

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Are Galleries Waking Up?

I was feeling last month more like I was the editor of *Carolina Arts* again. Let me explain. For the last couple of years I've been feeling like the art galleries in Charleston had gone dormant or at least they were not sending us press releases about exhibitions. There is more competition in the Charleston area, with more publications covering the visual arts - at least more than when we started *Charleston Arts* back in 1987. Back then, our so called competition was the *Post & Courier*, who only seemed to be interested in covering the non-profits, even though Charleston had a very large commercial gallery community. Their policy (the *Post and Courier's*) allowed *Charleston Arts* and eventually *Carolina Arts* to grow. So people could have been using other media to promote their exhibits, but we're pretty much the only one that reaches a two state audience. And you don't have to come to Charleston to get a copy.

Last month I started receiving press releases from Charleston's commercial galleries, more than for some time now and a few from folks we hardly ever heard from. Are they waking up after trying to outlast the COVID-19 Pandemic or just finding out that we never went anywhere during the Pandemic - we just kept going? In some ways we were made for a Pandemic.

You can download a copy of our publication on your computer, tablet, or smart phone without leaving your home and having contact with anyone else. You can send us info and photos by e-mail. There's no contact with anyone else. Not that that should matter now that people can get a vaccine and wear a mask and go to galleries to see the art we're featuring in our publication each month.

And, don't forget we're in full color,

covering the entire two state area, last month we had 70 pages of info about exhibits and I didn't have to break my back carrying bundles of papers all over the place, driving 16 hours a day for a week.

I hope we keep receiving press releases from more galleries in the Charleston area and from all over the Carolinas. It's more work for me with no guarantee of more revenue, as we are not a "You Pay, You Play" publication. We love our supporters and do whatever we can for them, but we don't make anyone pay to be included. All we ask is that they provide us with all the info we need to give it to our readers and you get that info to us by deadline.

And while I'm on the subject of deadlines, let me restate it for the #&*@% time - our deadline is on the 24th of the month "prior" to the month your exhibit starts. It's the 24th all year long, even on Christmas Eve if your exhibit begins in January. With that said, if your exhibit last several months and you miss the deadline of the 24 of the month "prior" to the month your exhibit started - still send us your press release. You might have noticed that many of the exhibits included in our monthly issues have already started. You missed the opportunity to go to a reception because someone didn't get us a press release in time, but the exhibit is still up for viewing, and isn't that what it's all about - seeing the art?

Finally, Another Visit to an Artist's Studio

We're finally offering a look at a painter's studio, that of Linda Fantuzzo, from Charleston, SC. It's a bit different from the ones we have presented so far but interesting to see that it involves more than what some might think. The way it looks, I'd like to spend time there "pretending" to be an artist. It looks very cozy.

Don't forget about our website:
www.carolinaarts.com



You can find [past issues](#) all the way back to August 2004!

You can find [past articles](#) all the way back to June 1999

Also don't forget about our two blogs:
[Carolina Arts Unleashed](#)
[Carolina Arts News](#)

Send us your email address to be added to our list to receive notice of each monthly issue.

info@carolinaarts.com

Halsey - McCallum Studio William Halsey & Corrie McCallum



Paintings
Graphics
& Sculpture
for the discerning
collector

Painting by Corrie McCallum



Both artists are recipients of the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award

Duo by William Halsey, oil on paper, 11 x 15 inches

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