

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sat in the gallery the other day, my mind wandered to Frank Sinatra - more specifically, to one of his songs:

*Got my tweed pressed, got my best vest,
all I need now is the girl*

*Got my striped tie, got my hopes high
Got the time and the place and I got the rhythm,
Now all I need's the girl to go with 'em...*

This was an analogy, of course. Savannah weather does not generally require tweeds and vests. While I favor them, I haven't worn either in years. I especially favor non-pressed tweeds, by the way – they conform better to my un-pressable self. But I did have my dress shirt and my best clip suspenders, so that was a parallel of sorts.

The gallery that day was a pleasant place to be. It is bright and lovely, the temperature is agreeable and the work went well. In fact, I finished what I was trying to do with time to spare. The only thing missing (the “girl” of the analogy) was a customer. As it happened, the girl showed up about ten minutes later, disguised as two gentlemen of open and pleasant manner. They came, they saw and they bought, and one of them bought a piece that I especially liked. We're for real now. I'm really looking forward to the spring flood of people.

Simon Schama's series, *The Power of Art*, appeared on BBC2 a few years back. I noticed it because I have

read a few of his books, and he manages to be both a fine historian and readable – his book on Rembrandt is a wonderful appreciation of the man and his times. For some reason, Comcast doesn't offer BBC2, so I never saw the series.

It appeared again around Christmas, as a set of CDs, and I just finished the last episode. It's pretty good. In describing the power of art, Schama occasionally says a word that US television would not countenance and shows a picture or two that might not stimulate you to try somebody or other's new taco treat. I can understand Comcast's hesitation. The power of art is like that sometimes. One of his subjects is J. M. W. Turner; we saw the movie on Turner a few weeks before screening the episode. A different Turner emerges from the series.

The highlight was the last – the segment on Mark Rothko. Rothko raises more curiosity than anything else in me, while other people melt into pools of passion. Schama led me by the hand (linear thinkers need that sometimes) through his experience with Rothko, and I understand him a little better now. The forecast for me melting into a pool of passion is not hopeful, but at least I now understand the path people take to get that way.

Schama's series covers six painters – an escaped murderer, two suicides, and a tyrant's political hack, among others. Memorable painters frequently live exciting lives. By dint of hard work and detailed

continued

President's Message, continued

planning, I have lived an utterly usual one. The forecast for me turning into a memorable painter is not hopeful. I doubt Picasso ever fretted about the squirrels raiding the bird feeder.

Wouldn't it be exciting to create a new form of art - to envision an event from several perspectives on one canvas; to portray human emotions without resorting to forms, to show inspirational moments using real people rather than romantic and rather wooden icons? Yes, it would. I admire and applaud those who can.

Me, I have to feed the birds. And, apparently, the squirrels.

Ed Eckstrand



Everyone enjoyed February's SAA workshop with **Sharon Saseen** teaching abstract in mixed media.



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mark it on your calendars . . .

MARCH			
01	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	5 p.m. The Woods Clubhouse
07 & 08	Tuesday & Wednesday	Change out artwork at SAA Gallery	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
11	Saturday	Playshop: Zentangle with Professor Kathryn Thaggard, <i>Cost \$20</i>	Generation One 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
13	Monday	Plein Air Group Bamboo Farm	Lunch at 11:30 a.m. Zaxby's on Highway 17
15	Wednesday	Jim Chirbas Reception	6 p.m. SAA Airport Gallery
17	Friday	SAA Gallery Closed	St. Patrick's Day
18	Saturday	Plein Air Group Botanical Garden	10 a.m. Lunch to follow at Driftaway Café in Sandfly
27	Monday	Plein Air Group Hutchinson Island	10 a.m. Bring your own food and drinks
APRIL			
01	Saturday	Plein Air Group Ft. Pulaski	10 a.m. Lunch to follow
05	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	5 p.m. The Woods Clubhouse
07	Friday	Grand Opening of SAA Gallery	6 p.m. 232 Bull Street
08	Saturday	Playshop with Carol Anderson Watercolor on mini canvas	10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Generation One <i>Cost \$20</i>
15	Saturday	ISCAP at Forsyth Park	Earth Day volunteers needed! Call 232-7731
15	Saturday	Oglethorpe Mall painting Easter with the Kids	11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call to volunteer 232-7731
17	Monday	Plein Air Group Wildlife Refuge	10 a.m. Bring your own food and drinks
19	Wednesday	SAA General Meeting	6 p.m. Savannah Airport Gallery
22	Saturday	ISCAP Reception	2 a.m. - 4 p.m. SAA Gallery, 232 Bull Street

Debra R. Fox



Debra R. Fox, center,
*met with Gov. Nathan Deal and his wife Sandra
to present them with her photograph "Tybee Dance,"
which will hang in the Georgia Statehouse until April 2017.*

Debi has had the opportunity to live in many locations in America and abroad as a result of moving around the world her entire life as an Air Force Brat (8 moves) and as an Air Force Wife (13 moves). She has benefited greatly from her extensive exposure to a variety of cultures and societal concepts.

In particular, she has focused on the art, history, architecture and customs/courtesies of the numerous communities in which she has lived. Her primary goal has been to incorporate the lessons of these adventures into her activities to improve community, culture and society.

She and her husband, Pete now call Richmond Hill home. They enjoy being "right around the corner" from their daughter, son-in-law and 2 granddaughters!



SOLD!

Congratulations to our members that have had recent sales in our galleries!

The **SAA Gallery** sold paintings by **Margie Sone, Ken Stark, Rebecca Marcussen,** and **Diane Gass.** There have been other sales but these are the first original paintings sold!

The **SAA Airport Gallery** has sold paintings by **John Nelson, Carol Carroll,** and **Gloria Dalton.**

Pace sold a painting by **Rhonda Netherton.**



Karen Schaaf was accepted into the 2017 Georgia Watercolor Society National Exhibition titled "Ride Away from Here." The exhibit will run from March through April in Carrollton, GA.

Play Shop at Generation 1: Watercolor Miniatures on Canvas

Saturday, April 8
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Come and paint a watercolor on canvas with **Carol Anderson!**

Carol will bring 4x4 canvases and explain the process for preparing them for watercolor. We will concentrate on Savannah's beautiful architectural details. Photos will be provided or you can bring your own.

Bring the following supplies: *watercolor paints, small watercolor brushes, a water container, 140 lb. cold press watercolor paper cut to 4x4 and 4x6 (one or two of each size), watercolor pencils (one or two, any color), permanent black ink pen(s), paper towels.*

Calling all volunteers!


We need help with:

- Fundraising
- Plein Air Events
- Volunteers to sit in our new gallery space
- Hospitality
- Plein Air Event in fall

Call to volunteer: 232-7731

Contact us to set up a personal art gallery through our website, or if you would like to help run things in the Association.

Check our website for ongoing exhibits and shows.

 912-232-7731

 admin@savannahartassociation.com

 [Savannah Art Association](#)