



DELAVAN ART GALLERY

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SEPTEMBER EXHIBITION AT DELAVAN ART GALLERY EVOKES SENSORY IMPACT ENVISIONED IN COLLECTIVE WORKS BY THREE ARTISTS

Syracuse NY, August 21, 2009 –A collection of works by three artists, including paintings by Phil Parsons, photography by Bill Storm and ink drawings by Barbara Stout is the featured exhibition heralding the start of the new season at Delavan Art Gallery. “Visions” opens September 10 with a public reception that night from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Phil Parsons, a graduate of The School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, MA, is a nationally published decorative artist who works with Interior Designers and clients throughout New York. His current collection of paintings at Delavan, however, points to pride of his families’ roots in Syracuse and appreciation for the city’s rural surroundings of small towns, farms and countryside fields. Under the title, “Roadside,” Parsons says, “I wanted to capture those ragged woods, matted fields and old homesteads.” The works represent over two years of work, altered in his perception of viewing the subject matter following the passing of a family member. He says, “In death, everything seems fleeting. I needed a record, a reminder for my children and myself. This is where we live.” Parsons says his “Roadside” paintings are not strictly realistic. He explains, “I have felt free to change the landscape, repaint barns and invent skies to reflect my feelings.”

Bill Storm, influenced from his early professional background as musician, recording engineer and producer, says his show titled, “Primeval” is the outgrowth of a lifetime fascination for expressing emotions and ideas through artistic media, be it sound or visual, that “makes me want to stop and look or listen.” Storm says he discovered his love for fine art photography while at Syracuse University where his musical experience earned him positions both as a Director of the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive and as an instructor in the Newhouse School of Public Communications. He says that his good fortune of having worked with a host of noted recording artists in his previous career, along with appreciation for works by masters studied in his new endeavor, helped him to ‘see in single images the wonderful sensory impact associated with great musicians playing on great recordings.’ Thus his fine art approach and straightforward goal of “creating images that trigger imagination.”

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“Gods, Beasts, and Mortals” is the title Barbara Stout says best describes her ink drawings included in “Visions,” citing that only a few are clearly or vaguely human, and the rest, animal or beast-like or in the deity category. The artist, whose strongest influences come from primitive art, signs and symbols from numerous cultures, as well as from psychology and social relationships, says that in her creations she is looking for a resonance with the raw experience of love... “its vulnerability, openness, heightened awareness, abandon and beauty.” She feels that these explorations “have their own rules that translate a poetic truth rather than a literal rendering.” Thus Stout describes her paintings as becoming like a jazz improvisation, exposing the history and beauty of freedom where in her painted worlds “a beast can buy a car, Jesus can leave the high and mighty, wings can appear in unexpected places, and somewhere a new set of wings are sprouting.’

Besides the main exhibition opening and reception for “Visions” on September 10, the gallery’s new Wild Card Show, “Discoveries” introduces another artist, featuring encaustics by Tanya Kirouac.

Delavan Art Gallery is a 3,800 square foot showcase and sales venue for fine art created by area artists. Conveniently located in downtown Syracuse at 501 West Fayette St., just a block beyond Armory Square, the gallery is free and open to the public. Off-street parking is available and the gallery is handicapped accessible. Regular Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from noon – 6:00 pm, Saturdays from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, and at other times by appointment.

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