

# Juror's Statement

What was the artist trying to say? Did the artist successfully say it? Was it worth saying? These are the three questions I ask when viewing works of art. Of course, I am also looking for authentic expressions, executed masterfully. It is true, I think, that the most talented artists make the execution of their work seem simple- even if it is not. This must have something to do with the artist's enjoyment of the work. When the artist is in the zone, so to speak, it shows. Seeing evidence of the artist's sheer pleasure in creating the work is a wonderful thing! When that quality is missing, art becomes merely an exercise. Art is ultimately visual communication. As a professor once told me, you only need one person to hear what you are trying to say. If just one person gets your message, feels what you felt, then you have succeeded! Many of the works here spoke directly to me. For those that did not, please remember, I am only one person! The overall quality, creativity and diversity of the work is fantastic. It was a challenge and a pleasure to jury this exhibition and I wish all of the artists much success! I end on a quote: "Art is the concrete representation of our most subtle feelings." -Agnes Martin

Quinton Bemiller