

Wayne Paige Statement and Bio

Since 1997 I have retreated to a life inside the inkwell- a black and white world of duality sprinkled with social commentary and Dreamscape imagery. In the current exhibition "*Around the edge*" a three-dimensional format is explored with each pen and ink drawing wrapped around a canvas and secured in a shadow box frame. Portrayed within is an imaginary landscape of mountains, waterways and woodlands populated by featureless beings. Many are cliff dwellers seeking escape while others are just engaging in daily activities. Events unfold as a celestial armada encroaches their environment- causing consternation and portending everlasting change. All takes place under a moonlit sky around and over the edge.

The Digital Age has brought upon us a binary kaleidoscope fog blanketing both perception and reality. I think of my art as beyond the fog evolving instead at the bottom of an inkwell. In only working with the traditional media of pencils, pens and paper, my inspiration derives from personal perceptions of contemporary life and the reality of encroachment. Conflict, dreams and humor are often woven within.

With twenty-three solo exhibitions to his credit, the artist has exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the country (The Corcoran Museum, The Anderson Gallery, The Katzen Arts Center...). Wayne's art has received recognition from local and national publications (Art in America, The Washington Post...) with many of his works included in public and private collections. Recently Wayne received recognition in having one of his works included in the "Washington Art Matters II: 1940s - 1980s" exhibition at the American University Museum at the Katzen Center. Paige also received several awards including First Prize in The Fairfax Art Council awards, First Prize in The George Washington University Alumni Competition and a Special Recognition award from The Virginia Commission of the Arts.

A graduate of The University of Illinois (BFA Painting) and The George Washington University (MFA Painting), Wayne grew up in Chicago and now spends his time between Washington, DC and Middleburg, Va. Wayne lived in Flint Hill for 10 years during the previous decade and still considers Rappahannock County a major source of his inspiration. Currently, Wayne serves as The Chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Middleburg Academy and has been an active artist since 1972.

