

Strokes of Genius 2021

This 11th annual juried exhibition was open to all artists residing in the United States, DC, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Mexico. Following entry guidelines, all original 2D work created through any painting media (inc. oil, pastel, acrylic, watercolor, encaustic, etc.) was considered. Submissions representing 24 states, including DC and Canada, totaled 423 artworks by 146 artists. Selections for exhibition by the juror are 60 works by 52 artists. MFA will display selected works in MFA's Circle Gallery from October 29 - November 24, 2021. The show chair is Nichole Leavy.

JUROR INFORMATION

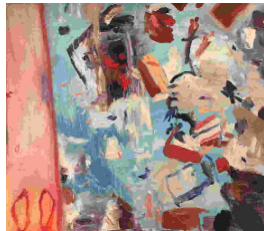
Upon receiving his MFA from Yale University, Barry Nemett has taught at Maryland Institute College of Art since 1971, serving as Chair of MICA's Painting Department for twenty-five years. Nemett has also taught in Florence, Italy and at Princeton University. He has exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide, including the National Academy Museum, NYC; Museum of Art: Rochefort-en-Terre, France; Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Japan; Baltimore Museum of Art; and Delaware Museum of Art. In NYC he exhibited at the Institute of International Education; Andre Zarre Gallery; and Denise Bibro Gallery, and he has lectured and curated exhibitions nationally and internationally. Nemett received grants and residencies to paint in the United States, Africa, China, Japan, Italy, Spain, France, Scotland, and Ireland. Nemett authored the college textbook, *Images, Objects & Ideas* (MacGraw-Hill Publishers); the novel, *Crooked Tracks*, (Barnhardt & Ashe Publishing Co.); many art exhibition catalogue essays; and about 40 art-related articles published in print and online magazines, such as *Hyperallergic*, *Art Critical*, *Painters on Paintings*, and *Arts Magazine*.

JUROR'S STATEMENT

The thematically and stylistically diverse exhibition "Strokes of Genius 2021" includes a portrait of a zebra-striped female; a bathtub and a mutilated deer coupled with a serene cat. It also includes the portrayal of silence and absence in the form of an empty box. And there are noisy, chock-full abstractions.



Samantha Haring, *Gift Wrap*,
Oil on Canvas, 20"x20"
Juror's Choice Award

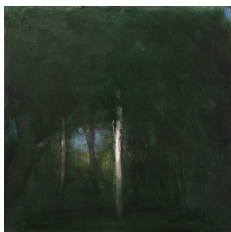


Tessa Sutton, *Collapse I*,
Oil on Paper, 11"x14"
Juror's Choice Award

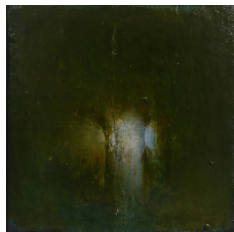
Like our lives today, the works embrace both sadness and sun. Sadness: deathly pandemics, social isolation, violent insurrections. Sun — we all make our own.

Some of the paintings in "Strokes" have it both ways. In Thomas McCarthy's *Pandemic Picnic*, COVID-masked friends play cards on blankets patterned by the cast shadows of a clear day. A fluidly curvilinear, turbulent seascape created by Theresa Yu is titled *Waves of Hate* (harmonies, hurricanes, and hatreds). The subject of Deborah Kommalan's closely observed still life boasts the mismatched title *Horseshoes and Hand Grenades*, an apt way to characterize our crazed times.

I selected mostly small works in order to include as many as possible from the 423 deserving submissions. Two of the littlest images, John Markowitz's *A Clearing and Source*, are, for me, among the show's most powerful and deepest entries. The impact of these sensual, pitch-perfect, nearly pitch-black mysteries is at once soothing and seething. This is consistent with the conflictual nature of a show that celebrates variety.



John Markowitz, *A Clearing*,
Oil on Linen, 12"x12",
Juror's Choice Award



John Markowitz, *Source*,
Oil on Linen, 12"x12"

It was a treat to view so many quality projects inspired by passion and the joys of tradition and innovation. Across today's darkness, the works glaze genuine light. And blaze with hope.

