

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Forget The Numbers This Month - Check This Out

Well, lets don't totally forget the numbers. The total of downloads for the Sept. 2011 issue were 37,331. We were bitten again by a major holiday at the beginning of the month.

What you need to check out is Page 5. That's where you'll find the ad from the newest art institution using *Carolina Arts* to promote an exhibition to our readers.

That's right - it's the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, GA - promoting their latest blockbuster exhibition - *Picasso to Warhol: Fourteen Modern Masters*, which opens Oct. 15, 2011 and continues through Apr. 29, 2012.

Picasso to Warhol will present more than 100 works of art created by 14 of the most iconic artists from the 20th century including: Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Constantin Brancusi, Piet Mondrian, Fernand Léger, Marcel Duchamp, Giorgio De Chirico, Joan Miró, Romare Bearden, Alexander Calder, Jackson Pollock, Louise Bourgeois, Jasper Johns and Andy Warhol. The exhibition will be one of the largest concentrations of modern art masterpieces to ever be exhibited in the southeastern United States. You can read all about it on Page 15.

Also of note, if you check out the website for the High Museum of Art (www.high.org) you'll find that they are also presenting the exhibit, *The Sculpture of Grainger McKoy*, featuring works by a South Carolina artist from the Sumter, SC, area, which is on view through Jan. 8, 2012.

McKoy's exquisitely detailed and skillfully rendered work redefines the idea of wildlife art. Featuring more than 30 sculptures and drawings, the exhibition presents works of stunning realism and virtuosity.

This just goes to show that people in the visual art community beyond the Carolinas

are noticing our presence on the Internet.

A Few Words About A Few Words From Down Under

Back in the year 2000, someone sent me an e-mail for a link to an article which was written by a woman in Australia, which they said sounded a lot like me. I checked it out and although the article was written better than anything I could ever do, it did sound a lot like me. I'm a plain talker. This woman, Judith McGrath, was more polished and had an arts background, but we did sound like we were on the same wavelength about the visual arts.

I made contact and very soon she was writing for us. I was looking for someone to express some opinions other than me, but since no one in the Carolinas seemed to want to step up to the plate - why not bring in outside help - even if it had to come all the way from Australia.

We posted that very article in our Sept. 2000 issue and right from the start McGrath was a big hit.

Over time it got very strange. We had no set timetable for when she would send articles and I gave her no instructions on subjects to write about, but for more times than what would seem normal - she sent something that was timely to what was going on in the Carolinas and very close to what I was thinking about putting in my monthly commentary.

It was as if we were twins separated at birth, but she got the better part of all the looks and brains. For awhile, I began to think she was really here - somewhere in the Carolinas and knew someone I was talking with on a regular basis, but she was the real deal - way over there in Western Australia.

The last article we printed from her was in our Sept. 2008 issue. The economy had collapsed and we couldn't afford to pay her

anymore and the paper's space was shrinking. That was the same year Judith and her husband came to South Carolina for a visit. She was the real deal.

In June of 2009 we posted some comments from her on *Carolina Arts Unleashed*, our new blog, and in April of 2010, McGrath sent us a full article with photos. I was hoping our relationship was starting up again, but she was enjoying retirement too well.

So what is all this leading up to?

Last month as I was collecting the stats at the end of the month for the Aug. 2011 issue I noticed a lot of the items in the top 100 requested pages had the words "McGrath" or "A Few Words From Down Under" in them. On close inspection, #30 was the page on our website where you find the archives for her past articles.

Hundreds of people were checking out McGrath's old articles. As I looked closer, between the numbers #57 through #98, you could find all 33 articles she wrote for us. A few other items sneaked in here and there, but McGrath had taken over the top 100 list. Her writing accounted for a third of the top 100 requested items on the website.

It was obvious people enjoyed reading what McGrath had written - even today.

So I sent Judith an e-mail asking if she would mind if we reprinted some of her articles in our new version of *Carolina Arts* and her response was - Go for it!

We've got a lot of new readers and this will all be new to them and even our old readers will enjoy seeing McGrath words back in our paper. So, starting this month we will be offering - A Few Words From Down Under - Revisited. You'll find the article on Page 13.

I hope you'll enjoy reading them as much as I have revisiting them. They're timeless.

The Art Giver Is Also An Artist

On Page 22 we offer an article about an exhibit being presented at the Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, about Ethel S. Brody and her sister Leona Sobel, who are being honored for their significant support of the Museum and lifelong com-

mitment to art with the exhibition, *A Tale of Two Sisters: Gifts from Ethel S. Brody and Leona Sobel*, on view through Nov. 27, 2011.

I wanted you to know that Brody is also an active artist, who has a studio at Vista Studios in Columbia.

Linda and I have several of her works in our collection and we always enjoy talking with her when we're visiting Columbia's art community - usually for *Artista Vista* or *Vista Lights*.

Brody is also very generous when it comes to pricing her works of art - offering works at prices almost anyone can afford.

