

VAST ARTS

visual arts society
of texas

VISION

December 2005

December 1, 2005

Melanie Singleton - Pastel Portraits

Our December 1 meeting will feature a demonstration by Melanie Singleton, an accomplished artist who works in pastels and oils. In 1989, Singleton opened her Bridgeport, TX, studio for painting and began teaching, specializing in pastel portraiture. Although she is basically self-taught, she honed her skills with pastel portrait artists Greg Conlin and the late Steve Grey. She also studied briefly at the Art Students League in New York City. For the past three years, Singleton has been under the tutelage of master pastelist Kaye Franklin of Graham, TX.

Singleton's work consistently wins awards in regional art shows. Her work is in many private and public collections including the Wise County Heritage Museum and the Wise County Courthouse. Recently, she was featured in the Preservation Is the Art of the City Annual Art Show at the downtown Fort Worth Library. Singleton has served as the director of Thurburn Gallery in Fort Worth. She continues to be very involved with the Wise County Art Association. She is also a member of the Greater Wise County Arts Council and the Off 380 Theater Group.

Singleton will be demonstrating a formulated method of painting a pastel portrait with a limited palette. This technique simplifies the process and is designed to give artists the basic skills of painting portraits in pastels.

VAST Celebrates 30th Anniversary, Honors Past Presidents

To celebrate the 30-year anniversary of the Visual Arts Society of Texas, formerly the North Texas Area Art League, we will honor all of our past presidents at the January 5 meeting. The evening festivities will start at 5 pm at the CVA with a Mexican-theme Pot Luck Supper.

2005 VAST Sponsors

Thank you to all of our sponsors for this incredible year. Please see the complete list of sponsors, *continued on page four*.

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In this issue

- 2006 Gala Honoring Rob Erdle
- 2005 VAST Sponsors
- Focus on Member Artist Dave Maxwell
- Member Yearbook Update

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December 1

Slide Night at the CVA, 5 pm pot-luck supper

December 2 - 3

GDAC Organizational Members' Art Sale

January 5

30th Anniversary and Past-President
Celebration

January 20

Gala 2006: A Tapestry of Art and Music

January 20 GALA Getting Even More Exciting!

Plans for "Gala 2006: A Tapestry of Art and Music" continue to develop. As you already know, the 2006 Gala has been moved to January. Last year we scheduled it for early April, but it was too close to the Spring Exhibition. Our honored guest is the popular, talented, and beloved Rob Erdle, a watercolor artist living in Denton. (Please see biography in this article.)

The evening will begin with a reception at 5 pm. At 5:45, guests will be treated to a "Taste of Asia" featuring specialties from many of Denton's Asian restaurants. Dinner will be followed by a musical performance of traditional Chinese instruments featuring two talented professional artists who are currently graduate students in the UNT School of Music. Jing Wang, educated in Beijing, will play the Chinese Erhu, a two-string vertical fiddle; Hsiao-Lan Wang from Taiwan will play the Chinese hammer Dulcimer. After a brief break, Erdle will deliver a slide lecture, illustrating how his teaching and traveling experiences in China over the last thirteen years have impacted some of his work.

Also that evening, Erdle will open an exhibition of new work entitled "Eastern Influences on a Western Artist." The show, curated by Millie Giles, will include forty paintings, both large and small scale, and photographs inspired by travel in four regions of eastern China. The watercolors are both on-site paintings and recent studio interpretations.



