

Juror's Remarks for *Green Art Show*

"I awarded Darleen Urbanek's piece *Did You Say Walk?! First Place*. The little dog's expression captured my heart right away, and upon further examination, the line work and the green shading is outstanding. Mary Hartman's watercolor piece, *Forest Floor*, is awarded Second Place. The patterns, textures, and the many hues of green of the leaves are interesting. Fay Akers' *My Green Thumb* is awarded Third Place. It is a charming work with plenty of life exquisitely painted. Daren Dundee's sculpture *Green T* is awarded an Honorable Mention. I like Daren's sense of humor in this found object sculpture. Jan Filarski's abstract *Wild Protectees* is awarded an Honorable Mention. It has dynamic patterns and speaks to the extinction problem in our world. I like the composition of these strong elements. Michele Kennedy's *In the Forest of the Night* is awarded an Honorable Mention. I enjoy the myriad of patterns that camouflage the cat with the glowing green eyes in the center. A striking image!

I also enjoyed the inventiveness of Sue Yates' *Abandoned by Some, Loved by Others* in her three-dimensional piece. Barbara Clay's *Smoky Mountain Creek* set a wonderful scene with abstracted textural marks tying the scene together. June Nash's *Love* had such an emotional vision of the couple facing each other – a lovely emotional scene. I loved Janet Almstadt-Davison's line work in *Wine Bottles*. The atmosphere in Mino Watanabe's *For Good Earth* was dream-like and ephemeral. Diane Shomo's pastel *Passage* also captured the atmosphere beautifully! And Onorio Catenacci's photo *Walk Together* pulled one's eyes into the lush, velvety green image of Ireland. 'Makes you want to be there on that walk.

Jury Day was a cold, gray, and windy day. When I walked into the gallery to jury this exhibit, I immediately cheered up as all the pieces had a lovely green glow. The outside disappeared from my consciousness and I felt welcomed and warmed when I was looking at all the wonderful artwork assembled! I loved seeing the different interpretations of the *Green Art Show*. I hope the artwork transports all the viewers to greener times like they did for me!

I enjoyed each and every one of the pieces entered in this exhibit; however, the space dictated a certain number to be accepted and I had to whittle down the entries. I think the collection represents a myriad of media and a wide range of the title's interpretation. Thank you for the opportunity to see such a lot of inspiring artwork and congratulations to all!"

Laura Whitesides Host

January 2020

About the juror, **Laura Whitesides Host**. Host received a BFA from the University of Michigan Architecture and Design School majoring in painting and ceramics. She has nearly forty years of experience in art education at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, both as a student and a teaching artist. Host is one of the two original members of Lawrence Street Gallery, where she now serves as president. She continues to be an active member of the Michigan Water Color Society and the Birmingham Society of Women Painters. Host has had numerous solo shows and has exhibited locally and state-wide.