

King George Art Guild 2010 Biennial

Rob McAdams
Judges Comments

When perusing the incredibly diverse and extensive collection of works that made up the 2010 Biennial I applied two words or questions to each piece. Is it interesting and is it quality work? For the sake of full disclosure my personal aesthetic aligns with the bright colors, shiny things and clever camps.

The context of this show adds to the experience in a very positive way. Driving through the countryside to an old school building to be met with such a rich exhibition of varied styles and mediums was incredible. Seeing references to work by artists such as Joseph Cornell, Modigliani, David Reed, and Odd Nerdrum was also a refreshing surprise. The quality of all mediums was very well conveyed from Wilkinson's "The Privilege of a Lifetime" assemblage to McCown's fabric piece "Ancient Light" and Daniel Christie's ceramic "Teapot with Cups".

As much as I appreciate a clever sense of humor and whimsical work the Best in Show piece offered a very different place to spend some time. Patte Ormsby's *Shelter From the Storm* was successful on many levels. Her compositional choices made using simple geometric shapes to create a depth and energy was remarkable. The color choices and of course the shiny gold leafing also captured and held my attention as I worked through and across the picture plane. I find that quality is usually related to the number of choices an artist makes and that all those choices should point to the main idea or feeling of a work. The shifting scales, colors and application of the paint created a painting that echoed the overall feeling of the show a rich and varied, quality exhibition.