Background music will include traditional Chinese works and a composition by Cindy McTee, UNT composition professor, written for Erdle's painting that hangs in the City Council Room in Denton's City Hall.



continued on page three

VAST OFFICERS 2005-2006

EXECUTIVE BOARD (elected)

President	Lynne Cagle lynne.cagle@verizon.net	940-387-7559
First Vice-President	Dana Blanchard dprbnn@aol.com	972-539-8115
Second Vice-President	Leslie Kregel lkregel@dentonisd.org	940-891-4883
Secretary	vacant	
Treasurer	Mike Strecher mstrecher@earthlink.net	940-484-5110
Past President	Jo Williams texjo@msn.com	940-383-1092

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (appointed)

Hospitality Chairs	Barbara Miller barblmiller2@charter.net	940-383-0744
Historian	Robin Butt ptar12a@yahoo.com	940-382-4154 940-368-4335
Photographer	Fran Shurtleff fmrws@att.net	940-321-4608
Parliamentarian	Earnest Benton, Jr. ernie@strictlyearnest.com	817-658-1256
Yearbook Editor	Lynne Cagle lynne.cagle@verizon.net Donna Kutlus artmanjon@yahoo.com	940-387-7559 940-383-8896
Newsletter Editor	Devon Wattier devonpaiges@charter.net	817-454-4298
Membership Chair	Rebecca Hines rjhines1921@aol.com	940-387-0170
Volunteer Coordinator	Craig Nance	940-367-2375
Nominating Chair	Mary S. Morris paintbrush76201@yahoo.com	940-382-1926
Sunshine/Phone Chair	June Dalton	940-383-3216
Spring Exhibition Chair	Amber O'Dell SpiralingRed1@aol.com	940-595-6363
Members Exhibition Co-Chairs	Deanna Wood deanna.wood@charter.net Amber O'Dell SpiralingRed1@aol.com	940-320-5102 940-595-6363
Arts & Jazz Festival Chair	Erin DeGenaro dzinebyme@yahoo.com	940-387-6168

Staff 2005-2006

Executive Director: Ingrid W. Scobie	iwscobie@hotmail.com	940-566-5507
Webmaster: Billie Jean Kam	billiejean@k-a-studio.com	940-367-8946

e-Vision

If you would like to help VAST save money and trees, you can opt to receive an email update when *Vision*, the monthly newsletter, is published on the web. To sign up for *e-Vision*, contact Devon Wattier, Editor, at devonpaiges@charter.net.

Artist Spotlight: November Artist of the Month

Tie for First Place:



Catie Cagle
Clay Vessel

"I made this pot on the wheel. I like to make pots because it's fun. I chose the green and blue colors because they remind me of the lands and oceans that God created."

Fran Shurtleff-White
Mexican Buckeye in the Fall

9 x 12, Watercolor on watercolor canvas

"I decided to try painting on the relatively new watercolor canvas to see how the paint reacts on it. I wanted a subject I could do relatively quickly and chose the leaves. I caught the sun just touching some of the leaves of the trees through the shade of the redbuds in front of them. I really enjoyed painting on the canvas and will try it again before too long."



Tie for Second Place: **Donna Kutlus and Detha Watson**

GDAC Organizational Members' Art Sale

Christmas Shopping Opportunity

The Greater Denton Arts Council is sponsoring its first ever show and sale on Friday, December 2, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and on Saturday, December 3, 9 am to 2 pm.

Any member of VAST and the other GDAC visual art member organizations are eligible to rent booths on a first come first serve basis. The charge is \$25 for two tables set in a square configuration. Setup for the show will be between 1 pm and 5 pm on Friday. Anyone interested in a table should contact John Riegelman at 940-382-2787.

Two people may share a booth; a representative needs to man the table at all times during the sale hours. Artists are responsible for all monetary transactions and will have to supply change as necessary for purchases.

VAST has reserved one table where we will have our calendars, note cards, and T-shirts for sale, but there will be room for members with small items or with only one or two items to show their work. Interested members should contact Lynne Cagle at 940-387-7559 or at lynne.cagle@verizon.net.

The Laurel Hill Artists' Holiday Sale

Time: Friday, December 2, 5-9 pm and Saturday, December 3, 9 am - 5 pm

Location: 1316 Kendolph Drive, Denton (Take Highland Park Road south of I-35 to Kendolph Drive)

Participating Artists: VAST Artists Paula Blincoe Collins (Ceramics), Jo Williams (Watercolors), Bill Warde (Sculpture), plus artists Susan Medler (Mobiles, Suncatchers and Prints), Diane Coady (Hand Painted Silk Wearables), Barbara Sansoni, Sri Lankan Artists (Textiles), Barbara Evans (Annidotes and Vintage Brooches), and Bill McCarter (Watercolors).

