

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Help Us Locate Closed Galleries

There was a time when I used to deliver copies of *Carolina Arts* throughout both North and South Carolina but not any more. I knew a gallery had closed the minute I drove up to its door and saw that the building or store front that was once filled with art was empty. Sometimes there was a note on the door providing good news, that the gallery had only moved to another part of the city or town or even to another city or town. But, most of the time, an empty store meant a gallery was down and out. There were a few times, unfortunately, where the gallery was full, but there was a padlock on the door placed there by a bank. Those were sad times, but it happens.

Now that *Carolina Arts* is an online publication which is delivered by e-mail and social media or people just downloading it monthly from our website, I'm kind of blind when a gallery closes. At first I used to think how rude - they didn't tell us, but with time I realized that notifying us was probably the last thing on their minds at the time as closing a gallery is not fun. In my lifetime I've had to close two galleries myself.

Sometimes we'll get a notice from someone who is retiring and closing their gallery, as there is no one in the family to take it over or no one wants to step up to the challenge. And, it's a challenge all right, I couldn't do it for very long (I once tried too long and it cost me for years), so my hat's off to those who make it through 7 years, 15 years or 30 years - that's an accomplishment.

Well, anyway, I need a favor from folks who read this commentary. After 33 years I don't fool myself into thinking that everyone who downloads a copy of our publication reads the whole issue, much less my commentary, but for those that do - I need your help. If you would go to the back and look

through our gallery listings of the city or town where you live and send us an e-mail to info@carolinaarts.com and let us know if any galleries we have listed are closed, it will be appreciated. And, on the other hand you can let us know if we're not listing any galleries that are open - new or old ones - mostly in the Commercial Gallery listings. Keep in mind in the Institutional Gallery listings some are not there as they haven't sent us any news since the lock down started so we don't know what they are doing, but they are still exist. At least we hope they are still there when this is over. We're more concerned now with commercial galleries.

Like I said earlier, I'm not driving 16 to 18 hours a day around North and South Carolina for several days at the beginning of each month any more. I do my deliveries in cyber space these days. Help me if you can - it makes us a more informative publication.

Wake Up!

A good many of the galleries and art spaces in the Carolinas are still in a state of shock or are just so out of step from being closed a few months during this Pandemic that they are forgetting or outright losing their communication skills. I know many of you are trying to catch up to your online offerings for those who are not leaving their homes right now, but for those of you who have opened - even on a limited basis - people need to know what you have to offer - what's on display.

It's Summer and things tend to drop off some during the Summer months, with colleges and universities being shut down and some non-profits are still struggling to find their sea legs after being closed, but wake up and smell the roses folks. Start sending out press releases again.

We could have taken a few months off, but

[continued on Page 8](#)

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www.carolinaarts.com



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[Carolina Arts Unleashed](#)

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info@carolinaarts.com

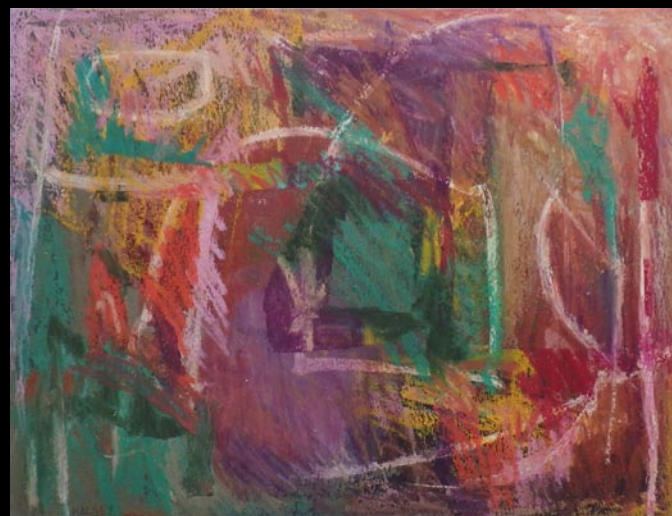
WELLS GALLERY



SPRUILL HAYES, *THREE DAY WEEKEND I, II, III*, 6x12, OIL

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Halsey - McCallum Studio William Halsey & Corrie McCallum



Growing by William Halsey, 1992
oil pastel and paint stick on paper, 18 x 24 inches

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& Sculpture for
the discerning
collector

Both artists are
recipients
of the
Elizabeth O'Neill
Verner Award



Painting by Corrie McCallum

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