

# Editorial **COMMENTARY**

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

## The Art Books Just Keep on Coming

It seems that since the first of the year a book has arrived for us to review every month. I like to think of it more as a preview. I don't really have the time to complete each monthly issue and read a book and do an actual review, but we still call it a review, as that's what the publishers and authors want.

This month we got a major one with *Alice: Alice Ravenel Huger Smith, Charleston Renaissance Artist*, written by Dwight McInvaill with Carolina Palmer & Anne Tinker. The book is under Copyright © 2021 by the Middleton Place Foundation, and was published by Evening Post Books, Charleston, SC, 2021.

It's a beautiful book, what you might call a "Table Top" book, but it's much more than that. With over 200 illustrations of artwork, photographs and other materials, it gives you a slice of what Charleston was like at the turn of the century, through the mid-century. Not a total look at Charleston - a view of the upper class and art community, but still, that's what a lot of Charleston is all about. History is history, no matter who it's about and this story is pretty interesting - if you're into the arts. Having spent more than 34 years involved in Charleston's visual art community, I found it very interesting. And, I think you will too. I'm offering just a tiny bit of what this book has to offer in our preview, but you'll see that when you get your own copy.

## A Freudian Slip or Just Wishful Thinking?

Last month when adding a new listing for Tapp's Outpost in Columbia, SC, I typed in Tapp's Potpost. That had to be a mental slip from the late 1960s. Of course I'm sure a lot of folks would like to see a marijuana

outpost in Columbia, but based on how long it took SC to do away from mini bottles and a ban on drinking in public on Sundays, we may never see that in my lifetime. In a state that excels at being at the top of any list of bad things, we always seem to be the last to adopt anything progressive.

And speaking of Tapp's, I knew they had to close the original location on Main Street, but no one bothered to tell me they re-opened. And, when your profile is so low it takes years for someone to send me a notice of some activity - I hope it doesn't take another couple of years to hear from them again, about an exhibit.

Look folks, I don't have time to look for new galleries or exhibits to add each month. If you don't send us your info, that's your problem. And, if you fall into the category of, "I never heard of *Carolina Arts*." That's another problem you have altogether. Know the community you want to be part of - no gallery is an island.

## Art Festivals Are Taking Place Again

Most of the art festivals we missed in 2020 are starting to return - even if only in some limited capacity. Something is better than nothing. Some folks are a little slow on the PR end of things. That's what happens when some people get out of their rhythm. It's amazing how in one year people forgot how to do something they've been doing for years. It's just another side effect of the Pandemic.

## Third Timer

Unlike *Saturday Night Live*, we don't have a five timer club for the artists who have work featured on our covers, but this will be Brian Rutenberg's third time - more than anyone else. We just love his work.

Don't forget about our website:  
[www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)



You can find [past issues](#) all the way back to August 2004!

You can find [past articles](#) all the way back to June 1999

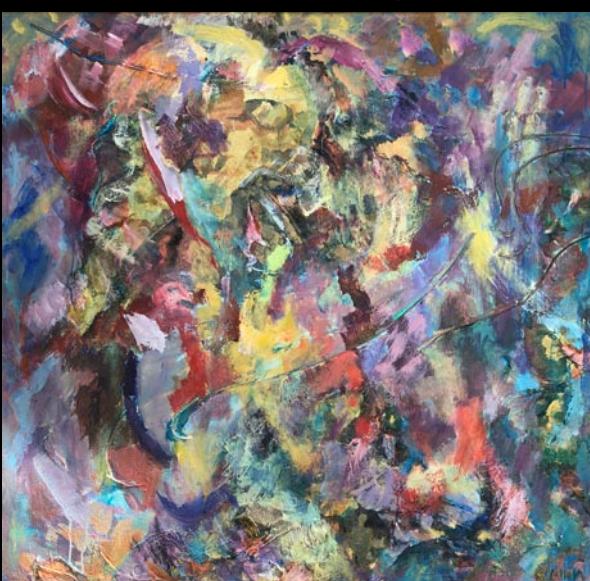
Also don't forget about our two blogs:  
[Carolina Arts Unleashed](#)

[Carolina Arts News](#)

Send us your email address to be added to our list to receive notice of each monthly issue.

[info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)

## Halsey - McCallum Studio William Halsey & Corrie McCallum



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Duo by William Halsey, oil on paper, 11 x 15 inches

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