The Triennial is Back! Sort of...

The good thing is the *Triennial* is not back. This was the show where the SC Arts Commission anointed their friends as the best artists in SC.

The artists selected for this exhibition loved the *Triennial*, while many more artists who were not selected and even those who

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art • glass • jewelry • furniture • sculpture • pottery • jewelry • boxes • kaleidoscopes • storypeople • prints • games • toys for children • scarves • candles

300 artists • 50,000 prints online • sticks

American Craft Week - Oct. 7-17

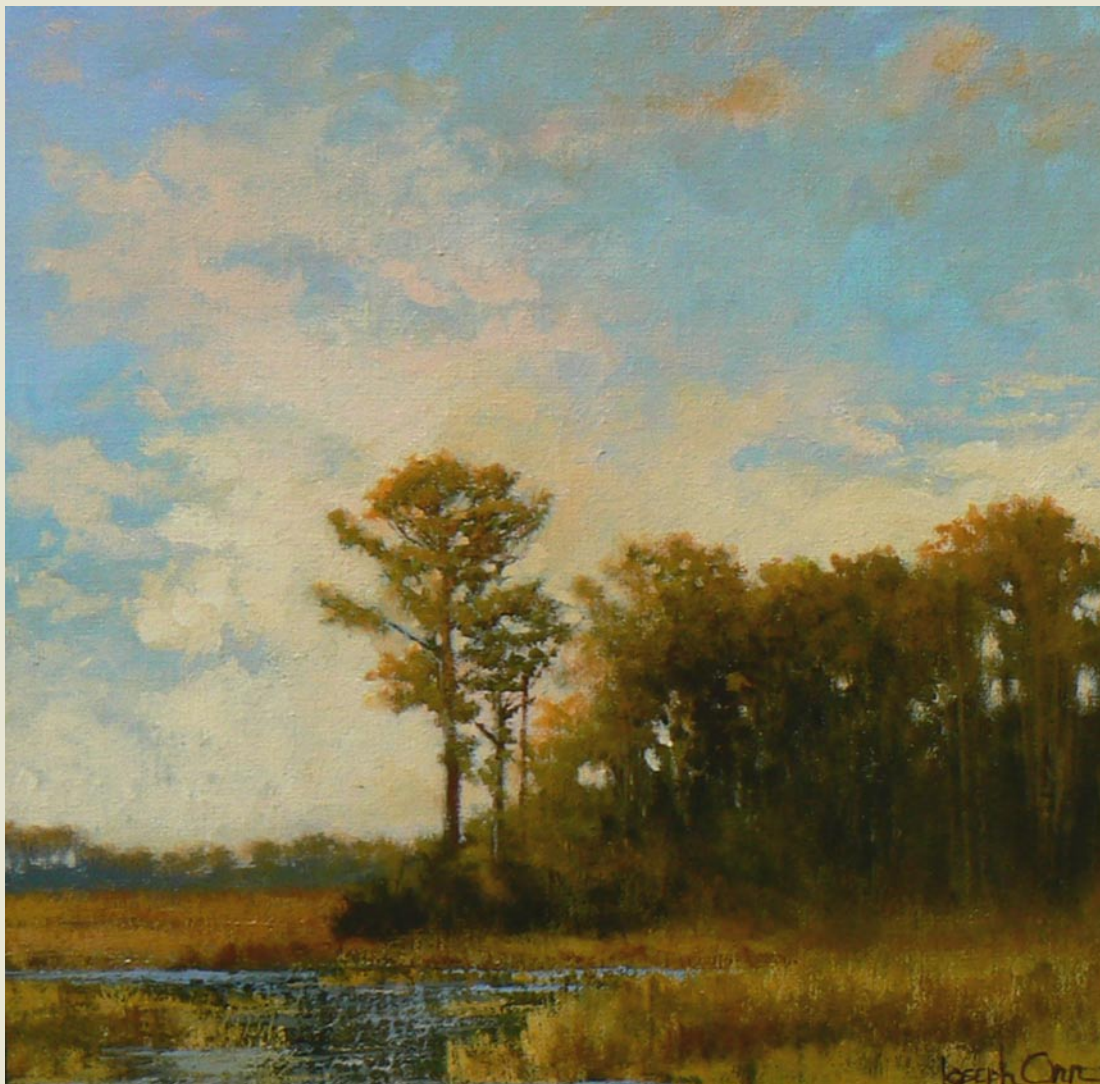
Smith Galleries

Gallery of Fine Craft, Art & Framing

smithgalleries.com

The Village at Wexford, UPSTAIRS, Suite J-11
842-2280 • Hilton Head • 10-6 M-Sat.

Joseph Orr: A Delicate Balance



Quality of Light

Acrylic on Canvas

12 x 12 inches



Island Clouds

Acrylic on Canvas

12 x 9 inches

Artist Reception

Friday, October 7, 2011 5-8pm


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

CFADA

For additional information
843•722•2172

www.thesylvangallery.com