

Welcome

Welcome to the Residence of the United States Ambassador to Malawi. We hope you will enjoy your visit, and ask you to take a moment to view the special exhibition of works by American artists on display, courtesy of the State Department's ART in Embassies Program.

This eclectic collection is composed of three parts: in the entry hall, you will find three works by Dan Rizzie. Dan has been a good friend of ours since our college days in Arkansas. He has had a successful career in the arts and these three works are among his finest.

In the living room you'll see five watercolors of Arkansas agricultural terrain by Arkansas' artists Gayle Pendergrass and Thomas Chaffee. If you look closely, you will see similarities between the terrain and the crops (rice, cotton) produced in our home state of Arkansas and those of the Republic of Malawi. Nearby

there is a quilt fashioned by Jim Gatling. The unusual red shape is that of Arkansas, surrounded by representative wildlife and plants native to this habitat.

In the dining room, there are two works by Angel Sarkela and one by Andrew Sauer, a husband and wife who work in an unusual medium – coffee. We chose these works because they are rendered in one of Malawi's principal export crops and because of the artistry and creativity they present.

We are glad that you are able to visit us here, and hope you enjoy the works of art on display.

Ambassador Alan W. Eastham

*Lilongwe
July 2006*

The ART in Embassies Program

Founded in 1964, the U.S. Department of State ART in Embassies Program is a unique blend of art and diplomacy. Through exhibitions with diverse themes and content, ART presents more than 3,500 original works of art by U.S. citizens in a variety of media and styles. They are obtained through loan from sources that include museums, galleries, corporations, artists, and private collectors, and displayed in the public rooms of some 180 U.S. Embassy residences and diplomatic missions worldwide.

The ART exhibitions are a source of great pride to U.S. ambassadors, assisting them to reach the host country's educational, cultural, business, and diplomatic communities. In viewing the exhibitions, the thousands of guests who visit U.S. Embassy residences each year have the opportunity to learn about our nation – its history, customs, values, and aspirations – by experiencing American art firsthand. Detailed information about the Program may be obtained by accessing the ART web site, <http://aiep.state.gov>. It functions as an interactive global museum featuring on-line versions of all exhibitions worldwide.

Tom Chaffee | born 1940

“The objective of the watercolor landscape paintings is to study the colors and space of the Mid-South region. This is an ongoing project covering all seasons

in the Delta areas of Arkansas. There is something quite seductive in the flat perspective spaces as well as the varied pallets from crop to crop and season to season.”



Winter Fields, 2002
 Watercolor, 22 x 27 in. (55,9 x 68,6 cm)
 Courtesy of the artist, Jonesboro, Arkansas



Craighead County Rice, 2003
 Watercolor, 22 x 27 in. (55,9 x 68,6 cm)
 Courtesy of the artist, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Jim Gatling | born 1951

“*Arkansas, The Natural State* is a machine pieced, quilted, and embroidered wall hanging that was created by the artist for Carolyn Laux Eastham, wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Malawi. It is made solely of cotton fabric that has been appliquéd, in addition to having fusible web designs applied to its surface. Further texture and visual interest are achieved through the use of three-dimensional embroidered appliqué as well as buttons, beads, and assorted embellishments.

The State of Arkansas was chosen for the quilt’s theme because Mrs. Eastham is originally from Morrilton, Arkansas, a rural town fifty miles east of the state capital of Little Rock. The white, star-

shaped button in the quilt’s center represents the capital city. To create the shape of the state, the artist used pieced and appliquéd red fabrics and set them against a background of yellow. The dark greens, brown, and blues that were chosen for the top and bottom portions

of the quilt represent the many textures and colors found in nature, while the variegated blue fabrics along the sides represent the Arkansas River, which borders Morrilton. The mallard duck and the three-dimensional flowers represent the diverse flora and fauna of the area, which the artist has accented with appliqué of butterflies, leaves, and flying ducks.”



Arkansas, The Natural State, 2006
 Constructed quilt: cotton, machine appliqué and embroidery, fusible web, beads, buttons
 48 x 36 in. (121,9 x 91,4 cm)
 Courtesy of the artist, Morrilton, Arkansas

Gayle Pendergrass | born 1948

“As a native of Northeast Arkansas, I have always loved the look of our fields. I did not enjoy working in the fields, but as an adult have reveled in the quiet of a summer day with no sound but the humming of insects. But most of all, I love the space of our Mississippi Delta fields. It is hard to imagine, when looking at a vast rice, cotton or bean field, that this was once woodlands. It seems as though the land has no end.

The watercolor paintings that I have made on site in the Delta are an expression of what I see and feel out there in the fields. I want to show the vastness of the space, the richness of the colors and the texture of the day.”



Craighead County Summer, 2001
Watercolor, 22 x 27 in. (55,9 x 68,6 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Jonesboro, Arkansas



A Wet Spring, 2001
Watercolor, 22 x 27 in. (55,9 x 68,6 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Jonesboro, Arkansas



Fall in Northeast Arkansas, 2002
Watercolor, 22 x 27 in. (55,9 x 68,6 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Dan Rizzie | born 1951

Dan Rizzie was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, and currently lives and works in Sag Harbor, New York. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas (1973), and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas (1975). Since graduation he has maintained an active exhibition schedule, participating in group and

solo exhibitions across the United States, and in Mexico, Germany, and England. His work is found in private, corporate, and public collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art, both in New York City; and the Dallas Museum of Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and San Antonio Museum of Art, all in Texas.



Flower in a Landscape, 2005

Oil and collage on handmade paper, 25 ½ x 22 in. (64,8 x 55,9 cm)
Courtesy of the artist and Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, Texas

Van Gogh Tulips, 2003

Oil on paper, 33 x 25 ½ in. (83,8 x 64,8 cm)
Courtesy of the artist and Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, Texas

Tulipa Globosa, 2004

Oil, watercolor, and collage on paper, 57 x 45 in. (144,8 x 114,3 cm)
Courtesy of the artist and Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, Texas



Angel Sarkela | born 1977



Soaring Beauty, 2002
Coffee on paper, 18 x 24 in. (45,7 x 61 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Duluth, Minnesota



Sunburst, 2003
Coffee on paper, 12 x 18 in. (30,5 x 45,7 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Duluth, Minnesota

Andrew Sauer | born 1977

“Painting with coffee has been an exciting experience, but painting with coffee with your spouse is something special. We are fortunate enough to have been exploring this medium together. It is unique in today’s world to be able to share the passion for this distinctive medium.”

Edna G., 2004
Coffee on paper, 18 x 24 in. (45,7 x 61 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Duluth, Minnesota



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