



It's November and time to give thanks. I am thankful for all our members who have stuck with us during COVID. I am thankful to the wonderful board members who give of their time to make this group work. And I am thankful for creativity that makes this world a beautiful place.



We are going to have our first in person league meeting on Saturday December 11 at 10 AM. It will be held at the Greenfield Glen Community Center -1021 South Greenfield Road. Celebrating the holidays. Bring food

to share, and white elephant to trade. Looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces.

We will also be promoting Art Sunday on November 28, 10 to 4. If you are interested in joining us and are a member, send me a note. We will have tables outside and in the back room. Space is free, and there will be a 5% fee per sales. Vivian is creating some marketing material. Thank you Vivian.

As a reminder, please send in your membership renewal. I want to thank Sharon Corrigan for the great job she has done the past years. She is turning the task over to John Chris Brewer.

Keep on Creating and we'll see you in December.
- Lorelee

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Your Membership Dues and Renewals enable us to meet our goals and help continue to make this organization interesting and vital.

Individual 12 Month Membership: \$35.00

Couple's 12 Month Membership: \$50.00

Sponsor a Veteran for \$35

Donation to the League: any amount is gratefully accepted.

Mail checks to:

Mesa Art League P.O. Box 7733 Mesa, AZ 85216US

We are a Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization

Your donations are Tax Deductible

Thank you for your generosity!

Make your secure payment through PayPal

Benefits of Membership Include

- Artwork of the Month Contests
- Critique Discussions
- Hanging Art in MAL Shows, Venues, Exhibits, Events and Displays
- Selling Art through MAL Website Store
- Voting
- Holding an Office
- Listed on the MAL Website

MESA ART LEAGUE - BOARD MEMBERS

President
Loralee Stickel-Harris

Vice President
This could be **YOU**

Treasurer
Linda Jones

Secretary
Brenda Jackson

DIRECTORS

Hospitality - Kathleen Cochran
Membership - Sharon Corrigan
Historian - Suzanne Leslie
Festival of Arts - John Brewer

Publicity - Vivian Stearns-Foster
Artwork of the Month - Elizabeth Scriba
Member Scholarship - Linda Allen
AZ Art Alliance Rep - Sheryl Stradling

Newsletter - Karen Beasley
Demos - **NEEDED!!!!!!!**
Art Shows - **NEEDED!!!!**
Ad Rep - Diane LenayBlack

MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT – NOVEMBER, 2021 – MEET MICHAEL FARMER



In his youth Michael was exposed to the surrealist painters Rene Magritte and Salvador Dali on a trip to the National Gallery in Washington D.C. He instantly fell in love. The imagery was so unusual, so powerful. He got a calendar of each artist in the gallery gift shop. From that point forward Michael collected every poster and book of the surrealists he could. When he picked up painting he knew he wanted to make artwork like the ones he had seen on that museum trip so long ago.

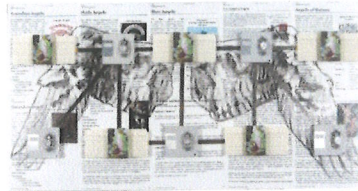
For Michael's 19th birthday his father gave him \$100 and he went to the local art store and purchased everything he would need to teach himself oil painting. Using mostly what he remembered from years of watching Bob Ross on public television, and with some tips from beginning oil painting books Michael started his career in Art. He painted on and off while working full time in Customer Relations.



abstraction.

As Michael continued to paint he became interested in the Renaissance master Caravaggio. This led him to books describing the techniques of the Old Masters of western art. He adapted techniques he learned to the surrealist method of automatic painting. Michael would take dark earth tones in a thin wash and sketch intuitively on the blank canvas without a preconceived composition. He would then hone and develop these into shapes and figures, building dimensionality and volume. The results were paintings that existed somewhere between surrealism and

At a pivotal moment in 2015 Michael decided that it was time to devote more time and energy into his art so he went back to school. While pursuing a teaching certification in Art, he continues to paint in both abstraction and representational work. Since that point he has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions, garnering several jurors' awards and entering into private collections in Phoenix, New York, Connecticut, and Ireland.



