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TMI Arts Page

“Eye of the Beholder” opens at Lakeville’s Gallery Arts Guild

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Work by Vivian Altman.

The Gallery Arts Guild is presenting Eye of the Beholder, an exhibition by three artists who create abstract paintings in vibrant colors.

Vivian Altman says her work “contains many elements similar to the abstract expressionists, a creative struggle between motion and energy.” She uses a variety of media in several markedly different styles. “Lace,” an early work, comprises complex geometric swatches of fabric in a quiltlike medley of brilliant colors. Altman has painted prints, voiles, trimmings and, of course, lace, inspired by a friend’s sewing group. Another appealing work is quite different, being more restrained than the exuberant “Lace.” Its large sculptural forms in muted shades of apricot and ocher, with accents of dark blue and acid green, are assembled to create what seems to be a piece of architecture.

I also liked Altman’s pair of small abstract oils entitled “Cool Circles” and “Warm Circles.” In the former, concentric circles of fine lines in shades of rose, lavender and blue are arranged against a background of vivid blue. “Warm Circles” is somewhat more complex. Two circles on a vivid pink ground are bisected by an apricot triangle. Dragged across the top of the painting, perhaps with a large comb, are a series of wavy lines that extend into a corner of steel blue.

Collin Culbreth’s work is also characterized by the use of joyful colors. On the left of one painting, black and yellow circles and squares upon a vivid orange ground suggest a face with large, round eyes. On the right are scattered smaller smudgy dark-blue forms. I liked Culbreth’s four small paintings of “robots,” creatures outlined in blue against backgrounds of swirling red and yellow. They, too, have large, round eyes. Perhaps they are robots. Perhaps they are visitors from outer space.

About the Author



Carola Lott Carola Lott, managing editor, has lived here in Millbrook for the past 30 years. She has worked as a freelance writer and photographer for a number of magazines. Working at The Millbrook Independent has given her the chance to meet new people and broaden her horizons. She feels that the best thing about Millbrook is the beautiful countryside that remains miraculously unspoiled. She can be reached at carolalott@gmail.com.