

Brushstrokes

The Savannah Art Association Newsletter **May 2021**

EDitorial

Back when I was only just taller than a fire hydrant, they stood facing each other in the dusty road in the middle of a western frontier town. The one on the right had a black hat, a three-day growth of beard (that was before stubble became fashionable) and his midday ensemble was dark and rumped, if not downright grubby. The one on the left had a white hat, and had opted for lighter clothing shades. He probably had a badge, which gleamed brightly against his crisply ironed shirt.

They stood there, legs slightly spread, scowling at each other, and then one or the other would bark out “Draw!” It was a heady command for the mini-versions of people like me, even if the characters were in black and white on a TV screen half the size of my current computer display.

I wish I had taken the command more seriously back then. I actually did draw

back then, the figures defined with thick lines and the most brilliant colors that Crayola could manufacture. I got as far as defining the figures with black lines and colorful interiors, and then no lines at all. Attempting a three-dimensional look was beyond my powers. And then other pursuits beckoned me. Decades on, even with expert and kindly instructors added to volumes of written instructions, perspective can be an uncharted and forbidding territory.



Draw. I recently had the opportunity to chat with an accomplished artist, a woman whose work frequently moves me. She loves to talk about art almost as much as creating it, and I love to listen. In the course of the conversation, she quoted that axiom, “if you can draw, you can paint.” Okay, but can you paint if you can’t draw? Well, I mean. I never asked the question directly, but based on my experimentation, the jury is still out.

The hand and eye that assemble shapes and then provide them with depth and color have an easier time connecting with viewers and providing meaning. That happens even if their works don’t necessarily feature those skills – let Mark Rothko and Jackson Pollack serve as examples.

Drawing seems to be a matter of practice, and those who put in the time and seek expert advice seem to produce better art. Someday, I hope to conquer my fuzziness about drawing, which perhaps means becoming far less lazy. That’s another of my life choices that seems to get in the way.

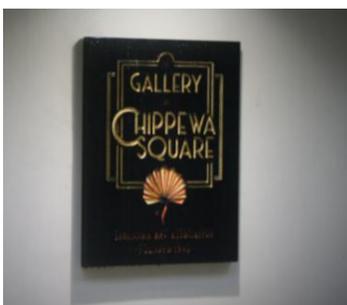
Over the years I’ve been associated with the Art Association, I’ve watched several members progress and mature in their works. It’s one of the pleasures long-term membership provides. In almost every case it’s the drawing skills that have made the difference.

My hats are almost all dark and my chin frequently displays stubble. I don’t even remember where the steam iron is – out in the utility room, I think. So I stand the middle of the dusty street, and I ask you to do the same thing.

Draw.

Ed

On Chippewa Square



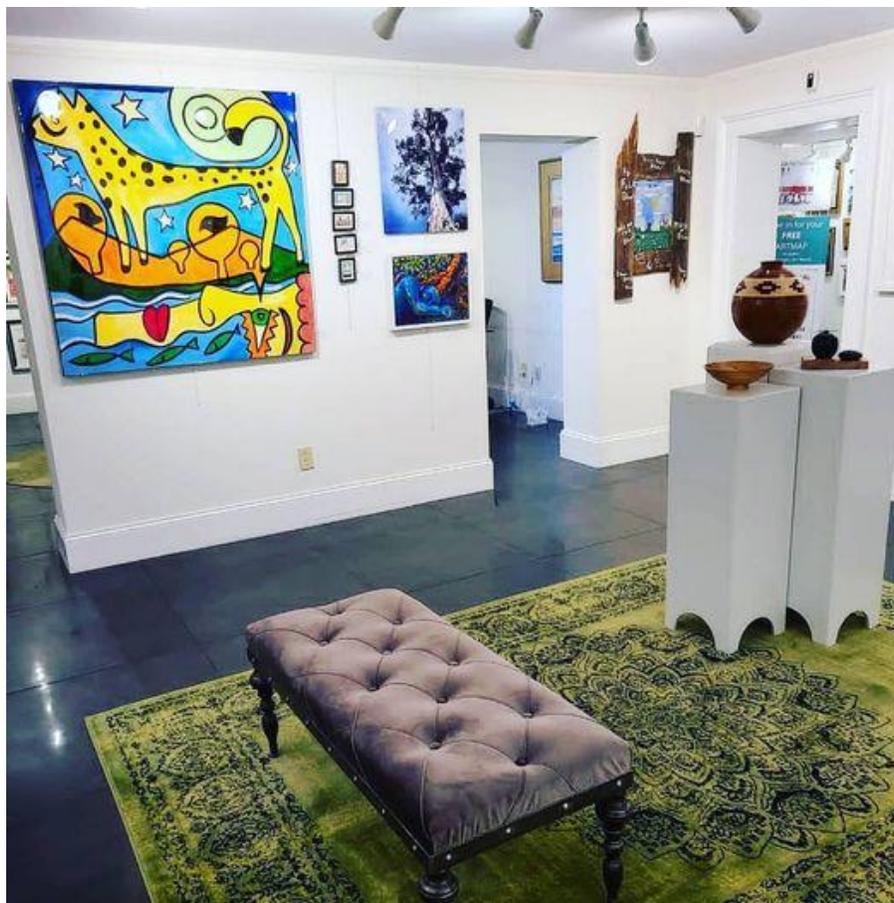
Visitors to Savannah are here and they are coming to our gallery. Their visits have equated with excellent sales. Since the gallery was opened in January of 2017, we have now set a record for sales in any month of nearly \$6000! We are told the hotels are at capacity on weekends and and near capacity on weekdays and it shows! Some of our new consignment exhibitors include the work of Ken Tighe and his hand-crafted ceramic mermaids, Bob Friedman, a known sculptor, George Little who creates beautiful everyday ceramics and Carol Hartley who hand paints the lids of pristine cigar boxes. We are also offering former photography partner and now radio host for WRUU Ed Eckstrand’s new book, *The*

