



■ Art Calendar

September 19

Art Discussion with Donald Sunshine  
The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 5:30–6:30 p.m.

This discussion is offered as part of the Social Commentary exhibit, where 25 of Sunshine's works are on display. His work pointedly addresses relevant contemporary concerns such as immigration, poverty, the environment, and race relations. Light refreshments will be served.

September 20–23

Backyard Stone Carvers' Workshop  
Newport Community Center

Beginning and experienced sculptors will want to carve some time for this workshop! For more information, contact lcorrell83@gmail.com.

September 21

Gallery Reception – Carole Carrera Davis  
Glade Church, Blacksburg • 5:30–7 p.m.

This opening reception for "Blacksburg in Bloom" honors the work of Blacksburg's employees. It features a variety of large watercolors inspired by the flower beds and hanging baskets that beautify Blacksburg's roadways each summer.

September 26

Artist Talk – Gerri Young  
Hahn Horticulture Garden Pavilion, Virginia Tech campus • Noon–1 p.m.

Come hear Gerri Young as she discusses her solo exhibition in the garden pavilion. Works will be displayed through October.

September 26

Art Talk with Felta Virginia  
The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Felta Virginia's work in the the Social Commentary exhibit is from her Disparity Series that illustrates and satirically comments upon several issues in today's world from wealth and poverty to gun violence and sex trafficking. Light refreshments will be served.

September 30 and October 14

Figure Drawing  
The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 6–8 p.m.

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Jordi Calvera — A lifetime of artworks comes on the market

By Gerri Young

The road from Jordi Calvera's birthplace in Barcelona, Spain, to Blacksburg was filled with chance and challenges.

He was a child in war torn Spain, worked in a textile factory at age 12, and started painting using a cheap box of paints from his uncle. By age 27, Jordi moved to Venezuela in 1955 for a better life. There, he worked jobs from floor sweeper to lamp designer to graphic design for labels and book covers.

He met his future wife, Elizabeth, in 1964. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, Elizabeth was on an 18-month assignment to do community development work with a privately funded organization in the Venezuelan slums. By chance, she was housed in the same boarding house in which Jordi lived.

Though he did not like her at first, they later married and moved in 1979 to Blacksburg. "I spoke fluent Spanish and really liked big city living in South America," recalls Elizabeth, known as Libby among her friends. "A friend doing graduate work at Virginia Tech told me about Blacksburg. I knew Jordi wanted someplace small and peaceful to live, so in 1977 we headed there to see."

"Our first day driving down I-81, Jordi declared, 'This is where I want to die!' He had not even seen Blacksburg yet!" Thirty-nine years later, Oct. 24, 2016, he got his wish.

During their years together in the Hethwood section of Blacksburg, they enjoyed a cozy townhouse.

Libby worked at Virginia Tech for 33 years as a Spanish instructor and Jordi painted landscapes, mostly of his beautiful Virginia.

His serious painting career had begun years before. "During a down time for Jordi in Venezuela, I challenged him to stay home and paint for a year," said Libby. "I thought he needed to find his style, to prove he could really be a painter. He was in his mid 40's and, in one year, had several shows, sold many paintings and discovered this was what he was meant to do." For Jordi "painting was like breathing. It is necessary for my life," he once said.

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Jordi Calvera poses with his paintings in this 2013 photo. More than 200 of his works will be offered at a public sale on October 23–24.

Gerri Young

■ **Calendar** *continued from page 1*

The model, easels and drawing boards are provided and the cost is \$10. Reserve your spot online by the Friday before each session at <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events>.

**October 5**

**Art Walk**  
*Downtown Blacksburg • 5–7 p.m.*

Rain or shine, stroll through an evening of art in downtown Blacksburg. A variety of businesses will participate in this free art walk. To get started, make the Community Arts Information Office on College Avenue your first stop.

**October 10 and November 7**

**Paint Parties**  
*The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 7–9:30 p.m.*

Participants will paint in the style of Paul Cezanne on October 10. The November 7 party will feature the style of Claude Monet. The cost is \$30 per person per session and includes all supplies (wine extra). Register at <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events> or call 540-443-9350, ext. 707.

**October 12 and November 9**

**BRAA Monthly Lunch and Art Spot**  
*Bull and Bones, First and Main, Blacksburg • 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.*

Join your fellow members for lunch, hear the featured speaker's Art Spot, and share news about the latest art happenings. The October speaker will be oil painter Phil Ramsey.

**October 23–24**

**Jordi Calvera Art Sale**  
*German Club Ballroom, 711 Southgate Drive, Blacksburg • 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.*

This public sale offers the entire collection of the late artist and BRAA member, Jordi Calvera. Don't miss this opportunity to purchase an original work by this beloved artist. For more information, see the article in this issue or visit [www.blacksburgart.org](http://www.blacksburgart.org).

