

"Crossing North Fork," a 10"-by-20" acrylic painting by Patrick Sims of Ross County, won best of show. CONTRIBUTED
PHOTOS BY PAMELA DILLON

Annual exhibit offers must-see 'View'

By Pamela Dillon
Contributing writer

Lingering over artwork is always a good sign that it speaks to you in some way.

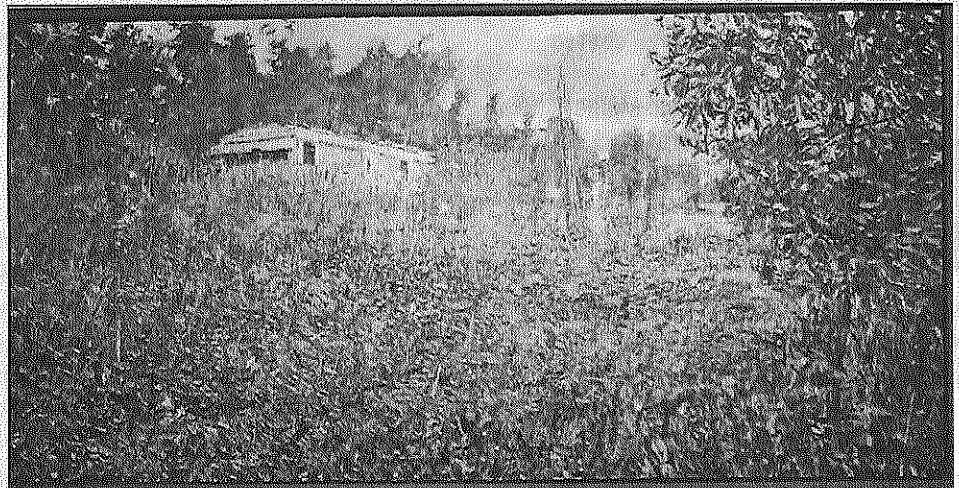
Art is, of course, subjective, and to have the final say in which pieces make it into an exhibit and choosing award winners is a huge responsibility. Eighty-two Ohio artists submitted a total of 238 works for possible inclusion in "The View" at Rosewood Gallery. Juror Andrea Starkey chose 47 works by 37 of those artists, and selected winners totaling \$1,100 in awards.

"It was a pleasure, a humbling experience and at times a daunting task to jury this year's submissions to The View," said Starkey, a Bellbrook printmaker and architectural/graphic designer. "With so many compelling and professional works presented, one should consider it an award to be in the show, as competition was strong and many criteria led to my final decisions."

One of the top criteria was a first impression, combined with a certain atmospheric experience. Physicality, concept, composition and execution were also considered.

"An expertly rendered shadow or reflection, a strong and stylized stroke, and a fresh approach to a subject all made an impact on these selections," said Starkey. "The award winners met and exceeded these criteria while also telling a story."

The Best of Show honor went to Patrick Sims for his 10 x 20" acrylic painting, "Crossing North Fork." This work, a view of driving in dreary weather, definitely shows



"Blue single wide," 30"-by-60" oil on board by David E. Horton, won first place.

expertly rendered shadows and reflections.

"North Fork Creek is located near my home in Ross County," said Sims. "To achieve the look of water I used glazing techniques, building up one layer of paint over another."

A highly-textured 30 x 60" oil on board titled "blue single wide" by David E. Horton won First Place. He used strong and stylized brushstrokes, and told the story of a humble abode from the perspective of the surrounding vegetation.

"Much of my work is a composite of observational field studies and memory. I seek to strike a balance between portraying an illusion of space, and the tactile and more literal quality of paint or paper," said Horton, a Columbus resident.

Second Place went to David Stichweh for a trio of photo monoprints on Japanese silk tissue: "Gethsemani Farm," "Winter Creek," and "Winter Passage."

"The paper is very thin

but very durable, requiring heavy rubbing and burnishing to force the ink from the acetate onto the paper. The resulting image possesses a combination of highly textures and smooth tonal areas determined by the density of the ink," said Stichweh, a Westerville resident and retired from Otterbein University, where he taught photography. "The Japanese silk tissue renders the image with delicate detail and a warm luminosity."

"Winter's Sweep," a 12 x 24" oil on canvas by Donald A. Schuster, caught Starkey's eye for Third Place.

"I am constantly on the lookout for new and interesting locations that are often in plain sight or overlooked in the region," said Schuster of Liberty Township. "I work in a contemporary realist style, incorporating influences of the American impressionists."

Honorable Mentions awarded: "Missionary Baptist Church" acrylic on canvas by DJ Berard, "Mother's Milk" oil and acrylic on panel

IF YOU GO

What: 23rd annual "The View"

Where: Rosewood Gallery, 2655 Olson Drive, Kettering

When: Continues through July 7

More Info: 937-296-0294 | playkettering.org/gallery

by Sean Leavell, and "What Does It Profit?" fiber work by Carroll Schleppe.

The following are what this viewer considers notable: "Wheeling Bridge" by George Armstrong, "Quantum Hill" by Anita Dawson, "Winter Composition" by Douglas Fiely, "Coffee Plantation" by Martin Hunter, "Beautiful Kilometer no. 2" by Kim Schon, "Let it Be" by Gina Stevenson, and "Zen Garden" by Don Williams.

Contact contributing writer Pamela Dillon at pamdillon@woh.rr.com.