



Cabarrus Art Guild

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2010



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“In our life there is a single color, as on an artist’s palette, which provides the meaning of life and art. It is the color of love.” Chagall

### JANUARY CABARRUS ART GUILD MEETING

Speaker for the January meeting was Alison Overton.

The meeting on 01/14/10 was very unconventional, everybody was sitting with the artist (Alison Overton) on the stage and watched her convert one of her black and white photos into a beautiful, color injected piece of art.

Alison has been married to an Englishman for 25 years and has traveled to England many times, she discovered the old cemeteries during her visits and captured their beauty with her 35 mm manual film cameras such as the Holga and the Widelux.

The photos, she develops herself, are somewhat "fuzzy" and project the feeling of a mystic place. ....Jutta

Alison's photos take us back to when there was only black and white film. It was very common for portraits to be tinted. Her art form could be lost because the paper she uses in her dark room to project her photos from film is no longer made. Some papers ceased production as long as ten years ago.



A North Carolina native, Overton is a life-long artist who has studied photography with internationally renowned photographer James Henkel at the Penland School of Craft and has a BA in environmental design from North

Carolina State University's School of Design. She was awarded Regional Artist Grants from the North Carolina Arts Council in 2002, 2004 and 2009.

"Making art, in particular photographs that chronicle a moment in a changing landscape, is my passion," she says. "As a lifelong artist, I strive constantly to explore and expand my definition of the unique and mysterious in life and nature. My hope is, that when a person views my art work, he or she might feel as if they could trade places with Alice of "Alice Through the Looking Glass" – peering into a dreamy world, with a sense of awe and child-like wonder.

"One of the recurring themes in my work is the architectural landscape with a sense of history. My intent in making these photographs is to visually convey the feeling of walking alone among majestic sites, both secular and sacred: abbeys, castles, churches, cemeteries, formal and informal gardens. By combining overlapping exposures, careful cropping and over painting with transparent oil paints, the finished works reveal my idea of these places as they might appear in a daydream or on another plane of existence, and as if our rules of time, space and perspective did not apply."

## **THE FEBRUARY MEETING:**

### **GUILD MEETING / ART TALK**

**Thursday, February 11, 7 pm** – Kenn Kotara of Asheville is the guest speaker for this month's Art Talk.

Kenn Kotara is a mixed media abstract artist. He produces works on canvas, paper, Mylar, and wood. He creates environmental installations of suspended screen structures that feature multiple panels depicting an abstract image. Each panel has opaque line drawings and/or cutouts. The configurations change as the viewer circles the panels, and also as the free hung panels themselves move with air currents.

Kenn was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana. As a child, his admiration for the works of John James Audubon led him to create his own drawings of ducks, geese, and other wildlife. He went on to earn a degree in graphic design and an MFA from Louisiana Tech. He continued his growth as an artist with routine visits to art museums and galleries, expanding his visual vocabulary and horizons.

His work references his deep connection to the landscape of Louisiana, and that of his current home, Western North Carolina. A prime example of this is his "Spanish Moss" series. In the paintings, the canvases are filled with a series of swirls and geometric shapes representative of the plants that hang from the trees in his home state. The works on canvas led to a series of suspended screen structures that render the concepts of his canvas and paper works in three dimensions.

He says "Each new work is modified by concept, color, form, materials or just attitude. I move constantly between paper, canvas, screen, and wood. Thus, in keeping with my need to evolve and experiment, I am currently working with various artisans to develop new works in metal, glass, and ceramics."

His work is currently displayed in the All in the Approach exhibition at the Arts Council Galleries.

## **CAG FUND RAISING PROJECT FOR 2010:**

The CAG cookbook committee met and felt that a cookbook was a worthy project to raise funds for helping defray costs for up and coming workshops and to send monies to the Cabarrus High Schools for paper and art supplies which are no longer furnished by the school system. The return funds from our cookbook would be divided equally.

To make this project happen each Guild member needs to supply a minimum of five (5) recipes. The cookbook will be in black and white so any art work used to enhance the pages should be in pen and ink or pencil. So gather your favorite recipes and turn them in to Jutta Vest, [chaz01@ctc.net](mailto:chaz01@ctc.net) or mail them to: 4707 Ranchway Dr., Concord, NC 28027. March 1st will be the deadline. Bring your recipes to the February Guild meeting to help us get a jump start on this project. If you have any questions, please call Jennie Tomlin at 704-455-2020.

## EVENTS – ARTS COUNCIL GALLERIES & DAVIS THEATRE

Visit the Cabarrus Arts Council's website [www.cabarrusartscouncil.org](http://www.cabarrusartscouncil.org), or call 704-920-2787 for details.

**Saturday, February 13** – Second Saturday (Galleries open 10 am – 4 pm)

**Friday, February 26 (6-9 pm)** – Art Walk

**Saturday, March 6, 8 pm** - Billy D. Washington performance

**Thursday, March 11, 7 pm** – Art Talk with Tom Stanley

**Saturday, March 13** - Second Saturday (Galleries open 10 am – 4 pm)

## EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES - ARTS COUNCIL GALLERIES

**Put yourself on the map!** Artists interested in participating in the upcoming Art Walk on Friday, February 26, should contact Lin Barnhardt at the arts council for details. Call 704-920-2787 or email [lin@CabarrusArtsCouncil.org](mailto:lin@CabarrusArtsCouncil.org)

*"To have striven, to have made an effort, to have been true to certain ideals- this alone is worth the struggle.*

*Sir William Osler*



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