



# Northwest Collage Society Fall 2012 Juried Exhibit at The Burnley Gallery of The Art Institute of Seattle

## Juror's Statement:

From its early beginnings in the mid 1980's, I have watched NWCS grow and expand into a diverse, multi-faceted group of artists over the last couple of decades. It was an honor to be asked to jury the annual exhibition in this centenary year of collage as fine art. Thank you for entrusting me with this privilege and responsibility. As a juror, it's always exciting to see new work and to give well earned credit to my creative colleagues. ~ Michele Cooper



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*Juror's Statement continued:*

## How do I approach my assignment?

For this competition I went through the slides six times—twice for an overview, a third time to make an initial selection, and a fourth to select the forty eight entries that I thought deserved inclusion. Next, I reviewed the selected work to see if all the pieces fit together as a whole. Finally, I cross checked the images to make sure the artwork chosen corresponded with the titles.

## What qualities do I seek as I look at the work?

**Competence** - Each piece chosen for the show exhibited a degree of technical competence with the chosen medium

**Composition** - Authoritative use of the principles and elements of design, yet individually expressive

**Content** - Meaningful, thought provoking or mentally challenging message

The Northwest Collage Society provides an important service in promoting cultural activities for the Pacific NW region. I was impressed with the wide range of collage media and technique as well as the fresh, contemporary viewpoints this group relayed. It was a pleasure to work with Show Coordinators, Gail Larson and Teresa Ettel, Treasurer, Meg Gray who facilitated the digital entries and correspondence, and the president, Suzy Kueckelhan during the awards selection. Their planning and organization made my job much easier.

## Michele Cooper

Marysville, WA  
October 1, 2012

## Comments on the Awards

**Juror's Choice:** *The Reluctant Princess* by Judith M. Sander — This work gives the viewer a lot to think about. The title, color choices, intricate composition and patterns, facial expressions and symbolic imagery come together in a provocative narrative. The smallest details, like the button in the lower left corner, invite the viewer's thoughtful consideration.

**Peggy Tuttle Memorial Award:** *Marigold Sky* by Donna Jean Perry — An example of perfect balance, the composition effortlessly pulls the eye around the design. Nothing essential is left out, while nothing superfluous is allowed to distract. I truly appreciated the elegant line intersected by the small square at the top, like the final, single note at the end of a piano solo.

**Eleanor Wolters Smith Memorial Award:** *Maiko 4* by Teresa Ettel — This piece brings to mind a combination of grace, empathy and perhaps bittersweet memories, a culmination of the life one might imagine for Maiko. The layers of colors, shapes, writing and pattern seem to enfold all her experiences in a wonderfully cohesive design.

**NW Collage Society Award:** *Another Canal View* by Susan K Miller — More than just another canal view, this piece brings the past into the present, combining the subject with the comprehensive use of multiple collage techniques and materials. With all its textures, surfaces and applications, it still holds together beautifully as an extremely solid composition.

## Honorable Mentions:

*Cape Arago, South Side* by Pat Snyder — My attention was arrested by this "painterly" combination of color, shape and collage. It exhibits a three dimensional encyclopedia of textures and edges, skillfully woven and exposed.

*The Seer* by Anne La Fever — Tensely connecting a minimum of well chosen images, the artist links the past, present and future. This work generates a fertile field of thought-provoking conjecture and a precarious balance between art and life.

*Subtle Symphony* by Roxanne Tiernan — A beautiful rhythm is created by the undulating sequence of textures, colors and forms. We are led through an adept progression of steps in this design.

*The Gathering* by Chris Romine — The thick, hazily obscured layers of this piece delve into the nebulous images of memory and dreams. It encourages one to go deeper into the meaning of its symbols, perhaps uncovering a personal context.

