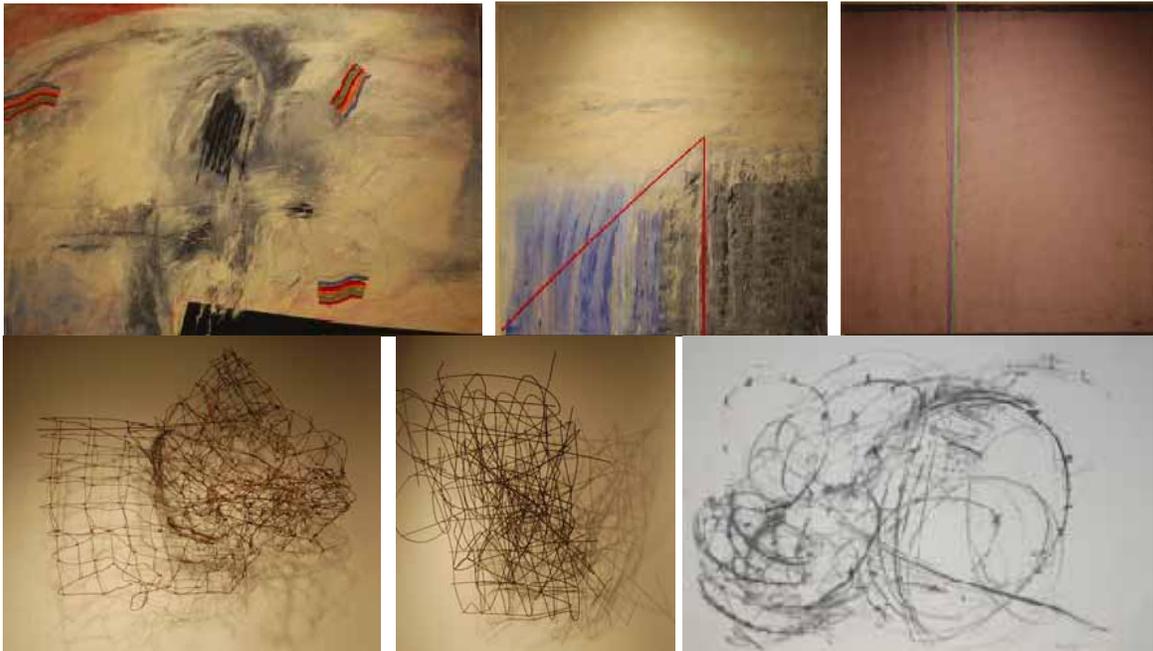


Alabama Artists Gallery

The Alabama State Council on the Arts is proud to showcase the work of Alabama artists in its Montgomery gallery in the RSA Tower. Hours are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Governor's Arts Award: Work by Al Sella and Hugh Williams

January 29, 2010 - March 19, 2010



In May of 2009, the Alabama State Council on the Arts honored eight outstanding individuals at a "Celebration of the Arts" awards ceremony. Artists Alvin Sella of Tuscaloosa and Hugh Williams of Auburn were honored with Governor's Arts Awards.

Al Sella joined the Department of Art at The University of Alabama in the summer of 1961, and at age 90 is still teaching and painting. A conservative estimate based on Sella's teaching career indicates he taught over 3500 students in the studio disciplines of painting, drawing, and design. In his own work, his use of the philosophies and principles of Abstraction, along with the use of a brilliant color palette, mark his significant paintings. His work has been included in exhibitions in numerous museums around the country and abroad as well as being published in the *New York Times*, *Life Magazine*, *Arts Magazine*, and *Art News*.

Hugh Williams joined the Auburn University Art Department in 1957 and formally retired as an Alumni Professor Emeritus of Art in 1992, although he continues teaching. His students in those four decades note that he excelled at not only offering them his expertise, but at encouraging their development as artists. His own work, which has a national exhibition history, ranges from painting and drawing to mixed media sculpture, always with an experimental and visionary approach. He has said, "If you are not willing to take the risk, you stop learning, and it is important as an artist to take on a new adventure." The works on exhibit are titled, "Three-dimensional drawings." He has noted that painting and collage are able to become three-dimensional, so he investigated a way to use found wire to create such a three-dimensional effect for drawing.

Georgine Clarke, Visual Arts Program Director, Gallery Manager