

THE REGISTER CITIZEN

ARTISTS TO BRING COLOR TO LAKEVILLE'S WHITE GALLERY

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An exhibition of the works of two accomplished artists will be featured at The White Gallery in Lakeville, May 23 – June 28. Selected paintings from the studio of Ben Georgia will be displayed among the delicate glass creations from the workshop of glass artist, Martin Kremer.

Georgia, who has been painting full time since 1982, favors oils to create the abstracts inspired by his enthusiasm for life.

"I like spontaneity, color, and energy in a painting," Georgia said during a recent phone interview. "These things intersect on the canvas. I paint with a love of life and strong emotions, and the reward is when my paintings elicit emotion from others."



As an artist who studied and painted for years at various institutions, Georgia was exposed to many different styles used by artists to capture images and honor beauty. His approach to projects begins with observations that most of us overlook.

"The way I look at the world is different than the non-artist," Georgia explained. "I'm aware and attracted to subtle contrasts between images, and light that shines or fades on objects or off the ocean. Most other people walk the same path while thinking of other things, while I'm anxious to capture the emotion generated by these episodes on canvas."

Georgia's work has developed quite a following, and he frequently is questioned by patrons viewing his work. Some see camouflaged images within his patterns, and often ask the artist if a subliminal message has been uncovered, which is never the case.

"My paintings are an emotional statement," Georgia concluded. "A musician writes music and plays it, while the artist expresses his ideas in visual terms. I derive tremendous pleasure from the creation of my works."

Martin Kremer, whose glass creations will be represented by a sampling of ten vessels and sculptures, has concentrated on glass fusing techniques, rather than the familiar glass blowing process.



"Glass softens at 1000 degrees, and can be formed when it reaches 1200," Kremer said when reached by phone. "If I were blowing it into shapes the glass would be at a much higher temperature. I'm working at a range where the glass is just starting to move."

Some of kremer's works are recognizable shapes such as plates, laced with colorful strands arranged in intricate designs and patterns, melted within the glass. But many others are unique, delicate, folded panels, and brightly colored tubes. Working full time with an equally talented artist, Helena Van Nuys, Kremer supplies original art to galleries and offers selected pieces to customers of The Artful Home, a source for designers and discriminating collectors to purchase original designs.

"My work is influenced from many sources, including Native American fabrics, Italian masonry, and Japanese architecture," Kremer said. "Inspiration is the easy part. The hardest part is the art."

To transform an idea into a shape, Kremer often stacks glass pieces of different colors, textures, and qualities.

"There is a lot of "what if" in my process," Kremer explained. "I lay pieces in patterns on glass, fuse them, cut them, remelt and rearrange them. Until my vision is reached, the work continues."

Both artists plan to be at the White Gallery, 342 Main St., Lakeville, for the opening reception May 23, from 4 to 7 p.m.

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