

**HETAG Newsletter No. 48, May 2021**

**HETAG IS BACK!**

**Though we never really went away.**



**On Saturday, April 24, we had our first in-person HETAG meeting in over a year. Many, many thanks to Art League Houston for making that possible, and especially to HETAGer Sarah Beth Wilson McKeel, ALH Director of Exhibitions and Curatorial Projects, for hosting HETAG-only tours to the exhibitions of work by**

**ALH 2020 Artist of the Year**

**Rick Lowe: New Paintings and Drawings**  
and

**ALH 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award Winner**

**Celia Álvarez Muñoz: Obras**

**What a treat it was to see the art in the company of other HETAGers (a few-at-a-time, with COVID precautions, of course).**

**It's been a long and painful slog, but maybe we're coming to the other side. It's possible now to go to museums and even galleries (see inside for some COVID protocol observant offerings), but we're not quite all the way to the other side yet. So there'll still be a place for virtual Early Texas Art events in the foreseeable future. Both HETAG and CASETA will be having online only events in the coming months (more info inside). But if we all are good HETAG citizens and get our vaccinations, we'll be gathering again soon for more of those rollicking HETAG meetings we remember so fondly from the before times.**

**Until then, stay well, and See you on Zoom!**

# HETAG: The Houston Earlier Texas Art Group

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What you've all be waiting for.

**A HETAG Zoom Meeting!**

**Sunday, June 13, 2021**



Frank Freed *Eyes of the City* c1970,  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Gift of the Eleanor and Frank Freed Foundation.

## **The Artist as Citizen: Frank Freed's Lessons on the Importance of Social Commentary Carmen Champion presenting**

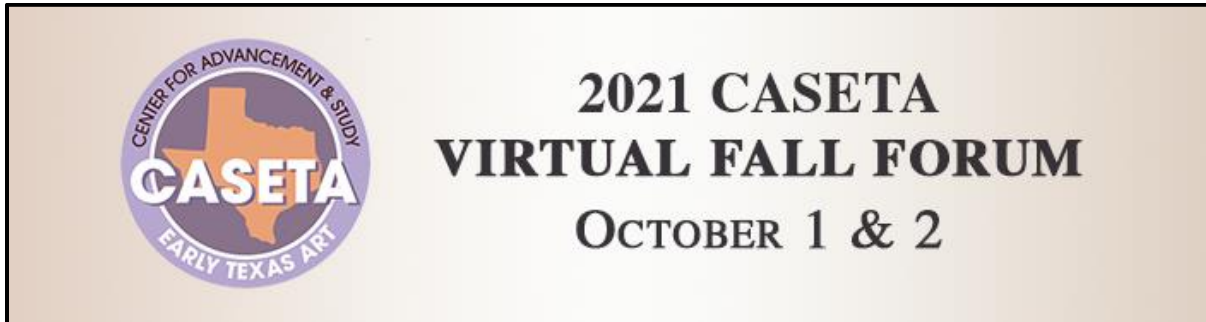
**Carmen Champion says: "Houston based artist Frank Freed took to painting late in life executing mostly representational works of art documenting his life experiences. Although the diversity of subject matter and range of execution is evident, he has generally been dismissed as a "Sunday painter." This presentation will attempt to defy that suggestion by arguing the importance of Freed's work in revealing critical social tensions and anxieties during some of the most tumultuous times in history."**

**Bio: Carmen Champion holds a full-time faculty position as Professor of Art History and Gallery Director at San Jacinto College Central Campus. She earned an MA in Art History from the University of Houston where her art historical focus centered on Early Texas Art and Culture. She has worked in the curatorial departments of major academic and public museums and is an Associate member of the Appraisers Association of America.**

Registration details to follow.