Moon and I Confer. Partner retirees include Grace Rohland and Bess Ramsey. They will be missed.

We are looking for 2-D artists. We are open every day except major national holidays and until 9 pm on Saturdays. Come see how we have arranged our front room as a showcase. Molly Cusick will be exhibiting one of her abstract photographs in the Biennale National Juried Exhibition for 2021 on Hilton Head Island. The exhibit begins May 4 th and runs until May 26th at The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina located at 14 Shelter Cove Lane, HHI 29928. The gallery telephone number is: 843-681-5060 for further information. Another partner, Carol Cole, is beginning a commissioned painting. In spite of the extra generous rainstorms, I was a vendor of my fiber work at the annual Art Show at Honey Horn this past weekend.

Come See Us, all y'all.

Cathy Sizer, Manager



At the Gallery on Chippewa Square, there are two ways to participate. We run two-month shows, which are open to any member. We charge a hanging fee for a 28x28 space or

equivalent 3D space. The cost for one space for two months is \$45. Again, we take a 25% commission if you sell anything, but there are ways to offset that. The other way is an annual exhibit - you can rent either a wall or a half wall, which is yours for the year. You pay toward the rent, and you must sit the gallery from time to time (and learn the register system), but there is no commission on anything you sell. Annual members must be juried in by the other annual members, but that's the only place where there is any jurying. Cathy Sizer manages the gallery for the Savannah Art Association; contact her with any questions.

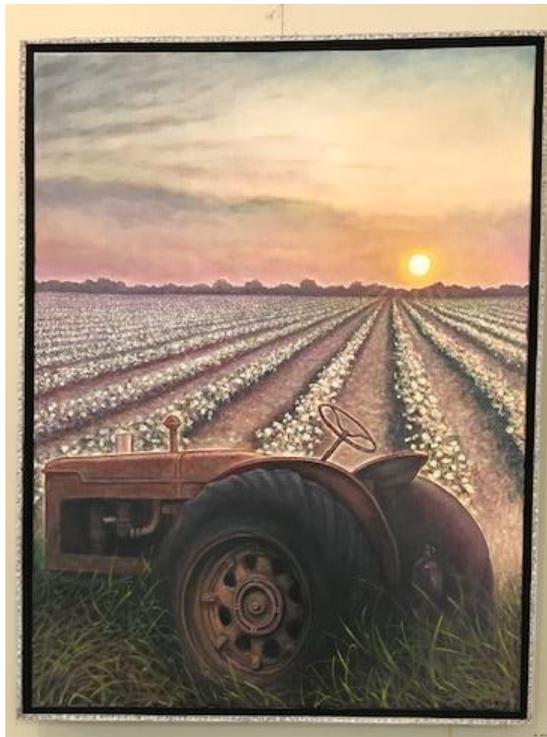
Airport News

Shows in The Savannah Airport Gallery: These are judged shows and winners receive ribbons and monetary awards. All work should be original.

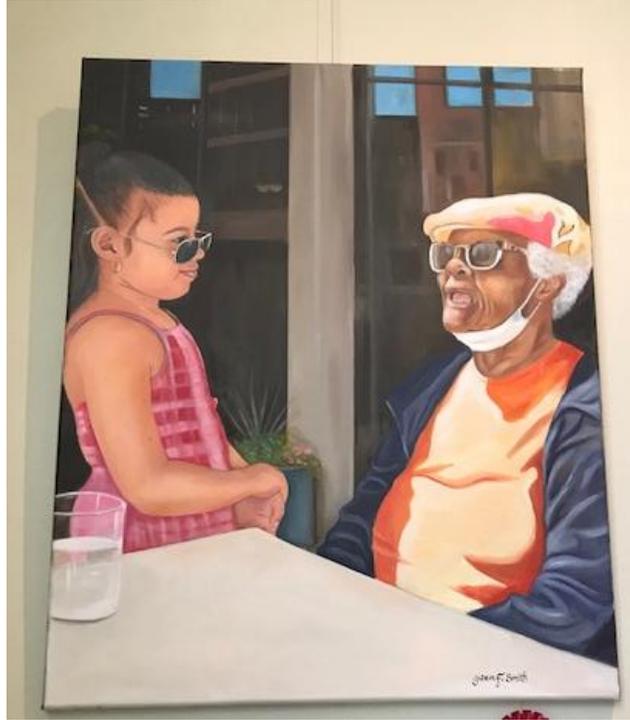
July - September "In The Master's Style" (Intake is July 9th)

