

MAUD GATEWOOD | 1934 - 2004

A BRUSH WITH NATURAL BEAUTY

By DAVID PERLMUTT
Staff Writer

She was a sheriff's daughter, and even in the rural isolation of Caswell County in the 1930s and '40s, Maud Gatewood found a critical eye and vast curiosity that served her well through a visual life.

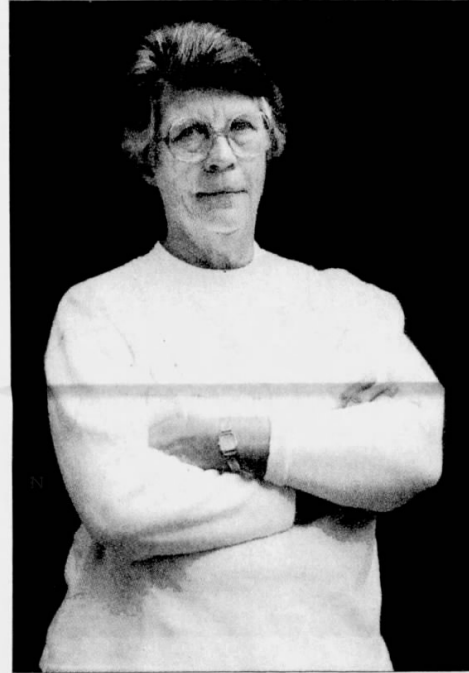
Her curiosity led her eye to cows grazing outside her childhood window, or to far-flung corners of the Earth riding camels, yaks and elephants. What she saw, she recorded on canvas.

All of it: Whether it was a crush of people storming a store for a sale; or a series of paintings of TV evangelists and politicians pandering for money - one piece she titled "Profit/Prophet" - or a stand of birch trees in Montana.

Gatewood, one of North Carolina's best-known artists whose work hangs in museums and private collections across the country, died Monday. She had suffered two strokes recently and been unable to communicate. She was 70.

"Maud painted what she saw and she was a very keen observer," said longtime friend Dot Hodges, co-owner of a Charlotte gallery. "Nothing escaped her curiosity. She liked catching the instant."

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SOME OF HER WORK
Above: "Montana Mix," 2003
Right: "Consuming Cause," 1989
Far right: "Three Sisters," 1957



On Display

- A retrospective of Maud Gatewood's work is on display at Hodges Taylor Gallery, 401 N. Tryon St.
- One of her commissions hangs in the Wachovia Atrium uptown.
- A documentary about the artist, "Gatewood: Facing the White Canvas," will be shown at 7 p.m. Nov. 18 at the Mint Museum, 2730 Randolph Road. The event is free and open to the public.

PHOTO OF ARTIST COURTESY OF CAROLYN DEMERITT