

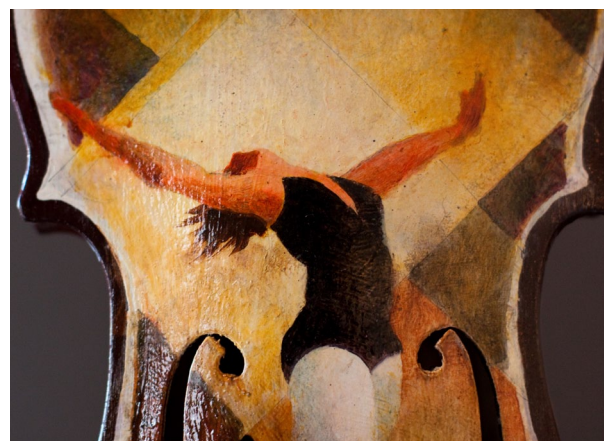
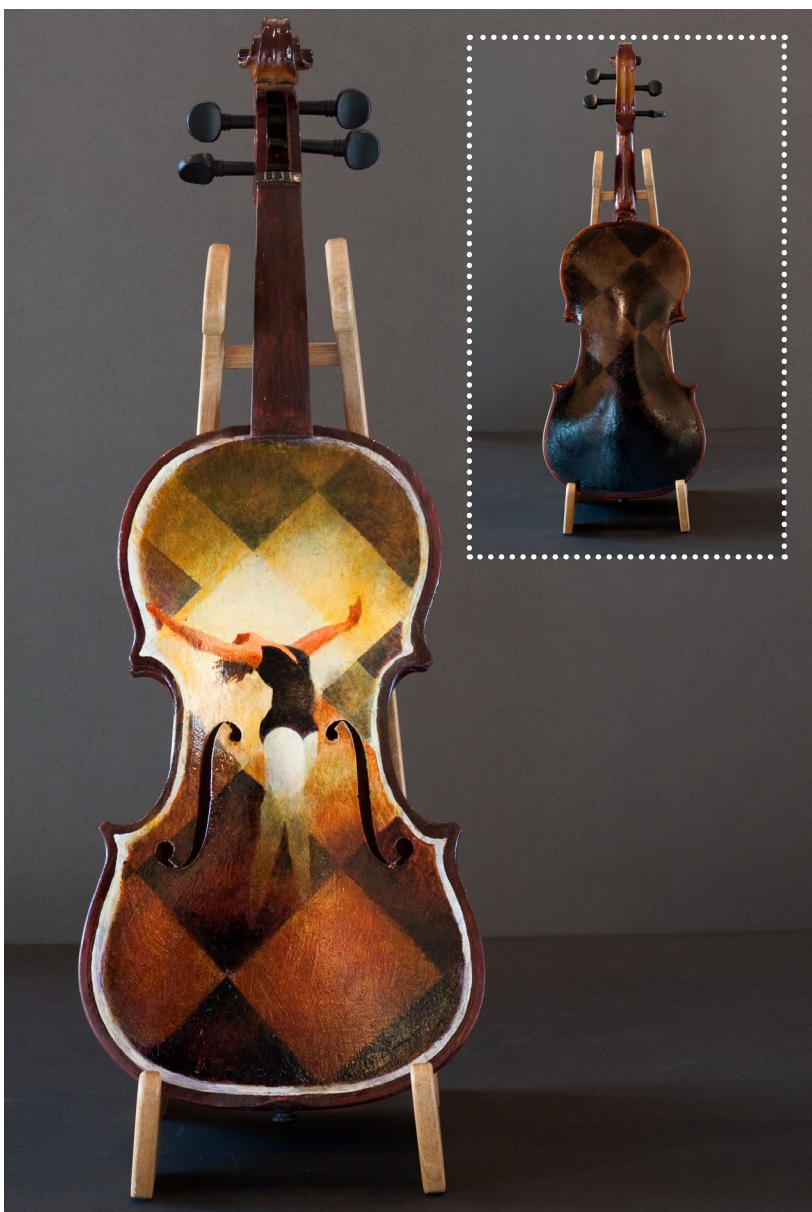
ASO ALABAMA *symphony* ORCHESTRA

Art Inspired by Music, Music Inspired by Art

A Two Dimension Fundraiser

*by Members of the Symphony Volunteer Council
to Benefit the ASO's Concertmaster & Friends Series*

"High White Note" Painted by Troy Crisswell



Medium: Oil

Background: Troy Crisswell spent his childhood days in Montevallo, Alabama. His interest in drawing and painting became apparent in his early teens.