Ticket Prices and Invitations

Individual tickets are \$35 (for VAST members only) and \$50. If you would like to sit with certain people, just submit those checks at the same time. The tables seat eight people. Sponsor Tables are available for \$500 and Patron Tables for \$750. Sponsors and Patrons will receive considerable publicity. We will not be sending formal invitations to VAST members to save on printing and mailing costs. These will go out to various people in the community in early December. So reserve now for the best seating! We will have a total of twenty-eight tables; fourteen have already been sold. Please see page four for the form to purchase tickets.

A Very Special Note: All dinner attendees will receive a small Rob Erdle original painting. What a wonderful art acquisition!

If you have questions, please contact me at 940-566-5507 or iwscobie@hotmail.com. Checks may be mailed to VAST, PO Box 1281, Denton, TX 76202.

Erdle Biography

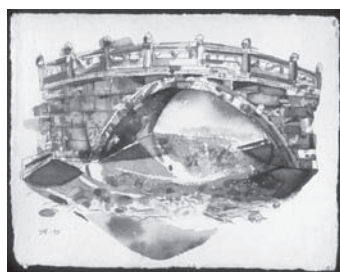


Rob Erdle, Regents Professor at the University of North Texas, has headed the undergraduate and graduate watercolor painting programs at the School of Visual Arts since 1976. He was born in California in 1949 and received an MFA Degree in Watercolor Painting from Bowling Green University, Ohio. He has been creating watercolor paintings full-time for the past 38

years during which time he has had over 35 solo exhibitions. Five are scheduled for 2006. He has lectured extensively and exhibited internationally. His work has been juried into most national watercolor exhibitions including Watercolor USA, National Watercolor Society, Pittsburgh Aqueous Open, and Arizona Aqueous.

Eight years ago he formed Watercolor Worldwide to lead painting trips open to all artists to places from China and Japan to Mexico and Europe as well as numerous locations in the United States. Erdle and his wife, Millie Giles, are past directors of the Chautauqua National Exhibition of American Art at the New York Chautauqua Institute where he also served as Director of the Summer School for the Arts.

As a result of nine invitational trips to eastern China since 1993, Erdle has been named a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Watercolor Painting at the famous Luxun Academy of Fine Arts in Shenyang, China. He is developing a western contemporary direction for the program and follows the classes of students during their four years of work. His paintings were the subject of the first solo watercolor invitational by a western watercolorist at the Shanghai State Art Museum in 1995 since the Turner Retrospective in 1960. The show included large experimental work, some up to twenty-four feet long. Also, after achieving international visibility from five trips to Japan to teach and mount solo exhibitions, the International Watercolor Institute in Niigata, Japan, named him their Honorary President.



Erdle's works can be found in Chinese and Japanese public and private collections and across the US. His work is the subject of a 2001 book in Chinese, published in China.

Ingrid Scobie

Focus on Member Artist Dave Maxwell



Dave Maxwell is an artist seeking perfection. That said, he has chosen watercolor as his media, which means he seeks a challenge as well.

Dave spent his early years in Illinois and Fort Worth, and graduated from North Texas State University with a degree in Industrial Arts. He worked for ten years as a draftsman for a major oil company in New Mexico and then held various assignments in the company's Purchasing Department in Houston until his retirement in 1993. Over a period of time, his wife, Mary,

and an artist friend encouraged him to take watercolor lessons. Watercolor then became a focal point for both artistic expression and the continued pursuit of the precision he had earlier attained as a draftsman.

A life-long love of automobiles provides the subject matter for many of his paintings. His painting *Corvette in the City* exemplifies two principles of his technical practice: the development of mechanical shapes and crisp lines and the composition of the organic abstract shapes and colors of reflections. Some of his compositions are abstracted from the photographs he references; Dave wants to go one step further than his photos. This can be better seen in his painting *Trans Fusion*, where the top and bottom of the composition are "fabricated" to fit with the rainbow patterns in the middle of the painting. His reference photo for this painting was taken of a store window in Brussels on one of his and Mary's travels to Europe.



