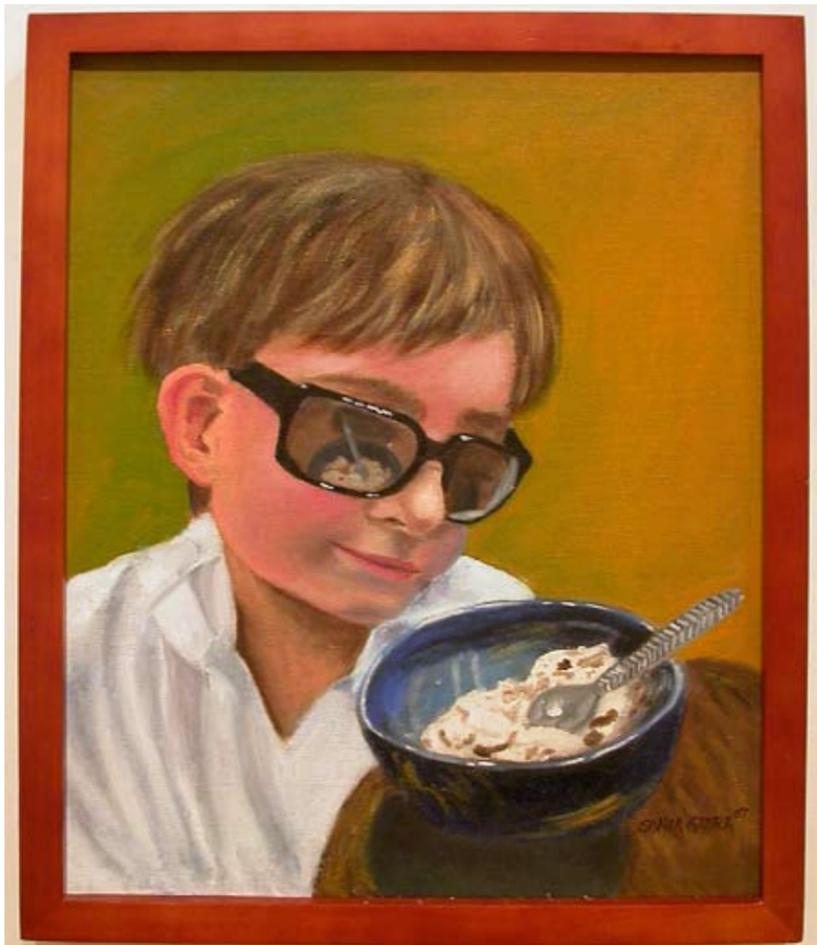
It is time to vote on a theme for the 2009 show. The FCAA board members narrowed it down to 6 choices from several that were emailed by members to Barbara. We would like everyone's input to vote for your favorite theme that will represent our next show in 2009.

The titles are as follows:

- Flourish
- At Rest
- Town & Country
- Spirit
- Contrasts
- Values



People's Choice: Anthony Allegro, "At a Moment's Notice"



People's Choice: Sonia Gadra, "Eyeing the Ice Cream"

FCAA Member News

Russ & Cindy Poole would like to thank everyone who attended the opening of their photography exhibit at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Frederick for making it a very successful event.

Russ Poole and his son **Joseph Poole**, of Hanover PA, both had entries accepted into the 75th Annual Cumberland Valley Photographic Salon. The judges reviewed 267 entries this year and their works were among the 61 prints juried into the show.

The exhibit will be on display at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts from February 9, 2008 through April 6, 2008 and an opening reception will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2008 from 2:30 to 4:00 P.M. The public is cordially invited.

Fine Arts in the Valley, tenth anniversary call to past artist. If you have shown with the Fine Arts in the Valley group and would like to participate in a group exhibit to celebrate our tenth anniversary. Please contact Linda Harrison-Parsons at lh5536@aol.com or Marilu Tousignaut at marilut@msn.com or 301-865-5223. The exhibit will be held at Frederick Cellars, October 2008, opening reception first Sat. 10-04-08. Additional information will follow later in the year. Looking forward to hearing from you, linda hp

Other Events & Opportunities

Frederick Arts Council From Shaun Butcher, Executive Director

Like a traditional farmers market, the **Frederick Artist Market** has taken the winter months off. However, the monthly event will gear up again in March. The last one that we held, as part of Frosty Friday, was very successful. The next Frederick Artist Market will take place on Sunday, March 30th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. If you are interested in registering for the event, please contact me for a registration form.

A special Women's History Month art exhibit will take place at the Urbana Regional Library. A visual art show will take place at the **Urbana Regional Library** from March 1-April 3rd. The show's titles is the same as the national theme, "**Women's Vision, Women's Art.**" The purpose of the show is to honor living women artists. Up to 25 pieces of artwork will

be accepted, however only one piece per artist will be shown. The artwork must be two-dimensional and ready to hang. Artists interested in submitting a piece for the exhibit must submit an electronic image by February 15th and will be reviewed by a panel of jurors.

Based on the success and popularity of the Keys to Frederick project, the **State Highway Administration** has contacted and working with the Frederick Arts Council to install a piece of public art at their facility. They are seeking an artist interested in painting a mural on a retired snow plow that will serve as a tribute to the department's retirees. Compensation is approximately \$500 and the project must be completed this Spring. Please contact the FAC if you are interested in being considered.

And finally, we need your help. We are collecting information on **art appraisers and conservators**. From time to time, we have requests for such information. If you know of or work with someone that is qualified and credible, please contact me so we can get more details from you: Mr. Shuan Butcher, Executive Director, Frederick Arts Council, 15 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, 301-662-4190, www.frederickartscouncil.org

From the Treasurer

FCAA Financial Statement FY 07(2) (1 A 07 31 Dec 07)

This represents a special fiscal year, shortened to 9 mos, due to change in the bylaws which changes the fiscal year to 1 Jan - 31 Dec, effective 1 Jan 08.

Beginning Balances:	Checking (F&M):	4800.58	
	Savings (F&M):	458.86	
	Money Market (Dreyfus)	7428.67	
	Community Foundation:	6102	(Jun 06)
	Petty Cash	0	
	Total Cash	18790.11	
Income:	Dues: 2140		
	Donations:	133	
	Coloring Book	2178.49	
	Raffles:	63	
	Investment (Comm. Foundation);	0	
	Dividends/Interest:	165.48	
	Total Income:	4699.97	
Expenses:	Student Awards	1000	
	Donation to Delaplaine	0	
	Program Speakers	150	
	Stationary/announcements	70.77	
	Registration (Brunswick C&O)	20	
	Insurance	325	
	Operating Expenses:		
	Receptions	43.94	
	Newsletter		
	Stamps/Phone	44.34	
	Raffle permits (2 yr)		
	Sales Tax coloring book	87.35	
	Petty Cash	200	
	Total Expenses:	1654.05	
	Net Income for FY07 (Apr 1 - Dec 31)	3215.16	
Ending Balances:	Checking (F&M):	7500.3	
	Savings (F&M):	460.22	
	Money Market (Dreyfus):	7585.52	thru Sep 0
	Community Foundation:	6102	07 stmt not
	Petty Cash:	200	rcv'd yet
	Total Cash:	21848.04	