MAIN GALLERY AUGUST 8 - OCTOBER 3, 2020
Rhapsody: The Urban Fantasy Paintings of Rob Mango

MEMBERS' OPENING RECEPTION
Hosts: Macadoodles Fine Wines and The Wild Flower
Friday, August 7, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Suggested Contribution for Non-Member Guests: $5

Rob Mango, as much an athlete as an artist, has explored New York City on foot since 1977 - its architecture and its denizens, its streets and its harbors providing the former track star with the inspiration for much of his highly individualistic work.

“If the artist is the representative idealist for our time, believing in ideas and manifesting expressions that are purer and more primal than the product of any other industry or milieu, then Rob Mango is one of the best versions of such a figure. His work is emboldened by the idealism associated with formalism, its relevant social conscience, and a measure of idiosyncrasy, all without equal.” –David Gibson Art Quips

Featured in this retrospective are a series of epic, large-scale paintings set in a fantastic New York, replete with the city's iconic architectural landmarks, but populated by gods, warriors, shamans, and other figures drawn from many epochs and cultures.

REGIONAL GALLERY AUGUST 8 - OCTOBER 10, 2020
Element 6 - Carbon, Drawing Life

OPENING RECEPTION
Friday, August 7, 5:30-7:30 PM
Artist Talk: Saturday, August 8, 11am-12pm

Element 6 features the work of three graphite and charcoal artists Chris Blackmon, Chelsie Murfee, and Kim Taggart. In their work, they pay homage to traditional studio skills but build upon them with their own innovative techniques. The exhibit explores fundamental drawing, with a slow and painstaking understanding of form, values, and light.

The sixth element, Carbon, is the element that binds us together, and carefully constructs life on the page through the delicate layering and blending of values.

Blackmon is a hyperrealism, charcoal pencil artist. He enjoys his art form (realism) because in the process of recreating an image on paper, he also experiences the thoughts and feelings experienced in the moment, while inspiring new ones as well in the viewer. Murfee's work explores the human connection, the story of life and love, through realism.

The process begins by capturing time, isolating the story hidden inside a second. The work deconstructs the moment, quietly understand it, and then gently maps the light cascading around each form.

Taggart has an enthusiasm for graphite medium above all. Her discoveries of new graphite tools led her to take pencil to a whole new level, defined as “Extreme Graphite.” She developed a technique of smooth, precisionist saturation of tones influenced by modern American artists from the late 1920s and 1930s.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the safety of our patrons and staff in the forefront, Spiva continues to be conservative in our reopening strategies and have decided that we will remain closed until further notice. The Board of Directors will reassess the reopening schedule in early June. Please know that we do not take this approach lightly, as it has impacted our afterschool programs, summer camps, opening receptions, and exhibits, all of which make Spiva such an integral part of our thriving arts community.

We ask that you please remember Spiva as you consider your charitable contributions. The postponement of the Friends of St. Avips 2020 Ball until September and reductions in grant revenue will have an impact on Spiva’s financials in the coming months. Spiva continues to seek alternative revenue sources to cover operations, but now, more than ever, your membership and Annual Fund donations are critical. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your ongoing support of Spiva Center for the Arts and hope to visit with you, in person, very soon.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Graddy
President, George A. Spiva Center for the Arts
Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Spiva misses you as much as we hope you miss Spiva! Joplin has certainly been through worse times, nine years ago this month to be exact, so we know that our community will pull through this, too. The Spiva staff and volunteers have been working hard to bring you online activities and updates to keep you creatively challenged and entertained. My favorite was the Masterpiece Recreations, but there are more to come! If you have any suggestions, please feel free to pass them along at spiva@spivaarts.org.

Art is healing, restorative, and allows us to share our experiences like no other outlet. Please join us in “Celebrating the Creative Experience” and stay in touch with Spiva’s current exhibits and art challenges on Facebook, Instagram and on our website (www.spivaarts.org).

Susan Adams
Interim Executive Director, George A. Spiva Center for the Arts

ELECTION FOR 2020 – 2023 BOARD MEMBERS

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors is pleased to present their recommendations for incoming board members. Enclosed in this newsletter you will find your ballot, to be returned by mail, no later than June 26, 2020. Spiva’s Board is an active “working” board, as evidenced by the participation of its members at opening receptions, committee work and other Spiva events. We are grateful that these outstanding community leaders have offered their valuable time and support to Spiva Center for the Arts.

