

Olney Art Association 2020 Juried Show
Juror: Mary Proenza

Best in Show:

Isabella Martire, *African Queen*, oil on canvas, 30" x 24"

This painting is striking in its cropped composition, remarkable paint handling, and communicative control of the elements of color, light, shape, texture, and space. Above all, this painting powerfully conveys the presence of the compelling woman portrayed.

Juror's Award:

Cecile Kirkpatrick, *Shadows on Display*, watercolor on paper, 17" X 14"

As the title implies, the subject of this painting is light and shadows. The artist has effectively recorded the sensations of changing light and the wonderfully abstract patterns of shadows. The handling of watercolor is skillful and impeccable.

Juror's Award:

Terrence Thornton, *Hanging On*, acrylic on canvas, 14" x 16"

This painting reads as the perfect metaphor for 2020! But that's not all. It's a dynamic, original composition. The vigorous brushstrokes and texture of the paint support the idea of "hanging on," as do the drama of the light and the well-chosen palette.

Juror's Award:

Antonia Tiu, *A Night Stroll in Amsterdam*, watercolor on paper, 24" x 24"

The artist has created a deft visual shorthand in watercolor to communicate the sensations of a complex scene, in this case a night cityscape in Amsterdam. The sense of light is particularly well described, and the cohesive palette unifies the overall image.

Honorable Mention:

Ann Bolt, *Almost Autumn*, watercolor on paper, 20" x 15"

The artist's concentration on the negative spaces between branches has resulted in a painting that is intriguingly realistic and abstract at the same time. The illusion of space is also strong, with the warm colors of the branches popping forward while the blues and greens recede.

Honorable Mention:

Howard Clark, *Rose Window at National Cathedral*, color photograph, 16" x 20"

The photographer has beautifully captured both the linear geometry and the quality of light shining through stained glass in the National Cathedral, conveying a sense of the sublime.

Honorable Mention:

Barbara Kahla, *What's Your Fortune?*, oil on canvas, 12" x 12"

Fortune cookies and Chinese take-out become a metaphor for the existential question posed in the title. The universality of this question is supported by the centralized composition, clear depiction of the objects, and strong but limited palette.

Honorable Mention: Vladimir Ricar, *Tomatoes and Squash*, acrylic on canvas, 12" x 15"

One sees and feels the patient, thoughtful construction behind this finished work. Each color, shape, space, and texture has been carefully considered in relation to the whole. The artist's care, like the paint itself, has accumulated beautifully through the process and becomes the takeaway message.

Honorable Mention: Katherine R. Richards, *Ann's Peaches*, oil on canvas, 10" x 8"

This small painting is gem-like. The artist has thoroughly explored the marvelous texture and varied colors of the peaches. There is a strong sense of three-dimensional forms in space, and the whole painting glows.

Honorable Mention: Sandy Yagel, *An Invitation*, watercolor on paper, 18" x 15"

Everything about this painting is an alluring visual representation of the work's title. We are welcomed into the scene through the strong linear perspective, appealing garden imagery, and lovely palette and touch of the watercolors.

Juror: Mary Proenza is a professor of Fine Arts at Marymount University. Her artistic media include painting, printmaking, drawing, and writing. For more information, please visit www.maryproenza.com.