## SAVE THE DATE

**CASETA MEMBERS AND ALL PASSIONATE  
EARLY TEXAS ART LOVERS**

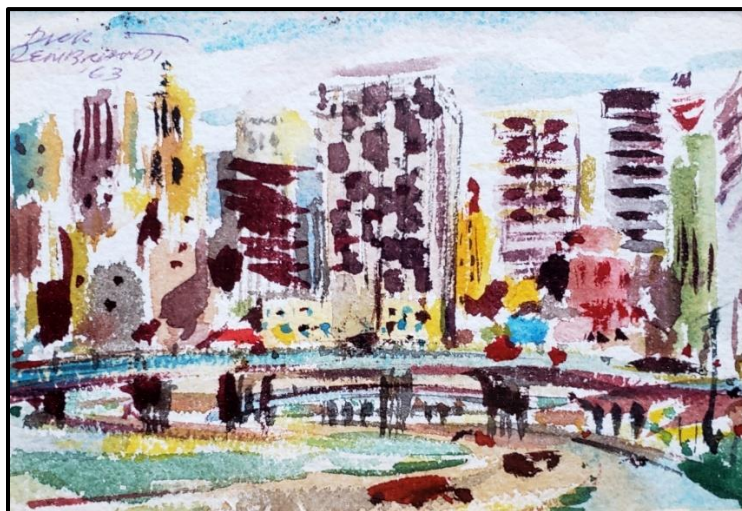


**With virtual talks and virtual collection tours.**

**The focus will be on Houston, since the 2020 CASETA Symposium and Texas Art Fair in our city had to be cancelled.**

**October 1: Friday evening  
opening program**

**October 2: Saturday sessions  
throughout the day**



*Dick Rembrandt Houston Skyline 1963*

**[More information to come!](#)  
[Keep an eye on the CASETA website.](#)**

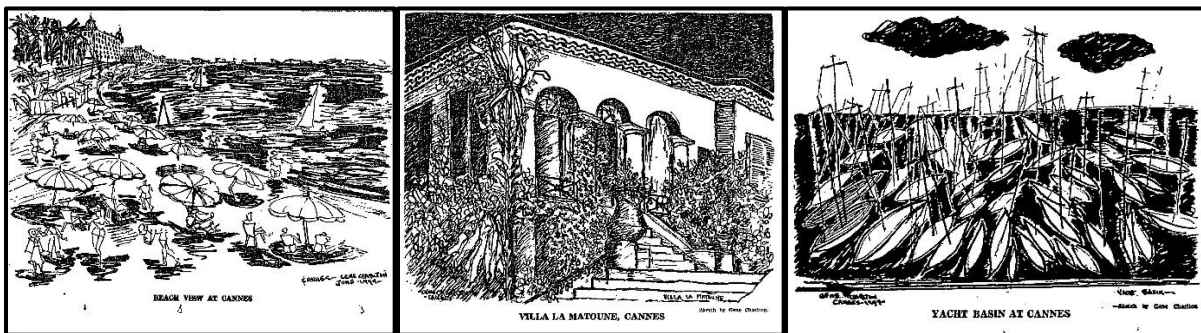




David Adickes *Place de la Concorde, Paris* c1960

**Return to Europe, 2021 -  
Through paintings from the past by Houston Artists.**

By now we're all eager to travel again – just as Houstonians of the past have been, when other world-shaking occurrences (flu pandemics, world wars, economic depressions) disrupted what had come to seem a God-given right to see the world. But, as has happened in the past, "this too shall pass," and one day soon (we hope) we'll be complaining about cramped airplanes and jet lag again. We'll be hitting the road again, just as our Houston artists did in the years and decades following World War II. Here are some of the pictures they made then, of the places they were returning to. Here's hoping we'll be walking in their footsteps ourselves in just a little while. This too shall pass!

