

C. Schuld Studio News

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PAINTING BEAUTY

In my practice of looking for and recreating nature's beauty in my paintings I have an ongoing conversation of "why" and "so what" going on in my mind. There is a segment of the art world that shuns portraying beauty as trite and not what art should be about. They could be right but I choose to do that which calls to me---and that is beauty. And it really is everywhere. In "Morning Walk II" the sunrise that shot through trees while the fog shifted over the ground made me pause in a morning walk and helped start my day with a feeling of calm and grace.



Several years ago I read an article in a newspaper about the Shock Art movement and how some corporations were major sponsors and patrons. The purpose was to decorate the walls with work that would force their employees to "think outside the box", which in turn would lead to new products, leading to greater profit. I wondered how the employees felt and I wondered if my senses would feel assaulted after weeks, months, and years of "attitude" art.

I believe one of the roles of an artist is to pull the human condition UP and to remind us of our potential for greatness. There is a healing refuge in beauty. Christopher Morley said "In every man's heart there is a secret nerve that answers to the vibrations of beauty". I kind of want to get on that nerve!

One of my ongoing quests is to paint what I am attracted to without falling into the "just another pretty picture" trap. The content of any artwork is as big an issue as all the other issues of composition, technical abilities and creativity—which is my next newsletter subject, actually.

“Morning Walk I” shows overgrown grasses sprinkled with wildflowers and



bordered with mature trees in a fresh morning shadow. This may well be an example of beauty being in the eye of the beholder but I couldn't resist the textures and colors of the grasses and how they created such a strong and lush pattern. To me the scene smacked of a natural abundance that felt wholesome and –well—beautiful. I can imagine what a visual relief it will be to look at this image in the

dead of winter when the world outside is all grey and white.

Until next time, keep seeking beauty!

Charlotte

PS. Someone said “Beauty is only skin deep, but ugly goes to the bone”. What a great job artists have to take beauty past the bone and deep into the heart, mind and soul.

PPS. I sincerely hope my landscapes don't become an historical record of what once was but is no longer. Even though that is one of the roles of the visual arts—I hope we take care of the earth and preserve all the marvels out there.