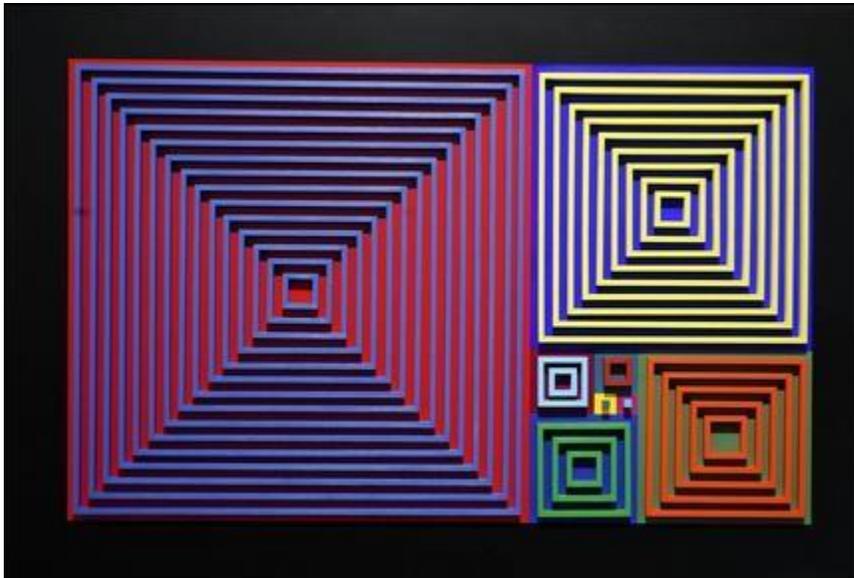


Gallery 1 + Gallery 2 + Gallery 3

Art's additive at Studio Place Arts

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Jeb Wallace-Brodeur / Staff Photo Chris Jeffrey: "Golden Mean"

It's not uncommon to hear, "I really love art, but I'm no good at it myself," and sometimes people say the same thing about mathematics. In the current show at Studio Place Arts, "1 - 2 - 3 - F: Math and Art," you can see the work of 18 artists doing both things really well.

John Anderson, an artist and architect, best known for his four "SkyGate" murals in the ceilings above gates 1-8 at the Burlington International Airport, offers a piece called "Big Red," an impressive eight feet high and wide, with diverse grids, soaring arcs, ellipses and parabolas in many hues of red.

Another standout piece is by Chris Jeffrey, who has had a glass studio at SPA for over 15 years, and has recently begun working with wood and paint in finely crafted constructions featuring geometric motifs. Jeffrey's piece in this show illustrates the "Fibonacci Sequence," a series in which each number is the sum of the two preceding digits – 0,1,1,2,3,5,8, 13, etc. Mysteriously, this number sequence describes phenomena actually found in nature, like the spiral of the nautilus shell, and Jeffrey evokes a sense of wonder and delight with painted squares and overlaid wooden strips that create illusions of changing

color and form.

The show includes two computer-aided weavings by Bhakti Ziek: "Duals," an elegant pair of clay sculptures by Dr. Robert Fathauer that illustrate the relationship between the cube and octahedron; and the "Pi Piper" by Tom Batey. Fractals, transformations, tessellations, waveforms — you can get it all in a feast for both your eyes and your brain this month at SPA.

The two galleries upstairs at SPA feature shows that provide insights into ways Vermont artists respond to April, the month whose name comes from the word, *aperire*, "to open." While in parts farther south, artists watch leaves and flowers unfurl, here in northern Vermont, inspiration comes from finding beauty in common, every day occurrences — and self-discipline.

A group of photographs exhibited by Holly King, Patricia Lyon-Surrey, Michelle Saffran and Jackie Smith in the second floor gallery in "4x4x4x4" involves the four artists and their daily perspective in April (our fourth month), taken at either 4 p.m. or 4 a.m., and then printed in a 4-inch format. The show includes a more than 10-foot timeline that shows the entire group of 120 photographs taken by the artists.

Vermont photographer Matt Larson chose an escape to Utah during the month of April, depicted in his third-floor gallery show, "Sacred Cliffs," a group of 28 images of Mukuntuweap (Zion Canyon) in iron, silver and gold. Canyon country stirs deep,

primal reactions, as noted by Larson, "For as long as human society has existed, there have been sacred landscapes — places where the natural world compels us to contemplate the myths and mysteries of our origin and encourages us to experience the transcendental."

He details his photograph process, the Van Dyke Brown process (invented in 1841) to curious viewers, which results in delicate highlights and sepia-tinged shadows. The exhibit includes a dramatic photograph installation that mimics the sweeping vistas of Zion by virtue of their large-scale and strategic placement; the exhibit further reveals Larson's artistic process via pinned-up negatives.

These three exhibits at SPA are on view through July 16. Community members are invited to meet the artists at the upcoming reception 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 10. For information, call 802-479-7069, or go online to www.studioplacearts.com.