

Juror's Statement

It was a great pleasure to have been involved in the selection of this show. As an artist, I have spent much more time on the other end dealing with all of the forms and fees, sending work off to shows, the high of being selected and the frustration of getting a rejection letter in the mail. I send out 10-15 submissions a year and get acceptance letters for 2 or 3...and I feel pretty darn glad.

...and I know the comment that is consistently made concerning these group shows is how *uneven* the works selected appear....and I suspected that the reasons why were the exact same reasons I, myself ran into for my one day trip to UCA from Houston.

Selecting a show from several different artists is not an easy task.

The work was all over the place and with varying levels of craftsmanship and experimentation. I told myself that I was going to base my choices on these things primarily...but I admit some of the work just made me smile. There was a refreshing amount of experimentation with materials and innovations in displaying the work...I found myself sitting on the floor a lot just staring at the sheer output. How we did it in half a day, I will never know. The level of work for this size of an institution was quite impressive, to say the least, and even though some did not get some or all of their work submitted into the exhibition, it was the collective look of the show that I was trying to preserve....and I think I hit on everything that needed to be addressed to make an *even* show.

Out of 240 pieces submitted, 68 were selected...and let it be known, some exceptional pieces did not get included this round. Keep trying...it is part of the beast.

But....someone is going to be mad...someone always is....and I am sorry for that but do not take this to heart as it is part of the process. Failure lifts us up and makes try harder next time...I was once told I shouldn't paint people because I don't do it very well....and I didn't really.

I do now.

And I would like to express the utmost congratulations to those who received awards. Your work transcended the fray.

Good job. Good job indeed.

With the utmost sincerity,

-douglas cason