

# President's Message

Walking outside of my house, I feel that something's different... there is a profound quiet around me. I begin noticing this around the start of November. A stillness... as if the world is now listening, waiting for me to speak. What's different? I realize the Cicadas are gone. They have fallen dead from the trees. Most of our summer birds have fled to spend their winter in the sultry Caribbean or Central and South America. Gusts of wind fly freely through the naked limbs on our trees. There's little rustling of leaves. The clear light is so different without the chlorophyll of summer, and the brilliance of Nandina berries stand out against a cerulean sky. When December arrives there's more vigor and color from decorations.



I remember a poignant Christmas card someone sent me back in the early '80s that pictured a beautiful woman sitting in a car full of Christmas presents. It had no information as to who she was or why she was in a car full of presents. Was this taken for the Christmas card? It looked like it might be an old photo, but I didn't know if it was taken that way to bring about a feeling of nostalgia. The message of the card was one of friendship and hoping that I have a merry holiday. At the time that's all I really felt I needed to know. Coming across this card now, I know that the lady in the photo is movie actress Betty Grable, the top pinup girl of WWII. I look at the running board of the automobile... or what it had become at this time, and find it online. She sits in her own 1941 Cadillac (Series 62) convertible. I find a Cadillac paint chart for 1941 and her car matches the color 'Dusty Gray'. Had I not really studied the image, I wouldn't have become enlightened. Curiosity is so important for the artist.

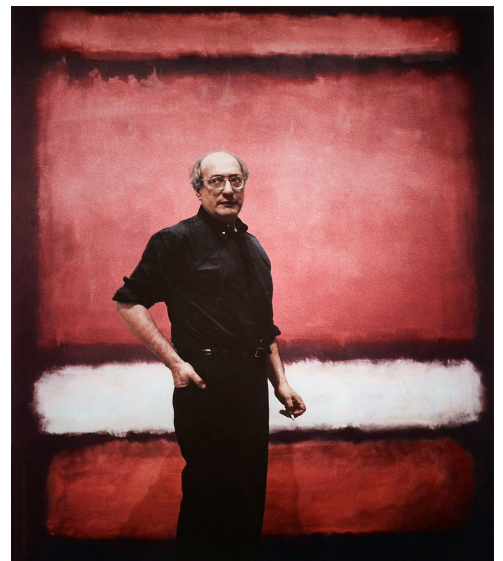
Our theme for the end of the year contest is "RED", and as I write this letter the gallery is full of art and photography in the theme of red.

Theresa and I chose one of Latvian-born Mark Rothko's red paintings for the postcard. I think it is a good choice as Rothko the artist was associated with the color red. There is his infamous Four Season's commission - The Seagram Murals (all shades of red). Rothko pulled out of his contract at the last minute... after all the paintings had been completed. He was a very complicated man. He listened to Mozart when he painted. Many dismiss Rothko. One really has to see his paintings in person to fully appreciate them. The next time you're at a museum that has a Mark Rothko, study it. Does it have a message? Do you see Betty Grable looking back at you?

As the days grow colder and grayer, I remember how my mother would be looking at the colorful seed catalogs that started arriving this time of year. She would start planning what she would plant and set out for her spring and summer garden. She had a green thumb, and could have probably rooted a walking cane if she set her mind to it. She really was an artist, and flowers and vegetables were her paint palette.

As we come to the end of 2023, I give thanks for another year of Middle Georgia Art Association's existence. I give thanks to our gallery manager Theresa Trail for keeping the place going. I give thanks to our board members, Skip Fields, Evelyn Shimek, Lee Masters, and Cynthia Robertson. We are fortunate to have so many gifted artists filling up the walls of our gallery with a variety of different styles and mediums. Happy New Year!

