

Arthur Blake Pearce

Professor of Art

Valdosta State University

Biographical Sketch

A native of Georgia, Arthur Blake Pearce received his Master of Arts degree from Ball State University and his Master of Fine Arts degree from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He has been at Valdosta State University for thirty years serving as a faculty member, Department Head, and Dean. In 2022-2023 he will serve in the role of Interim Vice President for University Advancement. He is a member of Alpha Chi and Phi Kappa Phi Honors Societies. He is a member of the Southern Graphics Council International, the South-Eastern College Art Conference, the College Art Association, the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, and the National Council of Arts Administrators. His works have been exhibited in local, regional, and national exhibitions. His most recent works have been in the areas of painting, drawing, and printmaking.

Artist's Statement

The recent work in this exhibition reflects an interest in observing light, and textures found in local landscapes, and the structures within, or changes made to these spaces. I have been interested in the transient nature of light within a landscape and surprised by the sometimes-radical visual changes I observe in the land and space caused by development, seasonal agricultural activity, and natural forces. It may be debatable to a viewer whether changes such as fires, floods, storms, development, or agriculture are “good” or “beautiful” rather than “routine”, “seasonal, or “inevitable”. The effect of development or agriculture; any “intervention” by humans, or natural events, on the land can be interpreted as a form of environmental sculpture, always changing, moving, and growing. These observations may depict a space or object, or may be more meditative and abstract works that observe an event and present the event in a different form or context.