

Birds of Mars Digest

Number Twenty-four

September—December 2024



Recent Paintings

Artwork Index

September–December 2024

No.	Title	Description	Size
24-38	Clock Tower	Acrylic on canvas	12x12 inches
24-62	Melodies of Abundance	Suite of 8 poems	
24-63	Birds of Mars Digest #24	artwork index	80 pages
24-64	Buildings 1	Acrylic on canvas panel	8x10"
24-65	Buildings 2	Acrylic on canvas panel	8x10"
24-66	Rainy Day	Acrylic on canvas	12x12"
24-67	Apartments	Acrylic on canvas	8x10"
24-68	Crosswalks	Acrylic on canvas	16x20"
24-69	Woodstar Cup	Acrylic on canvas	11x14"
24-70	Big Windows	Acrylic on wood	12x8"
24-71	Birds of Mars Writers Digest #1		
24-72	Birds of Mars Writers Digest #2		
24-73	Birds of Mars Writers Digest #3		
24-74	Birds of Mars Writers Digest #4		
24-75	Broadside Books 1	Acrylic on canvas	12x12"
24-76	Broadside Books 2	Acrylic on Canvas	12x12"
24-77	What is Poetry? Part Two	QVGA	29 minutes
24-78	Workbook C	Grid page notebook	
24-79	Old Firehouse [23-13]	Acrylic on Canvas	11x14

The year has ended and I am leaving this as is for now. More stories to be told about everything that happened for another day.

Artwork Comments

Writing Journal

9/6/24: I got sidetracked working on some poems, and just starting this next digest (#24) today, and still haven't finished editing the previous one, which I may not print copies of.

9/10/24: As mentioned I spent much of the first week of September writing poetry. I finished editing *Digest #23*. For now I am done writing. I am just going to focus on art for now.

9/12/24: I am not sure how much I will write about this—preferably not much, but I have started a new series of paintings, and I am not thinking of them in any way other than I am enjoying making them. I have a good technique which makes it enjoyable. The writing in *2023 Art Journal* [24-57] can be summed up in the following way:

1. Have an inclusive palette of properly prepared colors ready to use in the moment, and know what each paint does.
2. Have a correct photographic reference grid based on the size of the painting and the amount of detail desired per square.
3. Have good ability and aesthetics sense so it looks good.

9/17/24: The idea to have a “writers digest” in addition to the regular digest is a solution to what had become an obvious unfortunate reality. After having written about experimental writing and artists books in *Birds of Mars Digest Number 22*, and getting this writing to as many people as interested that I encountered while living my life, I began to slowly find like minded writers. How all of this unfolded can be read about in *Birds of Mars Writers Digest #1* so I won't tell that story here. The main takeaway is that I have a publication separate from this one which is 100% focused on writing something specifically to be read. I am leery of publishing writing by other writers here simply because this publication often includes artwork and is not always a writing publication. Any writing for the *Writers Digest* is very specific with a quick production turnaround schedule compared to what occurs in this digest.

9/24/24. Really worked on these paintings today after not so much the past two weeks due to getting sidetracked by writing, and then feeling I had to figure out some music things that were bothering me. I have a way to do writing now that won't overwhelm everything as it has been, and I also have a way of understanding music now that so far is making things easier and will get better. It is amazing how little is actually known about anything and there is an entire supposed economy behind it all, and yet everyone is seemingly grasping at straws. I think I need to watch two documentaries a day while painting to motivate me, and not try to do more than that, but at least try to do that for a few weeks. The paintings only look good if a certain amount of time is spent working on them and that is what having documentaries available does—it gives me a time frame and that keep my mind occupied because painting itself is tedious no matter how cool it might end up being.

11/8/24 Six weeks after having typed the preceding paragraphs I am able to say that the idea behind the *Writers Digest* is good, and my plan, as of now anyway, is to include all the writing usually found here there instead.

These are the paintings which I decided to exhibit. Somehow this all worked out, but it didn't just work out by itself—it was a lot of arduous work. It is painting all the time when you don't want to, and it seems like a long time went by, and then you see hardly any time went by. But other times it is enjoyable to be painting. I looked at a lot of my older paintings and they all look really bad to me now. I think these new paintings will be good. Anything else to say would seem superfluous and I don't want to do any writing, so I will leave it here with stories untold.

Digest #24 now becomes a catalog for the exhibition. I'm glad I did this because I feel these paintings are a lot better than some of the other ones I've recently done. My many year investigation into photorealism has brought mental somersaults and anxieties, along with new insights and happy feeling of accomplishment.

This is a summary. Since having created and worked with the idea of the writers digest over the past five weeks I have decided it is easiest, for now anyway, to put all writing in those digests, and not here in the regular digest as I had been doing. If I write about this anymore it will be found within future issues of the writers digests. My plan for these digests in the future is simply to include images of any artworks I may do and also as the place where I have the index for whatever other kinds of artworks I've created, and comments as needed.