**November 9–11**

**Art of the Carolinas**  
*Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown (3415 Wake Forest Road Raleigh, North Carolina)*

This annual event draws enthusiasts from across the country. Workshops begin on November 8. Free admission and parking for the expo, which features product demonstrations and free samples. Search Art of the Carolinas for the schedule of events and more information.

**November 10**

**Studio School Art Blast**  
*Towers Shopping Center • 1–5 p.m.*

Portfolio art and small works will be offered for sale by 40 artists, many Studio School members.

**Jordi Calvera** *continued from page 1*

Libby challenged Jordi yet again when he wanted to live in Blacksburg. She had no intention of moving to the U.S. so challenged Jordi to live in Blacksburg for one year alone to see if he could make it. Jordi succeeded despite speaking no English and having never seen snow. In 1980, Libby joined him in the townhouse she still calls home. While Libby left for work each day, Jordi painted.

Nearly every room of their home soon was filled with his masterpieces. His love for the area showed through locations like the Cascades waterfall, the Riner buffalo farm, the New River, and many of the charming farms around the area. While landscapes of Virginia dominate his collection, other paintings feature Venezuela, Spain and New Mexico. Abstracts, still life and mystical scenes fill out the space.

When the walls were full, the paintings were cataloged and stored. Boxes and boxes of them. Meticulously, Jordi wrote the particulars of each painting on the back of the canvases. He framed many of them and did occasional shows, but was easily discouraged when it came to the business of selling them. He just wanted to paint.

After his unexpected death in 2016, Libby was faced with what to do with over 200 oil paintings. First, she had to deal with the personal loss before she could decide what to do about them. She took it slowly. She gave Jordi's hand-built easel to a good artist friend and contacted that friend for guidance.

This year, on Oct. 23-24, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., the entire collection will be offered for public sale in the German Club ballroom at 711 Southgate Drive, Blacksburg. All paintings will be offered at 50 cents per square inch, framed or unframed. The largest piece in the collection is \$600 and the smallest \$40. The most plentiful size is 16x20 at \$140. All interested parties are welcome. Cash, check and credit card will be accepted. More information and samples of his work can be found at [www.blacksburgart.org](http://www.blacksburgart.org).

Jordi was a member of BRAA for years. Libby continued the membership and will donate part of the proceeds to our organization. Fellow artists and friends who knew Jordi will work the sale from beginning to end. ■

**Highlights from the Best of Yupo Workshop**

Experiments with color and texture produced many stunning results during this Sept. 5–9 BRAA-sponsored workshop. Works were created on YUPO, a water-proof synthetic paper.

The workshop was held at the Warm Hearth Village Center and was led by Sandy Maudlin (upper right).



Gerrit Young



Riley Chan



## ■ Kudos



photo provided by WWS

Congratulations to **Vera Dickerson** (above, right) whose work, "My Lovely Parrot Head," won Best in Show at the Virginia Watercolor Society's 2019 annual juried exhibition. **Kathleen Conover** (left) was the juror and judge for the show.

Other BRAA members selected for the show were **Pat Bevan, Carole Davis, Sidra Kaluszka, Ruth Lefko, Betty Moore, Michele Walter** and **Gerri Young**.

## Few spots remain for Cuba trip

Join your fellow BRAA members for this customized, art-focused trip coordinated by Joseph Scarpaci, Ph.D., Center for Cuban Culture + Economy at Virginia Tech. Scarpaci has led nearly 90 such adventures for a myriad of groups, including private families. He has written five books on Cuba and 50 scholarly articles.

The BRAA trip is set for April 26 – May 3, 2019, departing from and returning to Charlotte-Dougllass International Airport direct to Havana. For personal service and ease of travel, the BRAA group will consist of only nine travelers plus Scarpaci as our interpretive guide and embedded scholar.

Accommodations will be provided in privately-owned B+Bs, giving travelers an opportunity to have closer contact with Cuban citizens. All B+Bs have been used by Scarpaci on previous trips. He will drive a passenger van for ground transportation. Some meals will be provided, some on your own. Free time to wander in Havana will be on the schedule.

A "Cuba Trip" tab has been set on [www.blacksburgart.org](http://www.blacksburgart.org). Please visit the page for full information on cost, registration, visa requirements and more. A \$500 deposit by **October 1** will hold your space. The first half payment is due November 1 and final payment will be due January 1, 2019. Open to all artists/art supporters. BRAA membership not required.

## Free art books online!

Getty Publications has their own virtual library where you can check out more than 250 art books from their archives. The library not only includes exhibition catalogs from the Getty museum, but conservation texts and scholarly writings from the Getty Conservation and Getty Research Institutes. For more information, visit:

<https://americanwatercolor.net/did-you-know-about-these-free-art-books-online/>

## 2018 Holiday Market

by Carole Davis

Since all the local stores have Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations on display, it must be time to begin making plans for the our 2018 Holiday Market at the Community Arts Information Office (CAIO).

Most of you are already aware that this will be a two-month event this year. By opening in November, we hope to attract the "early" shoppers and create greater public awareness of our talented BRAA members.