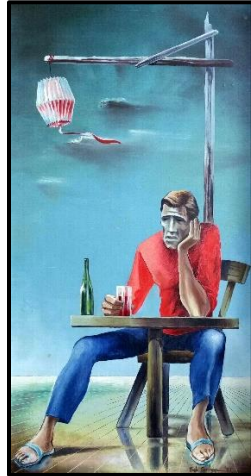


Gene Charlton *Three Views of Cannes* 1949

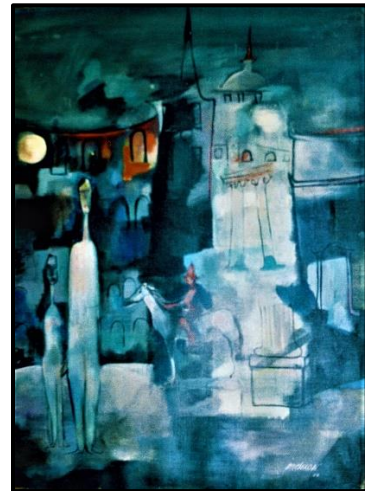
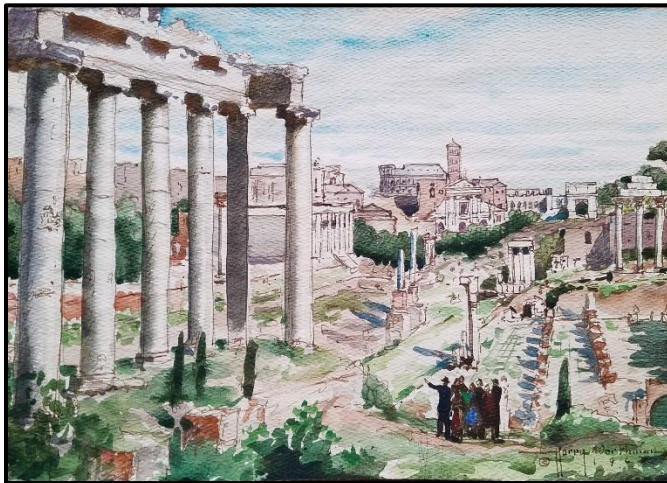


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Bill Condon *Amsterdam* 1960 (l); Erik Sprohge [*A little Homesick*] mid-1950s (c);  
Frank Freed *Paris Rooftops* n.d. (r)



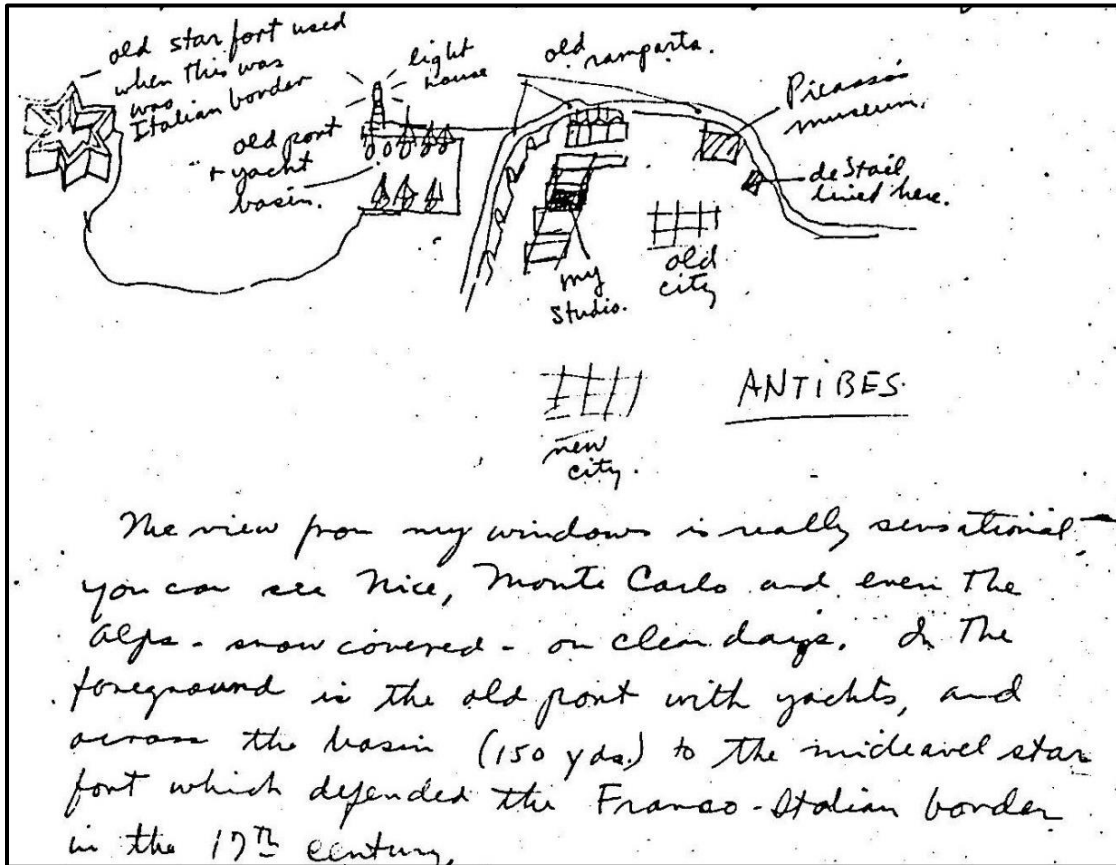
Harry Worthman *Roman Forum* 1962 (l); Mildred Wood Dixon *Rome* 1954 (r)