At Indian Springs High School in the late 1960's, he fell into painting and more organized drawings. In 1971 he began art studies while attending Birmingham Southern College.

Finding a job as a graphic artist, he moved out on his own. He began studying art books and making a focused effort to improve his drawing skills. Crisswell started attending a life-drawing group in 1981. At this time in the early 1980's most of his paintings were acrylics.

In 1982, he met clay artist, Becky Bolton. While accompanying her to her art shows, he saw that some painters were actually making a living selling their works. He began drawing and painting at night after work and on the weekends. The Crisswells moved to the Buxahatchee Woods in 1984, and built a studio there in 1986. His painting continued to develop steadily and around 1997 he started to explore oils and began selling oil paintings along with his watercolors in 1998.

Crisswell has combined realism with surrealistic elements in many of his works. As Steve Masterson of The Acoustic Café put it so well, "He sees things in a strange way and has the ability to take wet paint and arrange it so you can see what he sees."

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"Polynesian Paradise/Islands and Inlets" Painted by Lowell Vann



Medium: Acrylic

Background: Dr. Vann is a graduate of Samford University and received his Master of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Alabama and his Ph.D from Florida State University. He has studied with painters, Goodson, Sella and Price who gave Vann a stronger foundation in non-objectivity. Classes in watercolor with Richard Brough added the return of realism to Vann's productions.

Since 1970, he has served as chair of the Department of Art at Samford University, and it has been his privilege to teach in the studio area—basic design, drawing, painting, crafts and pottery. Vann's own production has often shifted into whatever area with which he was involved in the classroom for that semester. Recently, this has been a heavy emphasis on production in pottery while still painting 20–25 works annually.

Dr. Vann has served on the Board of Directors of Artists Incorporated, in Birmingham since 1999, where his works can be viewed. His works can also be viewed at Tracery Gallery, Rosemary Beach, Florida.

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"String Theory" Painted by Mary Jean Henke



Medium: Acrylic/Mixed Medium

Background: A native of Birmingham, Ms. Henke began her painting career in the 1980's. As a self-taught artist, she has always felt the need to work harder than others to develop her own style of painting. She rarely begins a painting with a preconceived end-point, but lets the paint and the mood take her to the next step.

Painting for her is a way to reach out and connect with others on a personal level. Her work is motivated by an ongoing exploration of forms, colors, and shapes, with the objective of creating a unified whole. Through continuous experimentation, she has found an unfolding adventure that keeps her excited about each new painting she begins.

She uses a wide range of methods and materials to achieve the textures and sculptural quality of her work. There are many layers of both opaque and translucent paint in each piece. She sometimes uses a pallet knife which gives her paintings weight and substance.

As one of the founding directors of Artists Incorporated, she has spent countless hours during the past 12 years helping the gallery grow into a real presence in the art community in Birmingham. This has been a labor of love.

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"Good God Amati" Created by Dale Lewis



Medium: Lacquer, Acrylic, Dyed and Natural Added Woods and Violin Parts

Background: Mr. Lewis' formal art training began at the University of Alabama where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1962. In 1980, he completed a Master of Arts degree in Educational Media from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Further study at UAB included 18 hours of studio work and a thesis in Art Education.

After a brief stint as a technical illustrator from 1962 to 1964, his focus took a new direction. Employed by Alabama Educational Television, he trained and became a producer-director for a variety of programs for 13 years. In 1979, he became fascinated with wood as a material for creating art. He began exhibiting his work at festivals and accepted commissions on a part-time basis until 1994 when he retired from UAB and pursued his art full-time.

For more than 30 years, he has created hundreds of whimsical furniture and sculptural forms. His pieces are in several art museums' permanent collections and numerous private collections in the United States and Europe. He has received scores of awards, twice receiving the prestigious Alabama Craft Fellowship. He has been a part of numerous group exhibitions and five solo museum exhibitions. His works have been included in several books and periodicals, including recently, *Alabama Masters: Artists and Their Works*.

Passion for his art continues to challenge him as he searches for exquisite form and a compelling statement.