

Solo Exhibit Recommendations:

“Ms. McKethan’s watercolors were on exhibit in our Hammond Gallery from May 2 to August 27 (1999). As a viewer, one is drawn in an almost personal way, to her works because of the subject matter and because of the detail of their execution. Stylistically, Ms. McKethan is as successful in her loose, impressionistic treatments as she is in her finely detailed representations. Simple objects such as leaves, rocks and arrowheads are composed in visually appealing motifs, which seem random, yet strategically planned. These works become pseudo-icons to their subjects, heralding their simplistic importance to life. Her more traditional still-lives, too, appear to be casually arranged. They are, however, specifically composed so as to evoke an emotional response from the observer. Some of Ms. McKethan’s works evoke a sense of nostalgia, some set one at ease with a sense of comfort and familiarity, and some inspire with a feeling of discovery.

I feel privileged to have met Ms. McKethan and to have had the opportunity to show her works. She is a highly talented artist, whose works have a natural appeal and appreciation. She has a wonderful eye for details and an equally wonderful sense of how best to portray them. Her show was one of the more successful to have appeared in our facility. Public response was most favorable, and several of her pieces were purchased from the exhibit. Her many years of artistic pursuit and dedication are evident in her craft.”

Bobby R. Sommerlin, Boykin Center Technical Director,
Hammond Gallery Facility Manager of the Arts Council of Wilson
124 E. Nash Street, Wilson, NC 27893

“I have been teaching in the Art Department at Campbell University since 1988, and, already, Ms. McKethan was an accomplished watercolorist. Since then, I have seen her work evolve to the extent that her paintings are now more powerful and speak to the viewer more directly than they ever have before. As I say, Ms. McKethan was an accomplished watercolorist when I came to Campbell in 1988, but now she appears, to me, at any rate, to be entering the realm of a designer, a painter, and a maker of pictures, as well as a watercolorist. Her pieces have more cohesiveness and a greater unity. I feel that these signs of artistic maturity would be well rewarded by a regional artist grant that would help further the career of Ms. McKethan.”

Breck Smith, Art Department Head,
Campbell University
Buies Creek, NC 27506

“I have known Joanna McKethan since 1984. She is a serious, dedicated artist, whose work has been featured in the arts council’s Campbell House Galleries, as well as in galleries throughout the eastern seaboard. Her paintings are imaginative, diverse and well crafted and she is equally comfortable with traditional and contemporary genres and techniques.... Joanna has won many awards and her creations are represented in noted private and corporate collections in this country and abroad. In addition to producing art, Joanna has been active as a teacher in a

variety of mediums to a populace ranging from students enrolled in community college extension courses to inmates of nursing homes.”

Lee Barrett, Media Director,
Arts Council of Moore County, 1999