11/10/24 I was rushing to finish paintings and then I realized that I had to just stop painting. I had at least finished some new ones and fixed up some old ones. But the ideas and visions of the other paintings I wanted to make for the show are just not going to be finished in time. Also I was making a sign for a craft fair and that is what I felt like what I wanted to be doing—not worrying about making these 'art' paintings.

This is as much as I want to write about the end of getting these paintings ready. I found a few old paintings I had once made of classical music and I thought those would look good together in the middle room at the cafe which has less space. I had the front room figured out already—which is what caused the chaos. The crosswalks painting was going to be in the main room, but that painting isn't done. So then I thought of a scheme. The three paintings I had which originally I planned to put in the middle room were now going to be in the back room. I had enough for all of it. I could stop painting! I had already earlier in the day started cleaning up all of the paint material, because I want it all of it out of sight for now. The best thing is I have materials to get them all ready to hang so I don't have to go to the hardware store. All I have to do is make little tags.

It's already a big relief just a few hours later.

11/14 I put up the paintings a few days ago and I think they look great. Then I put away all my art supplies and stopped thinking about making art for a while.

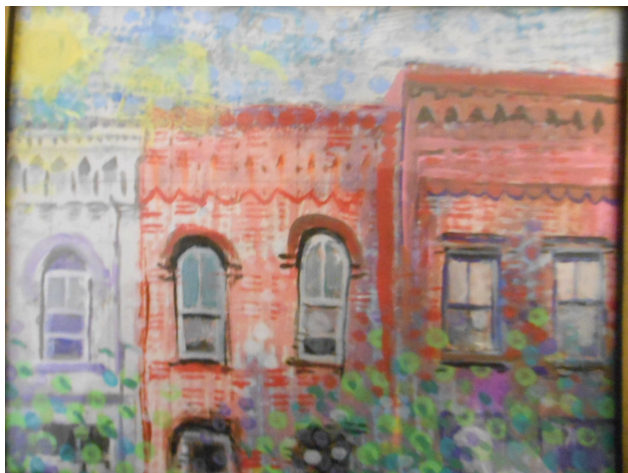
24-38 Clock Tower Acrylic on canvas 12x12 inches



24-64 Buildings 1 Acrylic on canvas panel 8x10"



24-65 Buildings 2 Acrylic on canvas panel 8x10"



24-66 Rainy Day

Acrylic on canvas

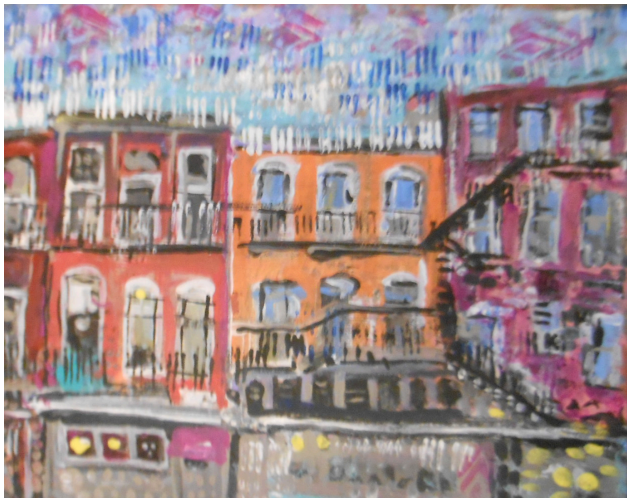
12x12"



24-67 Apartments

Acrylic on canvas

8x10"



24-69 Woodstar Cup Acrylic on canvas 11x14"



24-70 Big Windows Acrylic on wood 12x8"

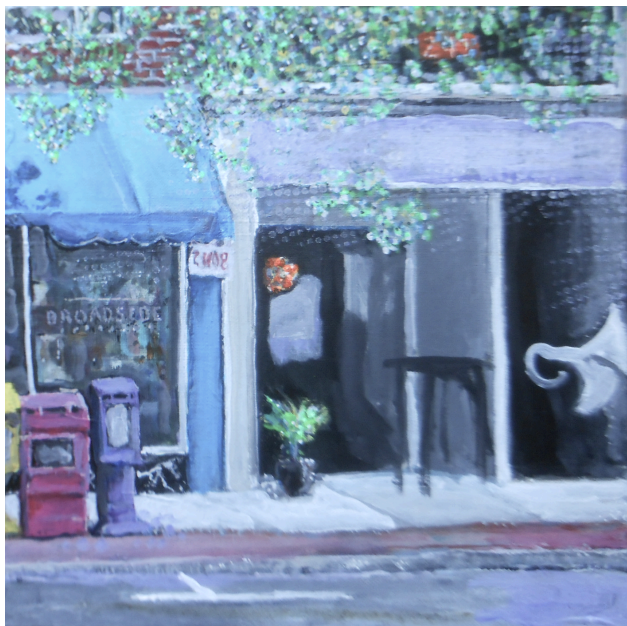


24-75 Broadside Books 1

Acrylic on canvas

12x12"





24-79 Old Firehouse

Acrylic on Canvas

11x14

