

# THOMASVILLE TIMES-ENTERPRISE

## Center opens doors to fall art

By Teresa Williams  
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### IF YOU GO

#### WHAT:

Thomasville  
Cultural  
Center Fall  
Exhibits

#### WHEN:

Today through  
Nov. 1  
Hours: 9 a.m.  
to 6 p.m.  
weekdays, 1  
p.m. to 5 p.m.  
on Saturdays.  
Fall Exhibits  
Opening, 5  
p.m. to 8 p.m.  
today

#### WHERE:

Thomasville  
Cultural Cen-  
ter, 600 E.  
Washington St.

#### ADMISSION:

Free

INFO: 226-  
0588

THOMASVILLE — Prepare for a season of art as the Thomasville Cultural Center opens its fall exhibits today.

Exhibits are: Lewis Thompson Retrospective, Shelley Hall: The Balance of Nature, Sherry Steele: Eye of the Storm, Pang-Chieh Hsu: The Neglected Existence and TCC's Summer Youth Photographers.

"We make a pronounced effort to present a variety of artists and styles that are not just regional artists but artists across the nation," said Barbara Cohenour, executive director.

Pang-Chieh Hsu is a native of Taipei, Republic of China. He began his art studies at the Art Students League of New York in 1998. He completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2000 at New



Teresa Williams/Times-Enterprise

York's School of Visual Arts. In 2003, Hsu received his Master of Fine Arts at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is currently a member of the art department faculty at Armstrong State University in Savannah.

His exhibit includes charcoal drawings and paintings.

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Sherry Steele is a Texan known for her state-themed and animal wildlife art. Her signature technique is using permanent inks.

His exhibit includes charcoal draw-

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# Art

Steele enjoys sharing the emotions of the animals of her home state and those she observed during her four extended stays in Africa. She uses animals to portray emotions that create the storm of the human condition.

The late Lewis Thompson completed his Master of Fine Arts at the University of Georgia in 1950. His paintings are "modern," in subject, color, design and structure.

"He evolved with time," said Jake Wheeler, a long-time friend who taught with Thompson for several years. "Over the last 50 years, he moved into various great schools of art and there is a retrospective of those years in this one show. He was a very modest person. When he retired about 1995, he returned to Rome, rented a studio and continued to work all the time. I think he did some of his most interesting work in that period of retirement."

Thompson's paintings of religious subjects touch the work of French Baroque artist Georges de la Tour in their use of symbolism, dramatic light and power of statement, but are of the late 20th century. They merely reference the past by showing age-old themes in a modern setting.

"He got interested in Mary Magdalene and painted about 10 different interpretations of what she must have been like," said Wheeler. "Then, he

art skeptics — whether artists can still really paint what they see — by tackling materials like clear glass and silver in order to show the mindset and quality of life in the 20th century.

Painter Shelley Hall, of Oregon, has been exhibiting and selling her works in galleries and non-profit arts organizations since the early 1990s.

Her style is a calm atmosphere where nature is bold, delicate and ever-changing. Hall starts with a charcoal and pencil drawing and builds up translucent

layers of paint to create depth in a work. Her paintings have a sense of order and division of space.

"I consider my work nature-based abstracts," said Hall. "My inspiration comes from nature, but also contemporary art. I like to bridge the gap between traditional paintings and etchings. I call it bridging the gap between contemporary and traditional art. I always love it when someone can see something in the work who hasn't typically liked contemporary art because I want them to see a different way of looking at contemporary art."

In 2006, Hall opened the Shelley Hall Fine Art Gallery in Bend, Ore., which specializes in contemporary art by Pacific Northwest artists. She is an accredited member of the International Society of Appraisers.

The center's summer photography camps participants will also have their best shots up for viewing by patrons and visitors.

"We are delighted to have Shelley exhibiting at the center," said Cohenour. "We think those who come to see Shelley are really going to enjoy her

**"My inspiration comes from nature, but also contemporary art."**

**Shelley Hall**  
Oregon artist



Teresa Williams/Times-Enterprise

"Ultramarine Summer" is an oil on canvas painting by artist Shelley Hall. Her favored technique is to start with a charcoal and pencil drawing, then build up translucent layers of paint to create depth in a work. Her paintings have a sense of order and division of space.

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