

H. Gay Allen

Combining Art Education, Professional Photography Experience and Computer Skills

Recently retired from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she worked as a Health Scientist, in computer sciences, Gay continues her artistic expression through digital photography using various tools for alteration. She majored in art at the University of Kentucky and later worked as a professional photographer for national and regional corporations. She was a photographer for Louisville Magazine, University of Louisville Health Sciences Center, Tulane University Medical Center, Louisville Chamber of Commerce, Kentucky Dance Council, Inc., Pan American Life Insurance Company and New Orleans Yacht Club and private clients; and was also a stringer for USA Today.

THE REFACIMENTO METHOD

By using digital photographic techniques and automated tools in new ways, I am exploring and refining new creative territory. The power of computers allows me to take risks; push the edge of current art forms, while maintaining the respect for the essence and guidelines of traditional photography and fine art.

I have dubbed the new art form “refacimento,” (pronounced ree-FATCH-i-men-toe.) The term was first used by William Safire, in *On Language*, NY Times Magazine, 02-15-09, and is defined as “the radical refashioning of a work of art, often by computer.”

First, I observe what is in the world and construct an original, objective photograph. Then, as an artist, I take the photographic image into my computer and hands and the subjective magic begins. Thus, by constructing a photograph, then deconstructing and reconstructing it using technology, I am enhancing the human experience of the objective scene and magnifying the natural art. The subjective enriches the objective. The camera and computer technology are my tools, much like the watercolors, or oils of the painter.

In this way, I draw the viewer into the new, imagined, mysterious and wonderful reconstructed images of life and evoke new and enjoyable responses and discoveries. Some works are recognizable as the original objects; some are mysteriously familiar, but not readily identifiable; some are more, but not totally, abstract; and others have been taken beyond recognizable images to the impressionistic or surreal.

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AWARDS AND HONORS

PERCEPTIVE CAT, Second Place, Dunwoody Fine Arts, Art To Inspire, 2011

ONYXEYE, Honorable Mention, June 2011, Atlanta Artists Center

MINGOLING, Honorable Mention, Cash Award, Atlanta Artists Center (AAC) Dogwood Show, judged by Alan Avery, Alan Avery Art Co., two images chosen, 2010

Juried into 2010 Worldwide MOCANET, a listing of digital artists who, through their worldwide presence on the internet, meet the worldwide standards of The Museum of Computer Art. This select group is chosen based on their artistry; innovation(s) in the use of digital technology; and their individual web presence.

SLURP ‘N POOF, Merit Award, First Annual Georgia Photography Show, juried, Gallery at Paper Mill Village, three images, 2010

SKELETONS, Honorable Mention, AAC Photographic Celebration, 2010, juried by Katheryn Kolb, Executive Director of Serenbe Photography Center

ALILI, Honorable Mention, AAC, Through the Looking Glass, judged by Tony Casadonte, Lumiere Gallery, three images chosen, 2009

FLAMBRIDGE4, Honorable Mention, Beyond Perception, AAC Regular Show, 2009

PEONYLIGHT, FIRST PLACE, AAC Juried Photography Show, Seeing the Light, 2008

DILLARDSUN, Award of Excellence (top 5% of thousands,) Photographer’s Forum Magazine 27th International Best of Photography Annual, 2007

SOLO SHOWS

One woman show, Mostly Black & White, Defoor Gallery, Atlanta GA, January through April, 2011

One woman show, Painterly Refacimento & Four Studies, Smyrna Library Gallery, Atlanta, GA, May-June, 2010

One woman Show SOLO REFACIMENTO, Sandy Springs Library Gallery, Atlanta, GA, July, 2009

One woman Show, Peri Gallery, to benefit Murphy Harpst Children's Centers, Inc., Atlanta, GA, 2007

SELECT JURIED SHOWS

MINGO PHANTOMS, In Your Dreams, Atlanta Photography Group, 2011

MINGO PHANTOMS, AAC Dogwood Show, 2011

Two images, AAC Winners Circle, 2011

FULLFACE MAG, AAC, A Thing Called Love, 2011

APINK, Rome Art Coterie National Show, 2011

ONYXEYE selected for the 2nd Anniversary Show at the Museum of Computer Art Gallery, New York, New York, 2010; Feature Page of Show Catalogue

BARN BONES and SEWANEE TURRET STAIRS, (BOTH SOLD), AAC Synchronicity Show, 2010

WIFF 'N PUFF, In Your Dreams, Atlanta Photography Group; judge, Mark Karelson, owner, Mason Muir Gallery, Atlanta, GA, 2010

YINSUNYANG, AAC Heart and Soul, February, 2010

WIFF 'N PUFF, AAC Winners Circle, 2010

AAC Georgia Perimeter College Show, three images, 2010

PEONY EMBRYON, Fay Gold Selects, Atlanta Photography Group Show, 2009

SIDELIGHT, Juried as Poster Image, AAC, Atlanta Celebrates Photography, Buckhead Library, 2009

Juried into the Museum of Computer Art as featured artist, 2009

Three images, The AAC Winners Circle, AAC, 2009

Four works selected by Alan Avery, Alan Avery Art Co., On The Edge, Atlanta Photography Group, 2008

TONSUN5, chosen as one of only 50, out of 1300, by George DeWolfe, Senior Editor for Camera Arts Magazine, The International Art of Digital Imagery, Center for Fine Art Photography, Denver, 2007

DESERTFIRE chosen for FIAT LUX, national show, Cade Fine Arts Center Gallery, Washington D.C., juried by Stephen Bennett Phillips, who curated the Sean Scully show at the Metropolitan Museum, New York, 2006

CALADIUMTEARS8, Hot Images That Sizzle, Atlanta Photography Group, judged by Laurie Kratochvil, former photographer for Rolling Stone, 2006

ONDENAGA chosen by American Juried Art Salon, and shown on the National Assoc. for Gallery Owners website

OTHER ENDEAVORS

Chairman of the Photography Salon, Atlanta Artists Center; member of Atlanta Photography Group and Southeastern Photography Society

Elected to Advisory Board, Museum of Computer Art, 2010

Three articles published in Museum of Computer Art Journal, 2009, 2010

Delivered digital art presentations to Atlanta Artists Center membership, Dunwoody Women's Club, and Dunwoody Fine Arts Association, the Rome (GA) Art Coterie; Kudze Art Zone, Norcross.

Photo feature, Journeys International Newsletter, 2006, Vol.14, No.2

American Mensa Magazine, two color covers, June, 1992; June, 1994

(more upon request)

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