

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

I Hate It When I'm Right - Sometimes

Well, was I spot on or just knowing history repeats itself when I said these words in last month's commentary, "We all know what could be lurking out there in the Atlantic this time of the year, and whether it comes straight at us or sneaks up from behind through the Gulf - Mother Nature can deliver a humbling blow to many an art community in the Carolinas."

Most of us dodged a bullet last month, but not all. As Dorian sat over the Bahamas as a cat 5 hurricane, I could hear gallery owners and artists from Jacksonville, FL, to Norfolk, VA, screaming, "Oh merde!" Please excuse the French. They could see the next year of lost business flash before their eyes. Thankfully that didn't happen for most of us, but unfortunately some of our community on the East coast of North Carolina did take a hit. They tend to stick out in the Atlantic saying, "Hey look at me!" and often times they pay for that. Mother Nature doesn't seem to like showoffs.

So, as the rest of us get back to "normal" while watching the Weather Channel, let's think of ways we can help those who were not so lucky. Think about making a donation to CERF+ The Artists Safety Net (<https://cerfplus.org/>), the folks who help out artists and galleries after disasters happen. If you suffered damage, you might want to contact them for help and if you didn't and are feeling blessed, you might want to make a donation to them or participate in one of their fundraising events. Because the next time you might not be so lucky and you'll need a helping hand.

Believe me, I know what hurricane Hugo cost me, this publication, and the Charleston art community in 1989. It took a long time to recover and some never did. This year's season isn't over yet.

If you or a studio artist you know has been affected by Dorian, CERF+ is here to help. Their Studio Protector (<https://cerfplus.org/get-ready/studio-protector/?org=808&lvl=100&ite=1691&lea=1326804&ctr=0&par=1&trk=>) is the go-to resource for artists impacted by emergencies and has tips, tools, and information to help you recover. Their Craft Emergency Relief Fund (<https://cerfplus.org/get-relief/apply-for-help/?org=808&lvl=100&ite=1691&lea=1326804&ctr=0&par=1&trk=>) provides financial assistance of up to \$3,000 to artists working in craft disciplines who meet CERF+'s eligibility requirements and who have experienced career-threatening emergencies. To contact CERF+ e-mail them at (info@craftemergency.org) or call at 802/229-2306.

CERF+ is part of a national emergency and disaster network of arts responders, which is gathering information from arts organizations, artists, arts-related businesses, and other on-the-ground groups to assess the storm's impact on artists. Updates will be posted on their website (<https://cerfplus.org/>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CERFplus/>).

Dealing With Cancer

I don't think there is anything much more worst than having someone, especially a Doctor, tell you that you have cancer - the BIG C word. On Pages 16 & 17 we have an article about an exhibition showing at the Anderson Arts Center in Anderson, SC, featuring works by artists who have dealt with or are dealing with cancer. I'm no artist, but I do know something about dealing with cancer and I think there are only two ways to deal with it - you either fight like hell and beat it or you prepare yourself for death. These artists found creation in doing their dance with death. Check it out.

Whimsy Joy© by Roz



Images are available on:

- Prints
- T Shirts
- Aprons
- Calendars
- Children's Paint Smocks
- Notecards
- Decals
- Stickers
- Mousepads

Check my website for new whimsies!



I am gorgeous...
Can't you see I'm really cute!
Put me on your personal
mousepad for \$12.00

All images are copyrighted

Rosalyn Kramer Monat-Haller
M.Ed., LLC

Counseling for Children, Adolescents, & Adults
Mother, Grandmother, Daughter, Friend, Psychotherapist
and Artist who uses color and whimsical imagination
to create joyful art for children of all ages

www.whimsyjoy.com
843.873.6935 • 843.810.1245

City of Charleston, SC, Features Works by Mary Whyte

The City of Charleston, SC, will present *We The People: Portraits of Veterans in America*, on view at the City Gallery at Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Waterfront Park, from Oct. 25 through Dec. 22, 2019. A reception will be held on Oct. 25 from 5 to 7pm.

In 2010, internationally renowned artist Mary Whyte set out on an inspirational seven-year mission to paint fifty large scale watercolor portraits of current day American veterans. *We The People: Portraits of Veterans in America* is Whyte's remarkable series depicting military veterans of all ages and in all walks of life. Images including a Missouri dairy farmer, Rhode Island lobsterman, Pennsylvania science teacher, South Carolina single mother, and 46 other moving portraits will be showcased together - culminating in a timeless portrait of and for the American people.

The national exhibition of *We The People: Portraits of Veterans in America* will launch with a weekend of festivities from Oct. 25-27 in Charleston. Medal of Honor recipient Major General James E. Livingston called the fifty portraits, "a moving and important tribute to our nation's greatest patriots." The gala weekend, which will include the veterans depicted in the paintings as special guests, will also feature a brunch for 400 on the USS Yorktown and two premiere concerts with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, performing original world premiere works created specifically to honor veterans and celebrate the portraits. In addition, there will be an accompanying art book from The University of South Carolina Press, which will be released to retail in conjunction with the exhibit. Additional details for *We The People: Portraits of Veterans in America* at (<https://www.patriotartfoundation.org/exhibition.php>).

"When I undertook this project to paint



Counter Balance / Joanie / Houston, Texas / Army, 2008-2016

the face of America, what began as an exercise to create fifty portraits turned into an all-consuming mission to uphold and honor the hidden heroes of our country," says Whyte. "*We the People* is not only a tour across and through these vast United States, it is a tour through the heart and soul, the duty and the commitment of the people who protect not only our Constitution and our country but our very lives. We can only be deeply grateful, inspired, and humbled by all of them, and it's my hope that *We The People* give rise to a greater sense of gratitude for our military, as well as to inspire people to reach for what is possible."

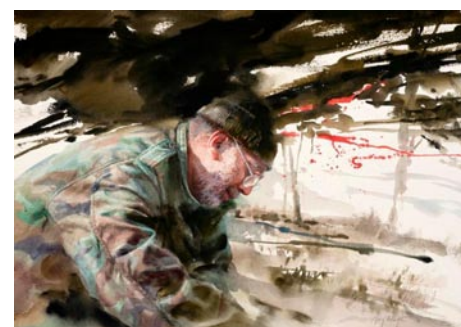
To assist with the exhibition, as well as build a national organization with the mission to honor veterans through art, Whyte founded the Patriot Art Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Initially, the foundation, whose supporters are comprised of veterans, military leaders, business leaders, educators and artists and partner organizations including The Citadel, The University of South Carolina Press and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, is seeking donations to support both the exhibit and to create a permanent *We The People: Portraits of Veterans in America* Museum

continued above on next column to the right

and Center in the Carolina Lowcountry. The museum will be a home for all 50 of Whyte's portraits reflecting the diversity of this country. Additionally, under the direction of Whyte and in partnership with certified art therapists, the Center aspires to be the premiere destination for innovative art therapy services that assist veterans who may be coping with physical or emotional issues resulting from their tours of duty. The Patriot Art Foundation's website is at (<https://www.patriotartfoundation.org>).

Mary Whyte is an artist and author whose watercolor paintings have earned international recognition. Her works have been exhibited nationally as well as in China and have been featured in numerous publications stateside and in France, Germany, Russia, Canada, China, the United Kingdom, and Taiwan. Whyte is the author of two books published by The University of South Carolina Press: *Working South: Paintings and Sketches by Mary Whyte and Down Bohicket Road: An Artist's Journey*. She is also the author of *Alfreda's World, Painting Portraits and Figures in Watercolor, An Artist's Way of Seeing*, and *Watercolor for the Serious Beginner*. Whyte is the recipient of the Portrait Society of America's Gold Medal and the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award, South Carolina's highest honor in the arts.

The mission of the Patriot Art Foundation is to seek a better world for our veterans through initiatives in art, history, education, leadership and imagination. The Foundation is organizing a working board of veterans, military leaders, business leaders, educators and artists. Partner organizations currently include The Citadel, the University of South Caro-



Bunker / Dennis / Carmel, California / Army, 1973-1975

lina Press and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. The Patriot Art Foundation is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to honor and serve veterans through art and educational initiatives.

You can watch a short video of Mary Whyte explaining the concept behind the project at (<https://vimeo.com/234613500>).

The City Gallery at Joe Riley Waterfront Park, owned by the City of Charleston and operated by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, is a tangible resource and reliable venue for displaying the finest contemporary art from local, regional, national and international artists, stimulating discussion and dialogue among audiences. In the process, in this dynamic visual arts venue, those who visit the City Gallery will be educated, enlightened and inspired by their experiences in this cultural space. The City Gallery provides access to the visual arts for everyone in Charleston, SC, visitors and residents alike, by offering exhibits that are all admission-free.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/958-6484 or visit (<http://citygallery-atwaterfrontpark.com/>).

Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Ginny Versteegen

The Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, will present *Explorations*, a collection of new paintings by Ginny Versteegen, on view in the Guild Gallery,

from Oct. 1 - 31, 2019. A reception will be held on Oct. 4, from 5-8pm.

The exhibition presents the mixed

continued on Page 5