His most recent work is a departure from his traditional oil painting. After an inspirational moment, Michael had a concept for a series of assemblage artworks. Michael's current series of artworks focus on the intersection of society and technology.

He uses a background collage of printed Wikipedia articles that relate to the theme of the work.

I add to that black acrylic paint reminiscent of the screen printing of the 1960's for a focal point of the work. Then, in a carefully conceived schematic, evocative of a circuit diagram I add gold tape and paint, vacuum tubes, computer punch cards, circuit boards, religious medals, crucifixes, and a variety of symbolic objects that relate to the specific subject of the individual artwork. The ideological motifs that motivate each artwork spring from his personal history and tie into larger cultural concerns.



Growing up Michael's father was a mathematician who was involved in computers and coding before the rise of personal computing in the 1980's. As a child Michael was always surrounded and influenced by his father's obsession with computers, science, and logic. Michael

was raised to have a respect and understanding for these topics, though my interests and aptitudes lay elsewhere. As the years progressed, he saw the rise of technology from a new convenience to a pervasive, supremely powerful force in everyday life and the economy.



This art series explores his perceptions of the spiritual and economic impact the digital revolution has on humanity. Through these artworks he views our emerging technocracy through a critical lens of philosophy and inequality.

My website is www.michaelfarmerart.com to view current and past works.

Opportunities to show your stuff

- ART Sunday - November 28 - downtown Mesa

MALcallzartists@gmail.com

We want YOU to demo your special art technique or art history lesson on Zoom for our Mesa Art League members!

Compensation is \$100. for 30 – 60 minutes demo!
PLUS You will receive the demo video which you can use on your social media and website.

Our Members are a diverse group of Artists.

They range from professionals to amateurs, art teachers to beginners.

Our members create 2 dimensional art,

as well as, 3 dimensional art, with media ranging from oil to inks, glass to jewelry, ceramic to porcelain, metal art and so much more!

Mesa Art League Meets Tuesday November 9th, 2021 at 6:00PM

Stay on top of League news & updates!

Currently, Zoom is still our format.
Join in at 5:30 to catch up with everyone!
Contact us at MesaArtOnline@gmail.com
for Zoom Invitation.



Our own **Kathy McClure** will be our featured guest, sharing a part of her Marketing Class presentation.



Demo Materials for Tuesday November 9th Zoom Meeting

To the right, you see two images one is a photo and one is a painting. You also received a set of questions earlier by email. **Kathy McClure** will lead a discussion based on these questions. This is a part of her Marketing Class. You can apply these questions to your own work



Picture/Artwork Title: _____

Rate the piece of art on a 0-5 scale where 0= "Gosh that's awful" and 5 = "Should be in el Prado."

1. Does this piece have an impact? Does it go beyond the ordinary? Does it ask that you look at it more closely? Is it tentative? Bold? Is it sloppy? Or neat?
2. Does it show imagination? Express emotion? A unique reaction to life or art or surroundings?
3. Has the artist arrived at a distinctive style, or is s/he copying an instructor or a learned style?
4. Does the piece show a grasp of the elements of art and design, line, values, perspective, texture, color, rhythm, light, composition, etc?

5. Is there harmony in

the colors; balance between them?

Does the color capture light? Is it predominantly warm or cool or sort of blah in between? Are the colors fresh?

6. Does the artist show a mastery of the chosen medium? Are the brushstrokes even and expressive? Are the lines of the 3D piece even and neat?

9. Does the artist show good drawing ability? Are objects rendered correctly and in correct perspective? Or is there an artistic incorrect rendering that is pleasing? Is the 3-D piece correctly proportioned and with a pleasing perspective? Are the various parts complimentary or do they overpower one another?

8. How is it presented? Is it ready to hang, or do I need to reframe it? Does the framing "fit" the image? Does the framing go with your décor?

9. Would you buy it? Would you display it in your living room? In your bathroom? Would you wear it?

Total Score: (Maximum 45 points) _____

The ARTISTS OF THE MONTH for October And November will be published next month.

VOTE FOR ARTWORK OF November
Deadline to vote is 6pm Monday 8 Nov
Send an email to MALArtMonthly@gmail.com
List your choice in the subject line

