

ARTBEAT

Gallery shows' spectrum to be feast for eyes, heart

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ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Winter's blast may chill us to the bone, but several art shows in central Arkansas are bound to warm the heart and spirit. A closer look:

■ "Short Stories of the Sublime" is the title of Russellville artist Mark Blaney's new show at Greg Thompson Fine Art. Blaney, a past winner of the Delta Award at the Arkansas Arts Center, paints with oils.

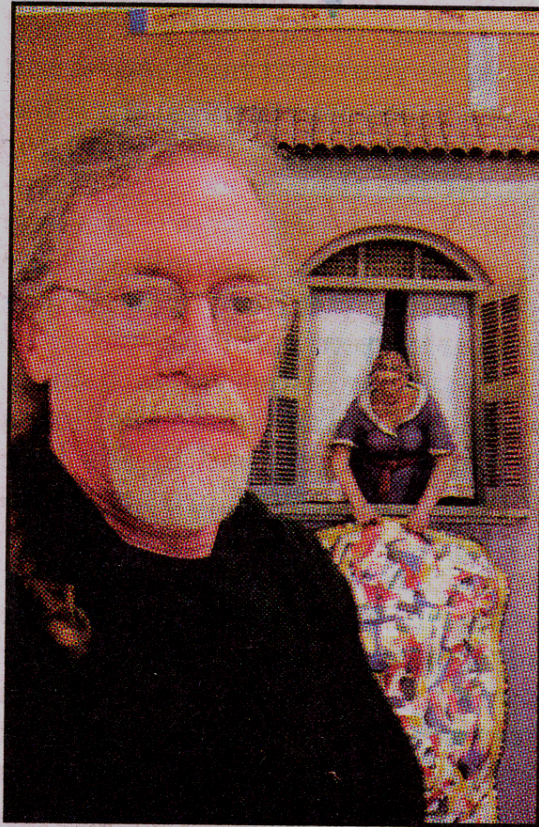
The show will have 25 to 30 pieces, including paintings and ceramic wall pieces.

Blaney's work, particularly his tree paintings, have a post-impressionist feel and a fantasy element. One can see hints of Van Gogh and Gustav Klimt in those works.

"There is almost always a narrative in his work," Greg Thompson says. "It's like you're peeking into a scene in someone's life."

A reception will be held at 6 p.m. Friday at the gallery, on the second floor at 429 N. Main St., North Little Rock. Call (501) 664-2787.

■ "Stop the Presses: The Art of the *Democrat-Gazette*" returns



Arkansas artist Mark Blaney

to Cantrell Gallery with a reception at 6 p.m. Friday at the gallery, 8206 Cantrell Road, Little Rock. Participating *Democrat-Gazette* staff members include MovieStyle editor Philip Martin, chief photographer John Sykes Jr., editorial car-

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