

EXHIBITION: SUTTLES ART

From Bill Suttles

I believe the Suttles Arts 2020 will suggest the way in which three members of a family can pursue their own means of self-expression by choice of medium and artistic concerns, while happily benefiting from always having an audience at hand to provide feedback and to re-enforce the idea that the work we were engaging in was well worth the doing.

This exhibition will contain a representation of my original paintings, oils and pastels, influenced by:

- European Inspiration
- Southern Appalachian Inspiration
- South American Inspiration

Additionally, the exhibit will include a sampling of my recent **Studio Small Works Project**. My Studio Small Works Project began with the onset of Coronavirus and self-distancing. I wanted to create smaller, more spontaneous works to serve as a more contemplative reaction to a particular time and place from past experiences.

From Todd Suttles

After a lifetime's exposure to the artist's perception and way of life demonstrated to me by my parents, it is exciting for me to see a physical manifestation of the experience come into being. We are grateful to The Madison-Morgan Cultural Center for this opportunity to create and share this.

This exhibition will contain a mix of my work from three collections:

• **Evidence of Personality and Identity** - My work in this project is about creating odd images whose intent and point of view is purposefully ambiguous, prompting the viewer to assign their own meaning to the photograph. By triggering the viewer, I hope they will realize the interpretation reflects their personal views, past, and biases, and has no reality in the image. I want viewers to reconsider their profoundly entrenched or controversial preconceptions for validity, opening the door to a more empathetic and tolerant union with the world.

• **Looking For Sight – Stumblings** - I used to think that I would take my camera and go somewhere to take pictures, usually driving, sometimes walking, but always somewhere else. As I have practiced what I call stumblings, I understand that it is not going, but stopping that I am doing.

• **Union of Landscape** - There is a harmony, a balance, below the visible turbulent surface of everything. Sometimes I can see it through the whitecaps and foam. Sometimes it is elusive and can't be found, at least for me anyway. I don't know why. I like to believe that it is everywhere, at all times, that I could see it if only I would stop looking at the everything else.

For me, a successful landscape photograph is not one that captures this harmony and balance, but one that leaves out the whitecaps and foam; leaves out the everything else.