



Melissa Mason

Creating beauty and order out of chaos. I like to capitalize on chance happenings with the paint, line, and gesture to create works that are spontaneous and stirring. I find it endlessly challenging and fulfilling to start with randomness and see where this takes me. The process leads to a dialogue between me and the inexplicable. My objective is to meld my innate need to create art coupled with evoking a visceral response in the viewer. The abx process offers the most natural way for me to articulate this.

These paintings are a record of that dialogue. Gestural mark-making, a random splash of paint are my catalyst and guide. Responding to the surface, exploring, and experimenting with the slow and thoughtful coupled with the impulsive and quick. Looking for balance between these two extremes. Calculated mark-making juxtaposed with the gestural application of color-intermingling, reacting, vibrating, creating work that is stimulating.

Melissa Mason is a contemporary abstract-expressionist painter best known for her equine art. Many of her paintings are non-representational, but there is a recurring equine motif in the work. The love and familiarity of horses is an enduring constant in her life, so it seems only natural for her to use it to explore the painting process.

The energy and freedom of the abstract-expressionists deeply influenced her and instilled a passion for the direction she choose in her art making – creating beauty and order out of chaos. The process involves pouring, splashing, squirting, brushing, dripping paint to get the paint on the canvas, letting the colors merge into beautifully formed shapes. Using those shapes, she then alternates between calculated drawing and gestural mark-making to complete the work.

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HOURS

Check website for weekly hours



> texture

expression



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Her work is in the collection of the Florida Museum of Art (Deland), the Museum of Arts and Sciences (Daytona), Emerald Downs (Auburn, WA), The Towers at Williams Square (Irving, TX), Beaux Art Group (Tampa, FL), plus several others and numerous private collections. It has shown in multiple gallery shows: TEW gallery in Atlanta; Roan + Black in Saugatuck, MI and MAC Fine Art in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Along with a multitude of local awards and publication, her work has graced the cover of HITS-2008 winter circuit and was included in the book, *Picturing Florida: from the First Coast to the Space Coast*, a book featuring 38 Florida artists.

Originally from Western Maryland, she now calls central Florida her home.

Selected Exhibitions/Awards

Ormond Museum of Art, *Outside The Lines* – 2016

Spectrum, Miami, FL – 2015

Coconut Grove Art Festival – 2015

TEW Gallery – 2015

Roan + Black – 2015

TEW Gallery, group abstract show – 2014

Roan + Black Gallery, group show – 2014, 2013

EQUUS, TEW Gallery, Atlanta, GA – 2012

Through the Collectors Eye, group show at the Florida Museum of Women Artists, Deland, FL – 2011

Neo Expressions, three-person show, Hollingsworth Gallery, Palm Coast, FL – 2011

Art League Members Show, Achievement Award, Daytona Beach, FL – 2010

Color My World, two-person show, Art League of Daytona Beach, FL – 2009

Art League Members Show, 1st Place, Daytona Beach, FL – 2009

Picturing Florida, group show, Fogle Fine Art, Jacksonville, FL – 2008

Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' & Owners' Association Art Show, group show, Ocala, FL – 2008

Horses & Healing Benefit Art Exhibit, Casselberry City Hall, FL – 2008

Artist Workshop 50th Anniversary Members Show, Best of Show, New Smyrna Beach, FL – 2008

Equus: The Art of the Horse, group show, Museum of Florida Art, Deland, FL – 2007

Equine Art, group show, Emerald Downs, Auburn, WA – 2007

Equifest, Featured Artist, Deland Museum of Art, FL – 2007

Washington Thoroughbred Foundation Equine Art, 2nd place and peoples' choice awards, WA – 2007

Equifest, Award of Merit, Museum of Florida Art, Deland, FL – 2006

Press/Publication

Picturing Florida: from the First Coast to the Space Coast, a book featuring 38 Florida artists

Horse Sayings, wit & wisdom straight from the horse's mouth

HITS, Winter Circuit cover artist – 2008

Arbus, N. Florida's Arts & Business Magazine – Sept/Oct 2008

Backstage Pass – February 2008

Orlando Arts Magazine – May/June 2008

Museum and Corporate Collections

Museum of Art and Sciences, Daytona Beach, FL

Museum of Florida Art, Deland, FL

Emerald Downs, Auburn, WA

Del Frisco Grille, Houston, TX

Homewood Suites by Hilton, Ocala, FL

The Towers at Williams Square, Irving, TX

Well Fargo, Minneapolis, MN

SQ Advisors, Naples, FL

Beaux-Art Group, Tampa, FL