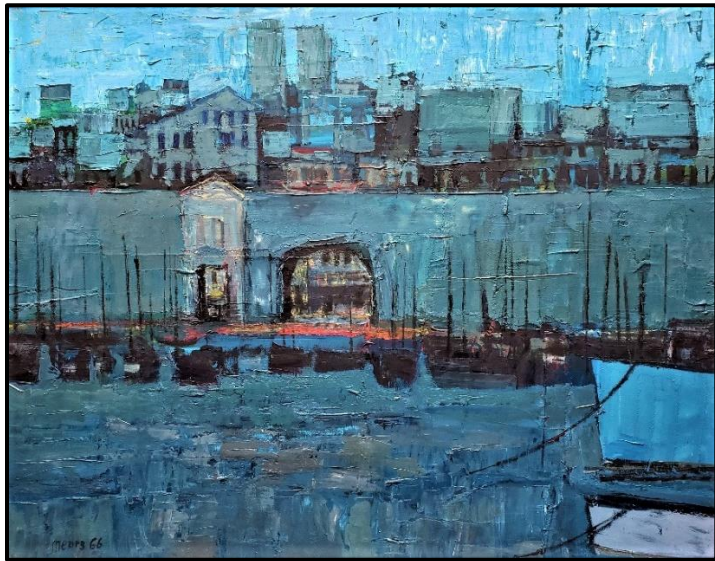
David Adickes *Rome* 1965



## HETAG: The Houston Earlier Texas Art Group



David Adickes to Ben DuBose, from Antibes, May 16, 1959. Sketch map showing Adickes's new studio in relation to other local landmarks – the Picasso Museum, the former residence of artist, Nicolas de Staël. A few years later, Houston artist, Herb Mears and family, borrowed the studio for a "sabbatical" in France.

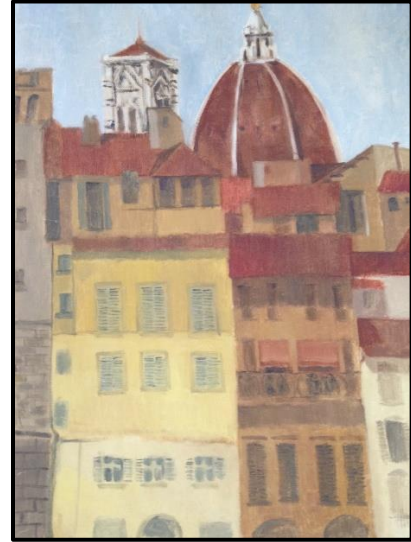


David Adickes *Port of Antibes* 1963 (l); Herb Mears *Old Port, Antibes* 1966 (r)



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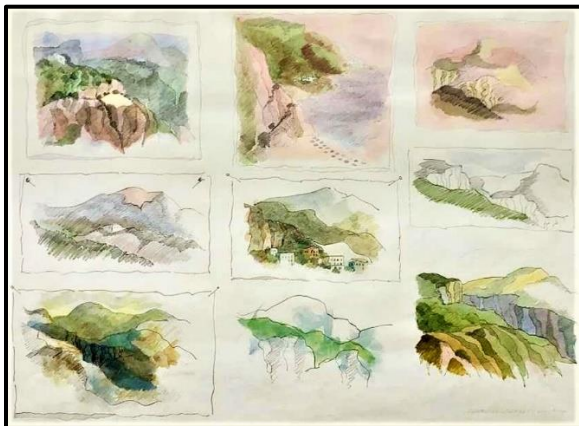
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**Henri Gadbois *House on Nurnbergstrasse* 1955, and *Florence* c1960.**



**Gene Charlton *Majorca and Majorcans* 1949**



**Eugene Charlton-Rafalsky *Views of Amalfi* 1974; Mildred Wood Dixon *Amalfi Coast* 1954**

**Ready for an outing to look at fabulous Early Texas Art?**



**Toni LaSelle (1901-2002) in 1946, and her paintings *Space Movements*, *Still Life* 1946 (l) and *Untitled (From a Still-life)* 1948 (r).**

**[Toni LaSelle: A State of Becoming](#)**

**April 6 – May 15, 2021**

**[Inman Gallery](#)**

**3901 Main Street / Houston 77002**

**713-526-7800**

**(Tuesday – Thursday by appointment; Friday & Saturday no appointment required, but gallery capacity limited.)**

**You can also tour the exhibition via the online "viewing room," which includes additional images/information about all the works in the show, as well as essays by**