John Myers  
Board President



# September Exhibit Abstract

## Welcome

### New Members

Amy & Lily Smith

Sharon Bailey

Marian McLemore

Untavion Jones

Teresa Gomez

Susan Paolilli

Dennis Duncan

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## Calendar of Events\*

Red

Dec 15 - Jan 13

January Exhibit

Still Life

Jan 19 - Feb 10

Deadline to enter

Tuesday, Jan 16

5:00pm

February Exhibit

Winter Arts

Feb 16 - Mar 9

Deadline to enter

Tuesday, Feb 13

5:00pm

Board Meeting

January 9, 2024

5:30pm



1st Place, 2D

Cynthia P. Robertson

Untitled



1st Place, Photography

T.F. Fields

Aquatic



2nd Place, 2D

Phyllis Thiessen

Connecting Connections



2nd Place, Photography

Mark Stevens

Melt with Roses

# Middle Georgia Art Association

John Myers, President

Evelyn Shimek, Treasurer

Lee Masters, Secretary

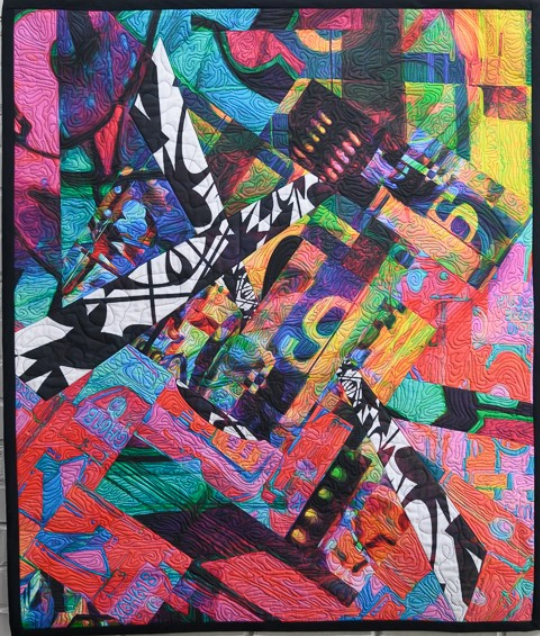
Members at Large

T.F. Skip Fields, Theresa Trail,

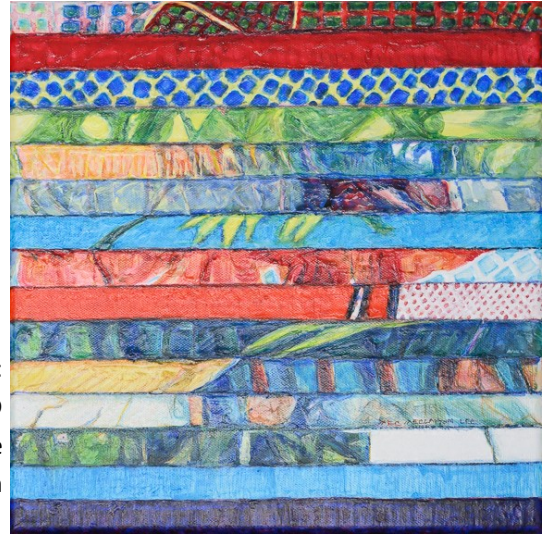
Cynthia P. Robertson, Rod Whyte

Gallery Manager: Theresa Trail

# Abstract Exhibit continued



Left:  
3rd Place, 2D  
Marian Zielinski  
In the Game



Right:  
Honorable Mention, 2D  
Martha Clayton Lee  
Fifteen



Honorable Mention, Photography  
T.F. Fields  
923-1



Honorable Mention, 2D  
Phyllis Thiessen  
Abstract

Our gallery hours are Tues. thru Friday, 12-5,  
and Saturday 12-3. Masks are optional at this time.