AWARDS

Cash awards presented by the juror total \$1000.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MFA appreciates the support of the Arts Council of Anne Arundel Co., Inc., and Maryland State Arts Council.

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SALES GALLERY

A sales gallery with artwork images is available on MFA's website during the exhibition: <https://mdfedart.com/portfolio/230/>. Images were submitted by the artists at the time of entry. After close of MFA exhibitions, images of the artwork are archived and may be viewed at: <https://mdfedart.com/mfaentry/archivist.php?myid=6FKGZPA9>

MFA and Circle Gallery Celebrate 50+ Years
18 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401 • Open Daily, 11 AM - 5 PM
410-268-4566 • mdfedart.org • info@mdfedart.org
MD Relay: 1-800-735-2258 • Gallery is accessible to persons with disabilities.

Please visit MFA's website to explore membership options, and numerous exhibition possibilities at MFA's Circle Gallery and at off-site locations.

Established in 1963, Maryland Federation of Art (MFA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) art organization supported by individual, corporate, and public sector contributions.



Strokes of Genius 2021

- 1 **Qrcky** (Baltimore, MD)
Escuchala la ciudad respirando translation
acrylic on canvas POR
- 2 **Petra Maria Bernstein** (Salisbury, MD)
Time to Heal
watercolor on Hahnemühle paper \$450
- 3 **Fern Loos Beu** (Centreville, MD)
Elegance
oil paint \$1,875
- 4 **Erica Brown** (West Chester, PA)
"Relic No. 14"
encaustic on panel \$2,500
- 5 **stephanie E. chambers** (Temple, TX)
Mother Neff State Park
oil on paper POR
- 6 **stephanie E. chambers** (Temple, TX)
Spruce Pine
oil on paper POR
- 7 **Edward michael Charney** (New Carlisle, OH)
► *Ridge Road*
oil on oanel \$2,800
- 8 **Deborah Conn** (Falls Church, VA)
Quilt Stories 2
watercolor \$1,200
- 9 **Fred Craig** (Ruxton, MD)
Locus
oil on canvas \$1,800
- 10 **David Diaz** (Annapolis, MD)
► *Capital Morning*
oil \$3,600
- 11 **David Diaz** (Annapolis, MD)
Sunday Morning Stroll
oil \$950
- 12 **Margaret Dowell** (Sunderland, MD)
*Angel Confronts Disrespect,
Searches For Kindness*
oils on canvas POR
- 13 **Grace Doyle** (Parkville, MD)
► *Matt & Tilly in 2020*
oil on linen \$2,000
- 14 **Toni M. Elkins** (Columbia, SC)
Animals & Birds #2
mixed media \$950
- 15 **Marisa S. Evangelista** (Severna Park, MD)
*"We were caught in a storm...
or something of the sort."*
acrylic on cradled panel \$800
- 16 **Marisa S. Evangelista** (Severna Park, MD)
► *Reflection*
acrylic on panel \$800
- 17 **Chris Ann Farhood** (New York, NY)
Spring Reflection
oil on aluminum panel \$1,800
- 18 **Michael Frechette** (Philadelphia, PA)
Bathtub
oil on panel \$4,000
- 19 **Kate Gaudreau** (Bel Air, MD)
Temoto ni (At Hand)
pencil and gouache applied
with twigs and reeds \$225
- 20 **Michael Gaudreau** (Bel Air, MD)
Celestial Light
pastel \$700
- 21 **Katherine Tatum Grossfeld** (Durham, NC)
Got the Blues
oil on panel \$2,200
- 22 **Samantha Haring** (Cincinnati, OH)
Valance
oil on paper on panel \$500
- 23 **Samantha Haring** (Cincinnati, OH)
► *Gift Wrap*
oil on canvas \$600
- 24 **Jack Hornady** (Chevy Chase, MD)
