St. Michaels Library Exhibit

2021 Member's Photography Show

EXHIBIT DATES: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1 THROUGH FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2021

ST. MICHAELS BRANCH LIBRARY GALLERY, 106 FREMONT ST., ST. MICHAELS, MD

CURATED BY EMILY CARTER MITCHELL

Juror's Statement

It was a great honor to be selected as this exhibit's juror for the St. Michaels Art League. It is encouraging to see those that participated in this member photography art exhibit and I hope that this is just the beginning of a successful annual exhibit to showcase the community's photographers.

There was a variety of photographs submitted for consideration with a wide range of subject matter. From brilliant color to beautiful black and white imagery, the creativity of the photographers was evident.

In curating this exhibit, I considered each image on its own merit based on five criteria: ***Technical Excellence, Visual Impact, Compositional Design, Unique Subject Matter and Presentation***. Each category rated the five categories totaled to arrive to a final image rating.

With ***Technical Excellence*** I reviewed the overall image quality including things like focus, depth of field, overall exposure, and dust bunnies.

Visual Impact is how the image on the wall stood out and if it was visually appealing, whether from color, subject matter or contrast.

Composition design included line placement, inclusions of diagonals, verticals, triangles and other elements of composition.

Unique Subject Matter is just that. Was the image captured of something unique that is a not something found in ordinary passing. Something that tells a story, that captures the viewer's eye and engages their mind.

Finally, ***Presentation*** is how the image was created; by the type of paper chosen, the frame selected and the image name given.

All of these five elements lead towards what I consider a 'gallery worthy' image.

First Place: **"The Red Bucket" by Louise Peardon**

This is an image that clearly tells a story, that engages the mind to wonder who the woman is that is squatting down and toiling away at a hard and repetitive task. The repetition of patterns throughout the image along with the red bucket that breaks the pattern was well captured with focus throughout the image. There is great balance of lines with the pots and candlesticks as well as the visual tension created by the diagonal line of the woman's back. This is a scene that perhaps many might pass but evokes such emotion for the diligent woman.

Second Place: **"Morning in the Adirondacks" by George Sass**

This piece of work clearly jumps out at you where the cairn of rocks seems so big and the landscape small in comparison. It offers strong contrast between water and rock, black and white, along with the negative space the foggy sky created. Enveloping the cairn with mysteriousness.

Third Place: **"Needs a Lightbulb" by Ted Mueller**

Truly a unique photograph of something never seen before. Superb repetition throughout the frame and the square framing created strong symmetry with the subject matter. T he color gradient from black to red to orange to yellow as you go towards the center of the lights creates visual movement. Special care was made to how the image was framed which makes this piece different.

I thank each and every photographer who submitted their work for consideration for this exhibit and I hope that you continue to pursue ways to exhibit your work in a public setting. It helps make your images come alive and will certainly connect with you more once you see it on a wall.

With humble gratitude, thank you to the St. Michaels Art League for considering me to be the curator for this exhibit.

Warmly,
Emily Carter Mitchell
Nature as Art

OUR JUDGE: Emily Carter Mitchell

Emily Carter Mitchell is an award winning and published nature and wildlife photographer based in Annapolis, Maryland. As an active member of the Maryland Federation of Art, her work has been included in numerous juried art exhibits, and has previously juried several photography contests. Her work has been exhibited at Gallery 333, The National Wildlife Visitors Center, and Monument Sotheby's International Realty Art Gallery in solo artist shows.

Through her work, *Nature as Art*, Emily's photography shows a creative interpretation of the natural world with a sense of serenity with profound stillness and ethereal attributes. As a prolific photographer, she enjoys a wide variety of subject matter from abstracts to black and white and uses smart device apps to create images similar to works from the Hudson River Art School. Her photography has been included in local newspapers, magazines, books and smart device apps.

Emily's passion of photography is shared with others through her nature and wildlife photography classes for Capital Photography Center based in the Metro DC area.

To enjoy her work, please visit *http://natureasart.myportfolio.com*.