

Shrink Wraps at Federation Gallery

Shrink wrapped paintings, the unframed works sent in to Federation Gallery by our members, provide an economical and practical alternative for travelers who wish to acquire original art but who do not want to deal with the cost and effort involved in shipping a large, framed work. They also appeal to those local art lovers with a more modest art budget. The shrink wrap concept has proved very popular with FCA members.

Starting in January 2004, all shrink wrap paintings submitted by Active and AFCA members will be juried by an SFCA member. The acceptance of a shrink wrap will not count towards AFCA/SFCA status. Shrink wraps not meeting the presentation standards outlined below will be removed from the display by the Gallery Director.

Because of the limited display space, the maximum outer dimension of the longest side, with the mat will be 14". Each artist is still welcome to display up to 4 paintings at a time. Also price should not be more than \$ 200.

Presentation is just as important for smaller, unframed works as it is for the larger paintings hanging on the gallery walls so the use of appropriate matting and backing materials will be mandatory. Ideally, mats will be acid-free and professionally and accurately cut. Backing materials should also be acid-free and rigid enough to prevent bending.

The assembled component parts (mat, painting and backing) should be encased in a strong, clean, self-sealing plastic bag. Paintings on stretched canvas are not suitable for this display. Paintings on board must also be bagged. Regular kitchen wrap is not strong enough to withstand the display conditions. Over time household or cello tape tends to detach, curl and then stick to other packages. Business cards, price stickers or other biographical information should be inside the plastic bag to avoid adhering to or poking into other packages.

Finally, artists submitting shrink wraps **must** make provision for the return of unsold paintings after three or four months of display, either by remembering to visit the gallery to pick them up, or by including a suitable postage-paid return envelope with their submissions.