Jaguar in Driveway
acrylic paint \$1,450
- 25 **Juliet Drake Hossain** (Frederick, MD)
► *How Fast Must We Go to Stop Time?*
acrylic on wood and canvas POR
- 26 **Juliet Drake Hossain** (Frederick, MD)
Live at the National: The American Captain
acrylic on wood and canvas POR
- 27 **Tamora Ilasat** (Washington, DC)
Surfacing
mixed media: acrylic and
collage on panel \$225
- 28 **Ron Janowich** (Gainesville, FL)
Meditation 1
oil on linen POR
- 29 **Christine Kelsey** (Annapolis, MD)
Stucco house on the corner
encaustic painting \$300
- 30 **Deborah Kommalan** (Pasadena, MD)
Horseshoes and Hand Grenades
oil on panel \$960
- 31 **Kathleen Gilbert Kotarba** (Baltimore, MD)
Carriage Maker's House
oil on board \$600
- 32 **Joe Krawczyk** (Orlando, FL)
Pinwheel
acrylic on canvas \$900
- 33 **Susan La Mont** (McLean, VA)
Coming Of Age In The Year 2018
oil on aluminum panel \$2,200
- 34 **Tracy Lambros** (Baltimore, MD)
Cerrillo's Sky
oil, gold, bronze pigments on panel \$4,500
- 35 **Harriet Lesser** (Cabin John, MD)
Dolly Varden
oil on canvas w/3D lines \$1,500
- 36 **Stacy Joy Lund Levy** (Owings Mills, MD)
Diva
watercolor on paper \$475
- 37 **Ellen Maidman-Tanner** (Takoma Park, MD)
Winter Reflections in the Lake
oil on canvas \$2,500
- 38 **John Markowitz** (Cantonment, FL)
► *A Clearing*
oil on linen \$1,000
- 39 **John Markowitz** (Cantonment, FL)
Source
oil on linen \$1,000
- 40 **Thomas McCarthy** (Millersville, MD)
Pandemic Picnic
oil paint POR
- 41 **Mike P McSorley** (Washington, DC)
Edge of the Earth
oil on panel \$1,675
- 42 **Marcus Michels** (Hattiesburg, MS)
Melody
oil on linen POR
- 43 **Claudia Ann Minicozzi** (Washington, DC)
Beach Scrub Pines on a Sunny Day
acrylic on paper \$1,800
- 44 **Kathy A. Moore** (Casstown, OH)
Yellow Shed in Shared Backyards
oil on hardboard \$800
- 45 **Robinson Munoz-Millan** (Pasadena, MD)
Birds in Flight I
acrylic on paper \$600
- 46 **Lucas Anders Nelson** (Annapolis, MD)
E.O. 13988
watercolor gouache \$500
- 47 **Charlene Nield** (Alexandria, VA)
► *Red Horse Rides Again*
acrylic/mixed media on panel POR
- 48 **Mary D. Off** (Silver Spring, MD)
► *Summer Reflections II*
oil pastel on etching on a
Unryu Thai blue chiffon paper \$1,200
- 49 **Hassan Paige** (Furlong, PA)
Kuomboka
pastel chalk POR
- 50 **Mary Proenza** (Riverdale Park, MD)
*Paying Attention
(Homage to Kerry James Marshall)*
acrylic on panel POR
- 51 **Jose Ramirez** (Secretary, MD)
Evening Walk
watercolor \$725
- 52 **Heather Romney** (Baltimore, MD)
Lake Bonneville VIII
oil on board POR
- 53 **Thia Leigh Schuler** (Ridgedale, MO)
"Charolais Mama and Calf"
oil on panel \$500
- 54 **Thia Leigh Schuler** (Ridgedale, MO)
"On Watch"
oil on panel \$500
- 55 **Arena Shawn** (Carrabelle, FL)
A Lice of Summer
oil on linen \$595
- 56 **Arena Shawn** (Carrabelle, FL)
Turkish Delights
oil on linen \$595
- 57 **Tessa Sutton** (St. Paul, MN)
► *Collapse 1*
oil on paper \$1,100
- 58 **Annette Uroskie** (Annapolis, MD)
The Three Graaces
watercolor on Yupo paper \$800
- 59 **Tinam Valk** (Berwyn Heights, MD)
Rapids
mixed media on canvas \$1,600
- 60 **Pamela L Wilde** (Abingdon, MD)
Eyes Without a Face
oil on panels, wood, mirror \$2,000

AWARDS

- Juror's Choice