Corvette in the City is one of Dave's favorite paintings, and it earned him Best of Show in the Society of Watercolor Artists' Membership Show in 2004. Dave is a VAST 2006 Calendar artist, a Signature Member of the Southwestern Watercolor Society, the Watercolor Art Society of Houston, and the Society of Watercolor Artists in Fort Worth. Though Dave has been painting less than a decade, his wife believes he has been an artist all of his life. Part of the perfection Dave is working toward is not just found in photo-realist technique but also in the expressive potential of watercolor. He considers his greatest challenge as an artist will be to one day leave the photograph behind.

He considers his greatest challenge as an artist will be to one day leave the photograph behind.

Devon Wattier

Editor's note: For our article "Focus on Member Artist," the artists are selected at random at our monthly board meetings. Everyone has a chance to shine!

■ 2005-2006 Member Yearbook Update ■

New/ Renewing Members

Alexander, John
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940-464-7487
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Collins, Paula Blincoe
1223 Highland Park Road
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Dorn, Diane reader
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940-243-3676
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Helman, Mary-Alice
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Hineman, James
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detha_watson@yahoo.com

Wood, Deanna
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940-320-5102
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Member Yearbook Corrections
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Hines, Rebecca
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Sipos, Beverly
beverlysipos@verizon.net



Gala 2006: A Tapestry of Art and Music

Honoring Rob Erdle, Watercolor Artist

January 20, 2006

Center for the Visual Arts

Reception, Dinner, and Concert
Exhibition Opening and Lecture

Pricing Information

- Tables of Eight Patron \$750.00
 Sponsor \$500.00
- Individual \$50.00
 \$35.00 (VAST members only)

Note: All dinner attendees will receive a small Rob Erdle original painting.

Name _____

Address _____

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Please send checks payable to Visual Arts Society of Texas to:
VAST, PO Box 1281, Denton, TX 76202

2005 VAST Sponsors

continued from page one

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| DaVinci Paint | Bobby and Mary Sigle |
| Frenchy's Lawn & Tree | Morris |
| Service | Winsor & Newton |
| Fuego y Alma | North Light Books |
| Geek on Wheels | Paradise Liquor |
| Glazer Distributor | Ranchman's Café – The |
| GreenHouse Restaurant | Ponder Steakhouse |
| & Bar | Recycled Books |
| Guerilla Painter | Jack Richeson |
| Holly's Gardens & Florist | Elizabeth Schwartz |
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| Eagleton Photography | VNU Business Publications |
| Flower Garden | Diana Ward |
| Golden Artist Colors | Jim and JoAnn Wheeler |
| | Johnny and Jo Williams |

2nd Annual VAST Artists' Studio Tour

We had a beautiful day for the tour and a very nice turnout. The artists were wonderful, opening their homes and studios to all of us and presenting their work. A number of them gave demonstrations of what they did and how they created their art. It was not only a great day to see each of these fine artists and their studios but also a wonderful opportunity to meet other art lovers or catch up with members we hadn't seen for a while. Everyone enjoyed the day whether they were working or taking the tour. Thank you to all of the artists and volunteers who worked so hard to make the Artists' Studio Tour a success.

Thank you to this year's artists: Robin Huttash, Judy Ann Drought, Michael Drought, Colby Parsons-O'Keefe and his ceramics students, June Impson, Carolyn Riegelman, Robert Jessup, Faith Scott Jessup, Jerry Daniel, Circe Joines, Phil Joines, and Paul Matthaues.

Thank you to all of the Location Captains for their hard work: Mike and Karen Arzamendi, Becca Hines, Jo Williams, Mary Sigle Morris, Marilyn Smith, Tom Cox, Jon Hawkins (also the Tour's co-chair), Craig Nance, and Becky Matthaues. They kept things running smoothly and helped coordinate volunteers at each of the studios.