**Frank Spicer, Inman Gallery Associate Director, and Alison de Lima Greene, curator of Contemporary Art and Special Projects at Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.**



**Toni LaSelle *Santa Cruz* 1967 Notebook, 1967-70.**



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**Michael Tracy**

*Season in Hell*

*Painting, Sculpture, and Film 1990 - 2021*

**May 1st-June 27th.2021**

**Opening Reception Saturday May 1st, 4-6PM**

**[Bill Arning Exhibitions](#)**

**604 West Alabama Houston, TX 77006**

**Thursday through Sunday Noon to Six PM**

**Parking directly outside**

**Dallas**

**Meadows Museum**

**"Fossils to Film: The Best of SMU's Collections"**

**NOW - JUN 20, 2021**



Fossils to Film celebrates the Meadows Museum's unique relationship with the university by displaying highlights from the collections of nine different campus museums and libraries. Image:

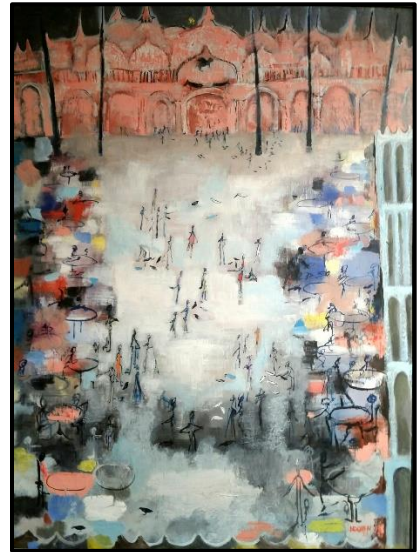
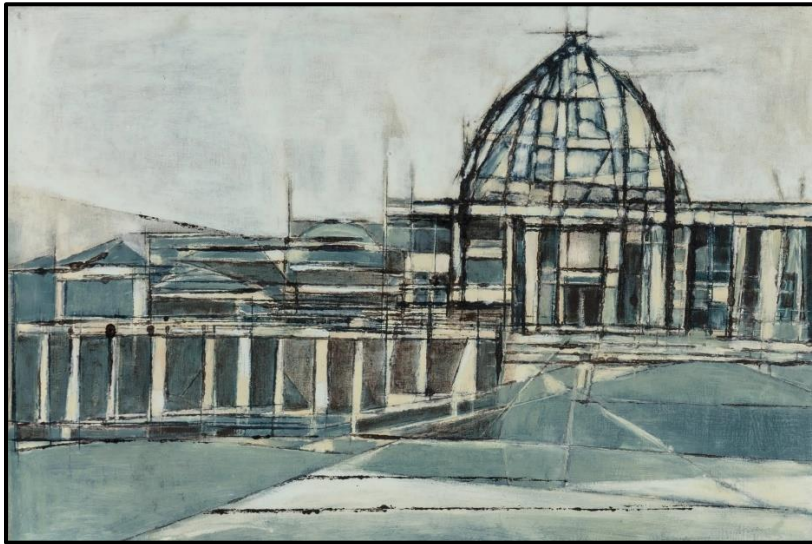
Florence Elliott McClung *Junius Street, Dallas* n.d.

The Texas art on view comes from the **Bywaters Special Collections** and the **University Art Collection**. Some of the BSC objects include prints by **Florence McClung, Janet Turner, Everett Spruce** and **Barbara Maples**; a self-portrait sketch by **Jerry Bywaters**; and a series of bronze sculptures by Otis

Dozier. The **University Art Collection** is comprised of art donated by alumni and friends of SMU, including former students and faculty members who have established themselves in the art world. Objects that will be on view from the UAC include paintings by **Horace Oakley Robertson, Jerry Bywaters, Florence McClung, Otis Dozier, Janet Turner, Everett Spruce** and **Barbara Maples**.

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Lowell Daunt Collins *St. Peter's, Rome* 1958 (l);  
Mildred Wood Dixon *Piazza San Marco, Venice* 1954 (r)

**The mission of HETAG is to illuminate Houston's art history by providing viewing opportunities for art, by supporting and doing research on the artists and art communities working in Houston through the years, and by spreading the word.**

**Back issues of the HETAG Newsletter are available via the  
[University of Houston Libraries Digital Library](#)  
and  
[The Portal to Texas History](#)**

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Texas Art Group  
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