

or by appt. Contact: 336/407-5494 or e-mail at (peeps321@earthlink.net).

Urban Artware, 207 W. 6th St., Winston-Salem. **Ongoing** - Featuring an art gallery/retail shop providing an eclectic ensemble of one-of-a-kind art, trinkets, and treasures. Featuring works by local and regional artists sharing their unique visions through paintings, metalwork, glass, woodwork, wearable art, and just about anything else imaginable! Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm or by appt. Contact: 336/722-2345 or at (www.urbanartware.com).

Village Smith Galleries/VSG Fine Arts, 119 Reynolda Village, near Reynolda House Museum of Art, Winston-Salem. **Ongoing** - American and European watercolors, oils, antique engravings and contemporary works by Gorg, McKnight, Boulanger, Alvar, Nicole Monteran, Stephen White and other gallery artists. National and regional crafts are represented in the fields of ceramic and glass. Hours: Mon.-Sat.,

10am-5pm. Contact: 336/723-3653.

Warm Glass Elements Gallery and Studio, 2575 Old Glory Rd., Suite 700, Interstate 40 Exit 184, Clemmons. **Ongoing** - Our gallery features kiln-formed glass and paintings from internationally known artists, including: Ellen Abbott/Marc Leva, Brian and Jenny Blanthorn, Carol Carson, Martin Kremer, Jane Raissle, Johnathon Schmuck, Delores Taylor, Milon Townsend, Els VandenEnde, Jody Danner Walker, and Bill Zweifel. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm and by appt. Contact: call Brad or Jody Walker at 336/712 8003 or at (www.warmglasselements.com).

Winterfire Craft Gallery, 145 Stratford Road, Winston-Salem. **Ongoing** - Featuring pottery by Hank Goodman as well as hand-crafted jewelry, metal sculpture, hand-thrown pottery, art glass, and calligraphy prints. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm & Sun., 11am-5pm. Contact: 336/748-0145 or at (www.winterfiregallery.com).

Editorial Commentary

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by Dee Schenck Rhodes.



Work by Dee Schenck Rhodes

I'm not sure what good this is, as it is not the final image of what the "official" poster will look like, but I guess it shows the artwork in its "pure" state before all the festival info is placed over it.

I'm sure that by our next issue we'll have full details of the who, what, where and when on the "official" festival visual art offerings - just in time to enjoy some for the few days they'll be up in June. If some of these folks didn't know from past experience that they need to get the word out on their own - if they want it to get out at all - we wouldn't have any info about exhibits taking place during this festival.

No matter, a few are by some of the same favorites of the City of Charleston's Office of Cultural Affairs who seem to be offered - every other year or so. Sometimes I think the OCA is stuck in loop mode as far as the visual arts go. Somewhere in the vast bureaucracy of the City of Charleston there must be an art czar

who has a short list of politically acceptable visual artists.

It would be nice to have political-free arts agencies, but we all know in this age - all things are political.

The Numbers Game

The more I try and follow the numbers related to our new online newspaper the more confusing it gets. Frankly it defies logic.

In April, we had a dramatic drop off in downloads, almost 15,000 less than the month before - yet, and this should be a big YET - there were over 10,000 downloads of previous months' issues. At times more people were downloading our March and February issues than were downloading the April issue.

Just when you think you see a trend, it blows up in your face. I really thought the numbers were going to exceed March - which was 45,000+, as on April 1st, 15,000 downloads took place - almost 5,000 more than the first day of the previous month.

The only conclusion I can make, and this is nothing ground breaking, is that content matters. Duh! There is something in that March issue that is getting a lot of people's attention. I'm not sure what.

It's like with the blogs - one day I can write something which I think is pretty interesting, and it gets normal traffic. On another day, I post an entry which is no revelation - and boom - it's a skyrocket in the rankings. Go figure.

I keep telling myself - Tom, it's only been four months, (although it feels like a lifetime), you'll know more in a year. At this point we're averaging about 30,000 downloads a month and that's three times what our publication number was - 10,000 copies.

So, I think we're doing OK.