Thank you also to all of the volunteers who gave their time to sit at each location: Ann Chastain-Homick, Barbara L. Miller, Jennifer M. McCormic, Evalyn Coulter, Stephanie Sidoti, Deanna Wood, Jo Nash, Marilyn Brannon, Marygail Lakner, Sharidon Henley, Carmen Underwood, Phaedra and Jackson Strecher, Eden Lakner, Marian D. Murray, Tiffany Anders, Marlys Lamar, Alfred M Smith, Fran Shurtleff, Claude Cheek, Mary Jo Armstrong, Leslie Kregel, Nancy Allen Waldo, Betty Robertson, John Alexander, Beth Haywood, Robin Butt, Lynne Cagle, C.J. Solberg, Ingrid Scobie, Dan Lattimore, and Kelli Trimble.

Thank you to our sponsors: Ranchman's Cafe-The Ponder Steakhouse and the *Denton Record-Chronicle*.

And a special thanks to Jon Hawkins and Donna Kutlus, the Tour co-chairs, for all of their hard work.

** On a personal note, Jon and Donna would really like to say thank you to all of you who worked with us to make the day such a pleasure. To Lynne and Ingrid for all of their help and coordination, to Phaedra at WheelerPress for all of her contributions to the brochures and posters, to Billie Jean for her prompt work getting things set up on the website, and to everyone who sold tickets and put out brochures. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

Jon Hawkins and Donna Kutlus

2005-2006 Monthly Programs

December 1, 2005	Melanie Singleton - Pastel Portraits
January 5, 2006	Jennifer Quarles -Clay
February 2, 2006	Arlene Anderson - Gourd Art
March 2, 2006	Pat Kochan -Watercolor
April 6, 2006	Mary Treadwell - Watercolor
May 4, 2006	Mark Thistlethwaite - Public Art Today
Regular meetings are usually held at 7:00 pm at the Center for the Visual Arts, 400 East Hickory, Denton, TX.	

Letter From the President

Holiday Greetings VAST friends!

It will soon be time to take down your 2005 VAST calendars and hang your 2006 VAST calendars! I confess that this is one of my favorite times of year. I love the sights, sounds, and smells associated with December. I love setting up my vintage M.E. Moses aluminum Christmas tree and hanging a red glass ornament at the end of each "fountain" branch. I love turning on my multi-color disco ball underneath (sadly the original color wheel is long gone) and seeing the colors reflect off of the silver branches onto every surface in my living room. I love searching for the perfect gift for someone special, carefully wrapping the gift, and watching that person open and react to it. I love getting gifts too. But my favorite thing to do at this time of year is to light a fire in the fireplace, snuggle up on the couch with a well-loved quilt, and stare into the flames reflecting on the year just past and dreaming about the year to come.

This issue of *Vision* has me reflecting and dreaming already. Reflecting on the names of those individuals who participated in the Studio Tour was immensely rewarding for me. Compiling the list of 2005 VAST sponsors for this newsletter was another wonderful reflective experience for me. I am simply astounded by the generous support VAST receives on a continual basis from the Denton community and beyond. WOW! I am overwhelmed. Thank you all.

As far as dreaming goes, just look at all of the wonderful things in store for VAST in the spring of 2006. We begin the New Year with a celebration of our heritage by honoring our past presidents. "Gala 2006: A Tapestry of Art and Music" promises to be a phenomenal experience (I'm already giddy with delight knowing that I will soon have my very own Rob Erdle original painting!). And although the final tally will not be in until after this issue goes to press, the response to our 2006 Spring Exhibition is already positive. To quote Amber O'Dell, "Well folks, it looks like we're going to have a show." It appears that I am going to be a bit busy this next year. I'm glad I bought my 2006 calendars this past weekend.

If you've not yet purchased your VAST 2006 calendar, you'll want to do so soon; I think 2006 is definitely going to be a year to remember!