October - December "Narrative - Stories in Art" (Intake is October 1st)

Artist of the Month window has openings. Please email Carol Hartley to get your place. cbchartley@gmail.com. The current show is Georgia On My Mind, and the awards were announced in late April. Dr. Tom Cato was the judge:



1st Place: Jerry Luke - "Georgia Farm"



2nd Place: Gwen Frazier “When I Was A Lil Gurl Down In Gawja”



3rd Place: John Nelson - “Priest Landing”



Honorable Mentions: Mary Atkins “Window Shopping Broughton”



Stella Ranae Von Schmid - “Forsyth Park Forage”



Jime Wimmer - “A Dozen Roses for Lady”

The new Airport escalators are almost complete!. Our long awaited show theme is, “*Savannah and Coastal Regions - Hilton Head and the Golden Isles* “. We will have an intake in July on the 9th. This intake coincides with the Airport Gallery change-out on the 9th.

These art pieces will be displayed on the ground floor of the airport around the Information desk and elavators. No size restrictions. Prints and giclee art are welcome. This show will hang for 5 months. All pieces will be for sale and have labels. Carol Hartley will email artwork information forms to SAA members to be filled out.



Artist of the Month - Carol Anderson

April's Artist of the Month was Carol Anderson, President of the Savannah Art Association. Carol's attachment to nature is obvious from her work, and her frequent travel has given her a wide range of subjects to address. The images here are from her display at the airport gallery.



E-Talk

The Savannah Art Association has on-line sites for getting information to you faster and easier than e-mail. Our website is www.savart1920.com. It provides an oversight of the organization, recent and upcoming events, and a way to join or pay dues or purchase event tickets (when we can have events). It also contains an on-line gallery of works from member artists. We also have an Instagram account.

On Facebook, the Association maintains a page ([Savannah Art Association | Facebook](#)) and the Gallery on Chippewa Square maintains a separate page ([Gallery on Chippewa Square | Facebook](#)). Both pages are the best way to get the latest information, pictures of works, and listings of local events that may interest Association members.

Humane Society Mural – Marcee Musgrove



Marcee with the completed mural

The Humane Society mural is 6.5' high x 21' wide. It is on a concrete block wall that is located beside Pet Fix building at the Humane Society of Savannah. Marcee Musgrove was initially asked in late July of 2020 if she would be interested in working on the mural by a former student of one of her classes. Lots of conversations, clean up, designs, paint



selections, weather and the gathering of willing and talented artist and helpers later, the mural was completed in April 2021.

It was a passion project to show appreciation for all of the hard work and love that the Humane Society and Pet Fix give every day to Savannah animals of all kinds. For Marcee personally, a feral cat showed up at her house and after months of feeding she was able to

touch it, discovering it had babies, and they are now a part of her family, all 4 of them! Pet Fix does the job of spaying them along with basic treatments for a small affordable price for which she is so grateful.

Marcee Musgrove and David Laughlin were the artists that painted the 21' mural. Marcee focused on the cleaning of the walls, purchase of color choices, concrete specific primers etc. With the help of Darla Elam and family (who cleaned the debris first and then pressure washed to get the concrete walls clean enough to paint. The primer was completed by Marcee, Carol Anderson and Carol Giljam Gerling after a call was put out to Savannah Art Association for volunteers. Marcee painted the abstract background then called David Laughlin, who many will know as an accomplished painter, started working on the animals. Marcee then sealed the mural with Mural Shield and Grafitti protection products for a beautiful finish that will last for many years! This was a purely volunteer effort.



Courtney Foor was the initial contact for the project but is moving to Atlanta so Montana Tohm picked up where she left off. “Better Together” was Courtney’s idea as a new campaign for the Society. The mural is located in the animal play area so adopters can take a picture. It’s always “better

together”. If you want to take a picture with the mural, ask at the Humane Society and don’t forget to tag them if you put it on-line.

Visit City Market to meet David Laughlin upstairs in his own gallery and Marcee Musgrove at Signature Gallery.

Savannah Art Association Board of Directors 2021

Officers

Carol Anderson President
Cathy Sizer Vice President and Manager of Chippewa Square Gallery
Deb Palmer Recording Secretary
Sue Diaz Treasurer
Carol Hartley Airport Gallery Chairperson
Bev Kronquest Corresponding Secretary

Board Members

Beverley Baynes At Large
Bonnie Cravener Hospitality and Airport Art Assistant
Gwen Frazier-Smith At Large
Martha Love Plein Air
Nancy Saltsman At Large

Non-Board Contributors

Ed Eckstrand
Brushstrokes and
Facebook

Christina Taylor
Website and Online
Gallery

Barbara Gentry
Electronic Routing