



from the president California Watercolor Association

“Good Art is not what it looks like, but what it does to us.” *Roy Adzak*

True statement...simple as that.
However... “Good Art” to you is different than
“Good Art” to me... isn't it?

I love attending art shows, strolling through museums and galleries admiring and analyzing “Good Art.” It's in a museum/gallery, it must be Good Art, right? I think almost everybody does this, don't they? I say to myself... “do I like this? Is this good? Why is it good? Who says it's good?” My list of questions go on and on. Art isn't good just because someone tells you it is. Really!

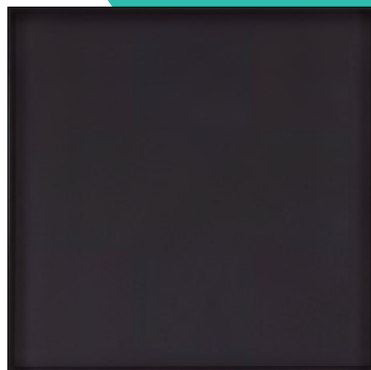
You've seen me refer to a couple of works of “Good Art” in past articles that always make me question this term. One of them is by Ad Reinhardt. It depicts three shades of black. The title is *Abstract Painting*. Another is a piece of ready-made art by Marcel Duchamp called *Fountain*. I saw the Reinhardt work at a very young age. The Duchamp I saw for the first time maybe 15 years ago. I believe these two major works of art gave me “permission” to question the term “Good Art,” freeing me to say “yes, that is good art” or “no, that is not good art.” Why? Because of what they do to me! That is the key!

So, when you are looking at art, YOU determine if it is GOOD. No one else can do that but you. Don't let others bully you into changing your mind. Don't let others make you change your painting style if you are making your own GOOD ART! You ask what I think is “Good Art?” One of my favorites is *The Swing by Renoir*. Here is an artist, reviled and hated by the Paris Salon establishment, who created beautiful works of art that still attracts millions of visitors a year to view. “Good Art” is in the eye and heart of the beholder.

Carol Husslein
CWA President



The Swing by Pierre-Auguste Renoir



Abstract Painting by Ad Reinhardt



Fountain by Marcel Duchamp