## Abstract continued



Honorable Mention, 2D  
Ivan Chmelo  
Humans

## October Exhibit For Painters Only



1st Place  
Ivan Chmelo  
Ghosts

## For Painters Only

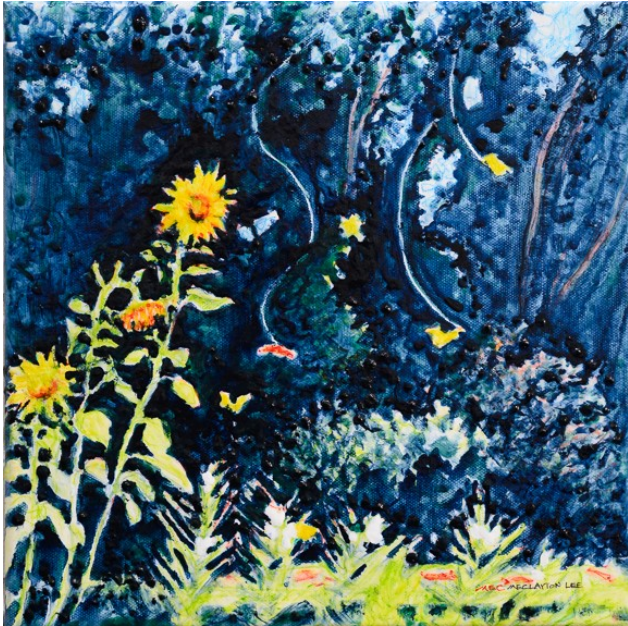


2nd Place  
Lee Masters  
Sunset



3rd Place  
Terri Bennett  
Canyonlands

## For Painters Only Cont'd

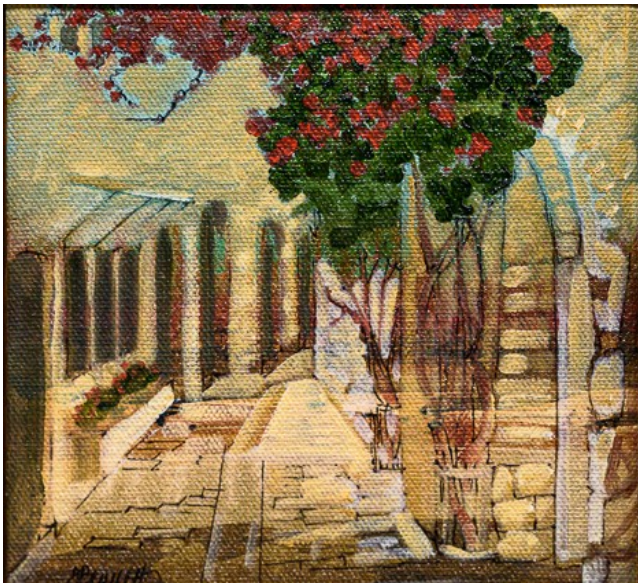


Honorable Mention  
Martha Clayton Lee  
Free Falling



Honorable Mention  
Libby Bond  
Swiss Trio

## November Exhibit Small Works



1st Place, 2D  
Terri Bennett  
Jerusalem

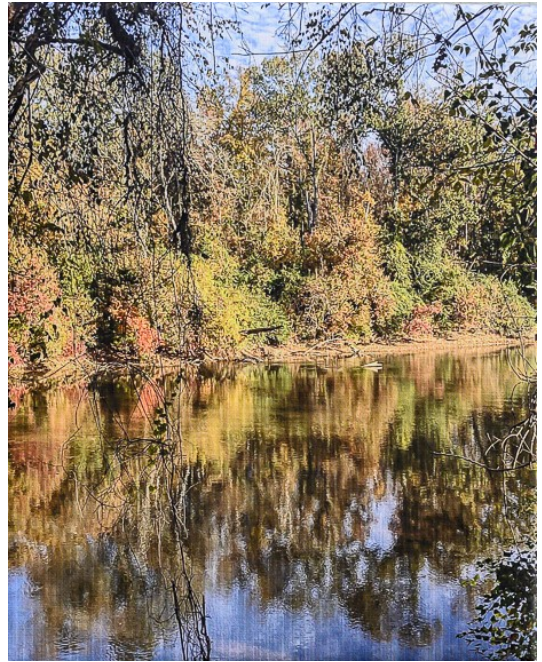


Right:  
1st Place, Photo  
Cynthia P. Robertson  
Seed Pods

# Small Works Continued



2nd Place, 2D  
Martha Clayton Lee  
Hue Maxie



2nd Place, Photography  
Evelyn Shimek  
River Reflections



3rd Place, 2D  
Phyllis Thiessen  
The Point



Honorable Mention, 2D  
Marion McLemore  
Vanity Fair

# Small Works Continued



Left  
Honorable Mention, 2D  
Cathy Compton  
Lovey



Below  
Honorable Mention, 2D  
Cathy Compton  
Dovey



Left  
Honorable Mention, 2D  
Susan Paolilli  
Polymer Clay Wall Hanging