

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Columbia, SC's Artista Vista?

Why is there a question mark after this event's title, well, it's because it's always a mystery - meaning I can never really tell you what's going on during it. For a once a year event which takes place pretty much the same time of year in the same place, the Vista Guild, the organization hosting the event can never seem to tell me what's going on and who is participating a few weeks before it takes place. There have been years when I just made up a promo of the event based on past events, in an effort to publicize the event for its gallery members, when I received no promo materials. Artista Vista returns Apr. 16-18 in Columbia's official Arts and Cultural District.

The Guild sometimes places the blame on its dues paying members for not providing advance info and the members blame the Guild for not being organized. After all, the members are paying the Guild for something. What, I don't know.

I'm mostly interested in any exhibits which are going to be presented during the event, but with the Pandemic still going on, some galleries might not be doing anything special - based on an estimate of diminishing returns, but galleries will be open and showing some of the best artwork in the state, so even a slimmed down version of Artista Vista has always been worth the visit in my book. Not enough people around the state pay attention to this event, in my opinion, because it's usually held on a Thursday night.

This year, in an exception to tradition the Artista Vista Gallery Crawl will take place on Apr. 16, a Friday evening, from 5-9pm. This event is a prime opportunity to explore regional artists and to add beautiful work to your own home art collec-

tion. The Vista's distinctive galleries and a number of pop up galleries will display new shows or exhibits, and visitors can make it a full night by dining at a Vista eatery before or after the crawl. And now, you can come for the weekend.

I'm not including the press release the Vista Guild sent me as it contained too little info on the visual arts and too much misinformation about the visual arts. I was shocked when I found in the promo materials photos they sent me of artists who have passed away - years ago, and artists who no longer live and work in Columbia. I guess the Guild is making up promo materials based on past events now too.

I've included some basic info in our gallery listings, but don't hold me to any of it - Artista Vista always offers some surprises - mostly good ones.

Where's My Inside The Artist's Studio?

Due to technical difficulties, we're going to have to skip this month, but we will have one in the May issue. It was mostly my fault - like I always say, I'm a content person, not a technician. Translation - I can talk the talk, but sometimes when I try to walk - I stumble. Viewers enjoyed our first effort, so we'll be offering continued looks inside artists' studios, when I can get it right.

Send More High Res Images

We had 196 images this month to choose from for articles and our gallery listings. That's a record, but we couldn't use them all, but they sure come in handy in making all the words look better on our pages - especially in the gallery listings. If you have work in a gallery in our listings, and don't see your work - send it to us.

Don't forget about our website:

www.carolinaarts.com



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Also don't forget about our two blogs:

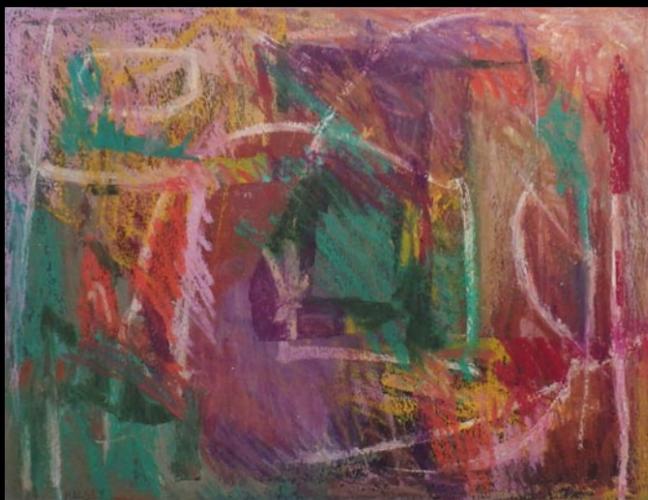
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info@carolinaarts.com

Halsey - McCallum Studio William Halsey & Corrie McCallum



Paintings
Graphics
& Sculpture for
the discerning
collector

Growing by William Halsey, 1992
oil pastel and paint stick on paper, 18 x 24 inches

Both artists are recipients of the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award (Governor's Award)



Painting by Corrie McCallum

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