The physical space at CAIO hasn't changed much and we will continue to look for ways to improve our display, but there are some challenges over which none of us has control. With several extra weeks of sales, I believe this year could be the most successful ever. Last January's market review was valuable and there will be some small but significant changes, but this is only the fourth holiday market and it will continue to be a work-in-progress.

Watch for more information about how you can be a part of this year's event.

If you are interested in providing planning assistance, email [ccarrerad@aol.com](mailto:ccarrerad@aol.com).

## ■ Now Showing

**July 15 – October 15**

(except where indicated otherwise)

**Jeanette Bowker**, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

**Charlotte Chan**, Long and Foster, Blacksburg

**Riley Chan**, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

**Marie Collier**, Mill Mountain Coffee and Tea, Blacksburg

**Carol Davis**, Glade Church, Blacksburg

**Susan Hensley**, Warm Hearth, Blacksburg (thru Oct.)

**Teri Hoover**, Community Arts Information Office, Blacksburg (thru Sept.)

**Johanna Jones**, Zeppoli's wine room, Blacksburg

**Cheryl Mackian**, First Bank and Trust, Christiansburg

**Rita Montrosse**, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

**Sally Mook**, Zeppoli's dining room, Blacksburg

**Betty Moore**, Blacksburg Transit

**David Pearce**, Community Arts Information Office, Blacksburg (thru Sept.)

**Joy Rosenthal**, Virginia Tech Women's Center

**Robi Sallee**, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

**Karen Sewell**, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

**Linda Weatherly**, The Arts Depot, Abingdon (thru Sept. 22)

**Norma Woodward**, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

**Gerri Young**, Hahn Horticulture Pavilion, Virginia Tech campus (thru Oct.)

*"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way — things I had no words for."*

~ Georgia O'Keefe

## ■ Exhibit and other opportunities

### Glencoe Anniversary Exhibit

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery. Throughout these years, the museum has focused on the history and culture of Radford and the surrounding region and will host a gallery show to celebrate this legacy.

The exhibit is open to artists of all 2-D media. The subject must be themed on the history, culture, or beauty of the area. Those interested in participating should contact Laura Fender ([ljfender@icloud.com](mailto:ljfender@icloud.com)) by **September 18**.

Selections will be made within the next week and approved works may be dropped off between September 29 and October 3. The gallery opening is scheduled for October 13 to coincide with the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> year celebration.

### The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery Inc. 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg

Applications are now being accepted for participation in the exhibit, Black and White, Oct. 17 – Dec. 19. The application deadline is **September 26**. For more information or application form, visit [artfullawyergallery.org/gallery-shows](http://artfullawyergallery.org/gallery-shows) or contact Diana Francis at [Diana@creekmorelaw.com](mailto:Diana@creekmorelaw.com), or call 540-443-9350, ext. 707.

### BRAA Community Galleries

The Gallery Coordinating Committee is now accepting requests from members who have been approved to exhibit in BRAA Community Galleries in 2019. All requests must be received by **September 30**. For more information, contact Charlotte Chan at [charlotteychan@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteychan@gmail.com).

### Outdoor Sculpture Competition City of Radford

A juried outdoor sculpture competition,



sponsored by the City of Radford's Tourism Commission, is accepting entries through **October 1**.

The competition is open to all media and includes a \$1,000 honorarium to each selected artist. Three to five entries will be accepted for display throughout the city's business districts as well as at the Mary Draper Ingles Cultural Heritage Park located on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery and the Radford Visitor's Center.

For more information, contact [deborah.cooney@radfordva.gov](mailto:deborah.cooney@radfordva.gov).

### Roanoke Regional Airport October 17, 2018 – January 2, 2019

The Roanoke Regional Airport Commission is seeking proposals for 10 temporary public works of art representing the artist's vision of the fall season for display at the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport. The art will be displayed on the second floor corridor on the west end of the terminal building. The Commission is not accepting sculpture at this time.

The application deadline is **October 1**. The selected artist/s will be notified by October 10 and works will be installed on October 17. For application or more information, contact [amandad@flyroa.com](mailto:amandad@flyroa.com).

### HArts on Main Festival Great Road on Main, Christiansburg February 15–16, 2019

Mark your calendar to participate in this second annual event. Watch for more information about selling your art in this lovely venue, or contact [rlefk02@gmail.com](mailto:rlefk02@gmail.com).

### Floyd Artist Association

Karen Sewell reports that the Floyd Artist Association, located inside The Station in Floyd, is looking for new members and guest artists. If interested, contact [floydartists@gmail.com](mailto:floydartists@gmail.com).

### 2019 New River Art Juried Biennial

Entry for this show opens this month. Check [www.blacksburg.art](http://www.blacksburg.art) for further information.

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "August Supply" (left, watercolor, 28 x 35") by Rita Montrosse. This and more of her work can be viewed at Blue Ridge Cancer Care in Blacksburg through mid-October.



### BRAA Officers

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