

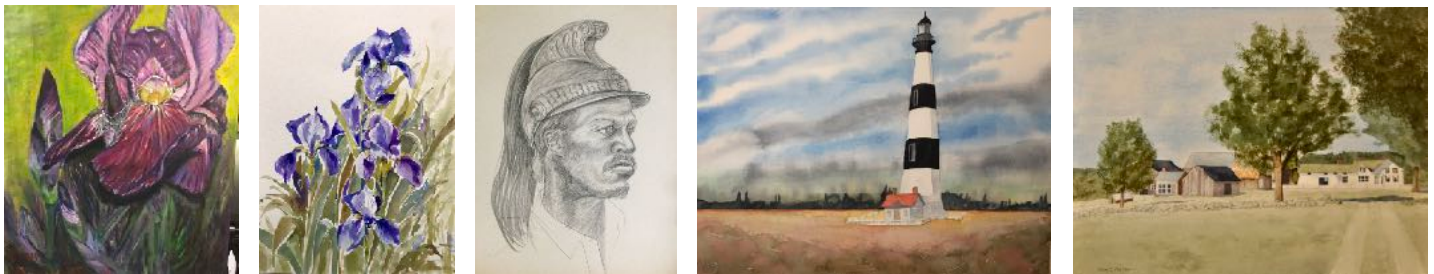
June 7, 2021 Meeting Members' Night Critique by Sharlene Green

The Members' Critique meeting, a very popular event, was held this June on Zoom. Members were asked to send one image for the critique, which was displayed on the screen for all to see. Our president, Lee Peters started the meeting with a tribute to all military veterans who served and are serving this country. It was in honor of both Memorial Day and D-Day. Lee then gave us an update on 'returning to normal' at the church in September, followed by a thank you to all who participated in the virtual spring art show and a reminder to renew membership. Laura Kidder gave a 10 minute update on the transformation of Shore Cultural Centre into an art alley. One last piece of business....the officers of the Euclid Art Association were sworn in for the new season. Our program director, Joan Milligan, introduced artist, Sharlene Green, who performed the evening's critique and was also the judge of our virtual spring show. We had 25 participants on Zoom and there were 20 pieces of art in the critique, including the Best of Show and 1st place winners from the virtual spring art show.



Sharlene explained the criteria she used to judge our spring show. Although challenging to judge a virtual show, she found it easier by moving the art by category to her desktop computer. She used the same criteria used at Tri-Coverall impact, visual Gestalt, the way the artist used the medium, composition & design, value development. "It is a game of subjectivity," she said.

Here are some quotes from Sharlene during her critique of our art (*not all images included*):



- Iris, by Annette F. - good composition, balanced and broad use of color. Sense of movement with repetition and use of diagonals. Suggested colors be repeated in other areas, called color relatedness or as Sharlene also called it....yin/yang.
- In Bernie's Iris watercolor - liked the way the white of the paper showed through, but thought it needed some color diversity between the flowers. Sharlene said that she taught watercolor for 20 years and likes to 'work from life'.
- Ellen's pencil portrait sketch was well drawn and used a broad range of values. The mouth was a 'little off'. Sharlene suggested drawing a line from the middle of the forehead, down the nose to the center of the lips. "Just push the mouth a little more."
- Joan's lighthouse watercolor - loved the sky and the use of wet into wet foreground.
- Kirk's watercolor was well drafted with the attention on the drawing. Sharlene liked the road in the foreground, leading out of the painting but suggested it be widened as it came forward. All the greens in the trees too similar, she suggested varying the color for more diversity.

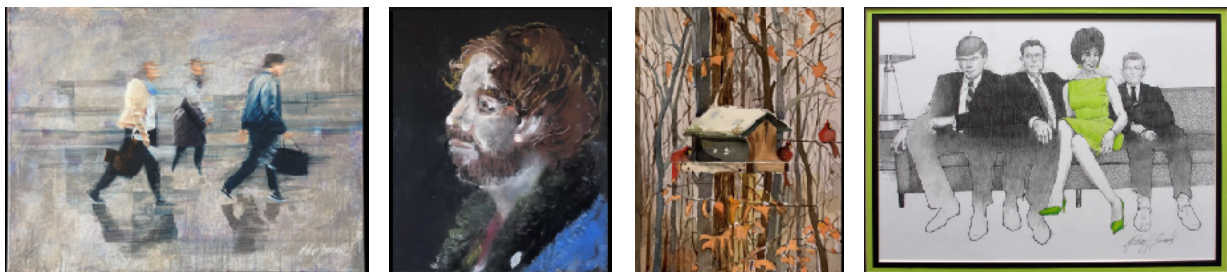


- For Rozenia’s semi-abstract acrylic painting, “Blue Jay”, Sharlene suggested adding some warmer, lighter blue in the background. Repeating colors throughout your composition helps balance your work.
- In Sandi’s Orkney Island watercolor, it was suggested to deepen the contrast in the foreground shapes.
- Sharlene challenged Lee to place ‘impasto’ within the center of his white iris photograph, i.e., the stamen area. *Impasto - paint that is applied to a canvas or panel in quantities that make it stand out from the surface. Impasto was used frequently to mimic the broken-textured quality of highlights, i.e., the surfaces of objects that are struck by an intense light.*
- In Suzette’s “Mushrooms in North Chagrin” acrylic flow painting, the compositions could be enhanced by a few larger mushrooms and by darkening some smaller ones in the background.

At this point Sharlene reviewed the virtual spring fine art show’s 1st place and Best of Show winners, She explained why she chose that piece of artwork for an award.



- Photography - *Webbing of Stones* by Beth Kulcsar: clarity of patterns, off center composition, impact of the image and contrasts of the grays.
- Mixed Media - *Autumn Leaves* by Sandi Richards Watercolor, Ink on Rice Paper: strong design and use of color, liked that the white of the paper showed through.
- Digital Art - *Roundabouts* by Lee Peters Frax Fractal Generator: she admitted not being that familiar with digital art, but she was attracted to the color and movement in this piece.



- Oil/Acrylic - *Ghosts in the Machine* by Michael Bacnik, Acrylic on Canvas: Yin/yang, predictable and unpredictable, liked the motion and the merging of abstraction & reality with one hand in

focus. Reminded her of artist, Isabel Bishop.... “After moving to Union Square in 1926, she became enamored of the area and its inhabitants. Shop girls, straphangers, laborers, and derelicts became her models as they traversed. By capturing their motions and gestures in prints, Bishop produced the walking figures for which she is best known.”

- Graphic Art - *I Wonder* by Bernadette Russ, Pastel: Expressive drawing, good composition.
- Watercolor - *First Snow* by Elias Traboulsi, Watercolor: Liked the spacial quality of the trees and the asymmetrical placements of the birds, even though the bird house was in the center.
- Best of Show - *Nuclear Family* by Michael Bacnik, Pencil: Liked the concept, craft and expression of it! Well drawn. Shows the irony and humor of the '60's. Liked the different textures, especially on the couch.

Sharlene loves teaching. She only teaches at Tri-C Western campus in Parma. Tri-C keeps her busy enough! If you live in Cuyahoga County and are over 60 years old, you can attend her classes 'free'. We thank Sharlene for one of the best critiques we've ever had. We picked up lots of good pointers that we can apply to our own art.