I hope all of your holiday dreams come true,



Members Doing Great Things

Dana Blanchard, Dave Dunlap, and Lorraine Hayes were among the southern Denton County artists featured in the 4th Annual Cross Timbers Studio Tour held November 12 and 13. **Jackie Haugen's** painting, *The Launch*, was published in the October issue of the Texas Propane Gas Association's magazine after its purchase by the Texas Propane Educational and Marketing Foundation of Austin. The painting was displayed at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas during the company's Fall Meeting. **Amber O'Dell** is exhibiting oil paintings at the Jupiter House Coffee shop through the 14th of December. **Jo Williams** taught a workshop for the Gainesville art group and celebrated her exhibition in Alpine with a closing reception in November. **Devon Wattier's** painting *375 Years, After Velasquez* was selected as a semi-finalist for the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC.

Free Fibers:

Judy Stewart has several large bags of natural fibers, including some chocolate colored unspun wool, that she would like to give to fiber artist(s). Anyone interested, please call Judy Stewart at 972-292-2453 or email: dlshdrader@sbcglobal.net.

■ Calls for Entries

Red River Valley National Juried Art Competition. Slide Deadline January 20. Exhibition dates May 12-23. Awards Judge: David Band. \$4000 in awards. For prospectus, send #10 SASE to Red River Valley Museum, PO Box 2004, Vernon, TX 76385, or email museum@chipshot.net for more information.

New American Talent, The Twenty-first Exhibition, at the Jones Center in Austin, Texas. **Slide/JPGs deadline January 20.** Exhibition dates June 17 - August 20 (exhibition will tour through 2008). Juror Aimee Chang of the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles. 3 slides/JPGs for \$27. See website for Prospectus, www.arthousetexas.org, or email info@arthousetexas.org.

19th Juried International Exhibition on Animals in Art in Baton Rouge, LA. **Slide deadline January 20.** Exhibition dates March 18 - April 16. Best in Show is \$1000, with other awards. \$10 per entry. Send SASE to Exhibition, Veterinary Medicine Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-8414 or contact Ginger Gutner at 225-578-9922 or ggutner@vetmed.lsu.edu.

Classified Advertisement

Encaustic Workshop by Deanna Wood

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2006, 10 am - 3 pm

Cost: \$50

Location: My studio in Sanger

For more information, visit www.deannawood.com or call 940-320-5102.

Please send information you wish to have included in *Vision* by the 15th of each month to: Devon Wattier, 228 Nursery Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76114, or email: devonpaiges@charter.net.

Vision is published the last Monday before the last Thursday of each month, September through May.

■ Art Around Town

Center for the Visual Arts

Meadows Gallery

Children of the World

by Betty LaDuke

Through December 30

East Gallery

Not Your Grandmother's Quilt

Denton Quilt Guild

Through December 30

UNT's SOVA Gallery

Annual Faculty Exhibit

Through December 16 and

January 17 - 28

UNT's Union Gallery

Intersection: Paintings by

Ian O'Brian and

Diane Walker-Gladney.

Through December 15

Art Prostitute

Line of Confusion: The First

Solo Exhibition of New Work

by Navada Hill

December 3 - January 3

Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

Anselm Kiefer:

Heaven and Earth

Through January 8

Pablo Picasso: The Vollard

Suite, etchings created

between 1930-37. Through

January 15

Kimbell Art Museum

Gauguin and Impressionism

(only American venue)

December 18 - March 26

Dallas Museum of Art

Dialogues: Duchamp, Cornell,

Johns, Rauschenberg

Through January 15

The Nasher

Sculpture Center

The Women of Giacometti

Opens January 14, 2006

All of the entries for our Spring Exhibition are in!
Please join us for slide night for a sneak peek of the entries from
around the nation. Come to the December 1 meeting early (5 pm), bring
a covered dish for a pot-luck supper, slide review starts at 5:30.

Melanie Singleton
Pastel Portraits
December 1, 2005
\$50 Voertman's Door Prize

www.VASarts.org

Denton, Texas 76202

P.O. Box 1281

VISION ■

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