

# Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

## Countdown to 30

Next month starts our countdown to 30 years of publishing information about the visual arts community in the Carolinas. Of course it all started in Charleston, SC, in July 1987 with *Charleston Arts*, but by Jan. of 1997 we were covering exhibits taking place in North Carolina too.

But, the big change came in Jan. 2011 when we transitioned from a print publication to being totally electronic and available worldwide on the internet. There are still a few dinosaurs out there who still wish we were printing the publication, but that's not going to happen - even if I won the lottery I wouldn't go back. I don't miss killing trees to bring you news about exhibits taking place in North and South Carolina - and then filing up landfills when people are finished with those papers. We need those trees for other things - like staying alive.

The publication we put out each month on the internet is so much better than any printed version could be or was. It's available 24/7, in full color, with no limits on size, covers the entire two states, and you don't have to go anywhere to pick up a copy. You can have it anytime you want on your computer, tablet, or smart phone. And you've got access to content from issues as far back as 1999. Didn't see the October 2014 issue? You can check it out at ([www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)) or download it - hundreds of people do it every day. In fact thousands of people download individual pages or whole issues of back publications every month.

## Art Happens in Summer Too

Some people would think that when Summer comes to the Carolinas all things would come to a halt or at least the pace of a

snail, but it doesn't - at least in the visual art community. Oh yes, some folks might get to enjoy those lazy days of Summer, but here at *Carolina Arts*, there is still lots of stuff going on that we need to tell you about.

In this issue there are 59 pages of info about the visual art community in North and South Carolina. That's a lot smaller than many of our peak months in the Spring and Fall, but still - that's a lot of stuff going on. So, even when you're on vacation in the mountains or at the beach in the Carolinas - take time to go see an exhibit or two. Art works well with Mother Nature.

## Silence Isn't Golden

Some people have wondered what's going on with ArtFields in Lake City, SC? Nothing that I can see or have heard about. Like most years they have gone into hibernation again, instead of working to grow the event. Of course they can always make up more numbers when they need to, but I think they're in for a major shrinking. Like they say - Out of Sight - Out of Mind.

## Designate Something That Matters

The SC Arts Commission has spent the last year or two declaring areas around SC, "Cultural Districts". To them, "A cultural district is a geographic area that has a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets." The key word here is "concentration". What they call a concentration might be different than what you or I might consider a concentration, depending on where you live or have lived.

I've yet to have anyone in an area that has been designated a "Cultural District" to explain what they get from the Arts Commission other than the title.

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# Small Works Fine Art Auction to Take Place at The Sylvan Gallery in Charleston, SC - July 16, 2016

Collectors are checking out the catalogue and already submitting absentee bids for the upcoming "Small Works Fine Art Auction" slated for Saturday, July 16, 2016, at The Sylvan Gallery at 171 King Street in Charleston, SC. This live auction event is co-produced by The Sylvan Gallery and Morris & Whiteside Auctions, based in Hilton Head Island, SC. This event will feature 226 lots.

Artists paint specifically for this event with the goal of attracting young collectors hoping to start a collection and also our experienced collectors who may want to add to their collections.

This is the third year for the Small Works Auction which presents a rare opportunity to acquire small works by many of America's leading contemporary artists. All paintings will be estimated at current market, reserves will be set significantly lower and many of the paintings will be offered at no reserve to afford both young and experienced collectors an opportunity to add to their collections. Some works will be sold framed and others, unframed.



Work by Michael Harrell

Artists participating include: Rhett Thurman, Mary Whyte, Mark Horton, Glenn Harrington, Russell Gordon, Dean Mitchell, Scott Burdick, Dan McCaw, Kim English, William Berra, Ted Ellis,



Work by Rhett Thurman

Michelle Torrez, Milt Kobayashi, Andre Kohn and Linda St. Clair. Over 68 artists are participating.

The auction on July 16th will begin at 1pm. Seating is limited. Preview hours are July 11th-14th, 10am-5pm, July 15th, 10am-7pm and July 16th, 10am-1pm.

For over fifteen years, Morris & Whiteside Auctions, LLC has produced premier fine art auctions on Hilton Head Island and in Charleston, SC. Offering significant paintings, sculpture and vintage prints by deceased and contemporary masters of the South, the annual Fall event attracts an extensive database of proven collectors from throughout the United States.

The Sylvan Gallery is a traditional gallery featuring nationally and internationally recognized painters and sculptors. The gallery focuses on twentieth and twenty-first century representational art.

Collectors can bid in person, absentee or via ([www.invaluable.com](http://www.invaluable.com)). All images, estimates, terms and conditions are available at ([www.morriswhitesideauctions.com](http://www.morriswhitesideauctions.com)). Absentee bids can be faxed to 843/842-6211 or e-mailed to ([ben@morris-whiteside.com](mailto:ben@morris-whiteside.com)). For questions, or to receive a catalogue please call 843/842-4433. You can see the works up for bid at ([www.morriswhitesideauctions.com](http://www.morriswhitesideauctions.com)).

## Small Works Auction



Rhett Thurman

*Southern Comfort*

Oil

9 x 12 inches

Saturday, July 16, 2015

1:00pm

  
**THE SYLVAN GALLERY**  
171 King St. • Charleston • SC • 29401

For additional information  
843•722•2172

[www.thesylvangallery.com](http://www.thesylvangallery.com)