Brandon Davis founded Davis CPA Group, LLC, in 2015, and is a past president of the Spiva Board of Directors. Brandon is a member of the AICPA and the MO Society of CPAs and a graduate of MSSU. He is actively involved in the community and serves as past-president of the Rotary Club of Joplin and past chair of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

Lynn Hempen is a past president of Spiva and served on the Joint Exec. Committee of the Harry M Cornell Arts & Entertainment Complex. She is a graduate of MSSU and retired from UMB as a senior vice president. Lynn is past chair of the Friends of St. Avips and involved is with many organizations, including: P.E.O. Chapter Fl, Wednesday Study Club, and the Joplin Schools Foundation Board.

The MISSION of Spiva is to CELEBRATE THE CREATIVE EXPERIENCE.

Our VISION is to be a community catalyst, joining culture, community, education, business, and the arts as one, endeavoring to be a model for art centers across the nation.
**STAYING HOME AND STAYING TOGETHER**

The word “community” has many meanings, but perhaps the most significant, the most important, is the feeling of fellowship with others; sharing common interests and goals. The quarantine we all faced (and some may be still facing) has no doubt been challenging, but it has also brought us together in some very beautiful ways.

Together with your help, Spiva has been able to keep that sense of community up front and center. With art challenges, videos with tips and tricks, artist interviews, and virtual exhibits, we have been able to stay connected. The Masterpiece Recreation Challenge had well over 30 entries and reached nearly 4,000 people!

Artist and instructor Sandra Conrad has devoted much of her time to creating videos of art how-to, tips, and tricks to keep the kids (and adults!) entertained at home. Spiva Administrator Jade Henning has been interviewing local artists via Zoom. This has been a wonderful way to support local artists in the community. Counselor Ann Leach brought together creatives to discuss how to reawaken creativity in this troubling time. And finally, the Education Committee continues to meet and discuss ways to safely bring you art education, including online summer camps!

Spiva has been and will continue to be your community art center. While this is an unprecedented time, we will continue to rise to the challenge and be the place you can come to for art, inspiration, and fun. We may need to stay home for now, but we can stay home, together.

**UPSTAIRS GALLERY** **JULY 1 – AUGUST 1**

**Angel Brame: Repurpose, Reengineer, Relocate**

Artist Angel Brame explains her upcoming exhibit in the Upstairs Gallery:

“The premise is to take regular objects, typically vintage, that have been tossed aside and have critters and ‘MacGyver’ them as a means of escaping their current habitats. As much as possible I make each piece from clay. I am predominately a wheel thrower and tend to start my planning processes in the round. I will add whatever is necessary to make the found object move, i.e. wheels, wings, turbos, propellers, etc.

I started with a goal of 26 pieces, each named or titled for every letter of the alphabet. This is a way to show progression from the first piece to the last. The project is a direct result of my 2017 challenge of creating one piece per day, every day, for one year. Some of the pieces from the 2017 challenge had legs, wheels, wings, etc. While that initial challenge revolved around functional pieces, the logical next step was to push those pieces in new directions on a bigger scale with less boundaries. The result is a series of sculptures inspired by teapots with wheels and oil cans with tentacles.”
HAVE YOU HEARD?
OUR EXHIBITS ARE EXTENDED!

Spiva Center for the Arts is temporarily closed, but we are optimistic about reopening soon! You can view PhotoSpiva 2020 and the Annual Small Works Auction on spivaarts.org now, but these exhibits will now remain in the galleries through mid-July. Hoping for the best, we have rescheduled the events celebrating these exhibits below:

PHOTO SPIVA 2020 WILL RUN THROUGH JULY 18TH
RECEPTION: FRIDAY, JULY 10TH, 5:30 – 7:00PM
PORTFOLIO REVIEWS: SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 10AM-3PM
JUROR’S LECTURE AND AWARDS: SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 7PM

ANNUAL SMALL WORKS AUCTION WILL RUN THROUGH JULY 10TH
CLOSING PARTY: FRIDAY, JULY 10TH, 5:30-7PM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS!