

Marvin Saltzman – Professor Emeritus - UNC Chapel Hill recently viewed the work of Michael Brown’s current exhibition at Eno Gallery.

Michael Brown studied under Marvin and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts at UNC Chapel Hill in 1977. Marvin Saltzman was well known for his unsparing critiques and encouragement of numerous artists that have gone on to professional careers.

This is Marvin’s critique of Michael Brown’s current work at Eno Gallery:

*“I have been a witness to the work of Michael Brown for over 40 years, as a teacher, as a viewer and as a friend. We all have seen one or more of his murals. Some have seen his landscapes. When asked for my opinion of the latter I would say they are ordinary but for what they represent they are better than most of that genre.”*

*In this exhibition two canvases break ground: The painting ‘West Village’ and the landscape with clouds ‘Shenandoah’.*

*‘West Village’ consists of strong well-conceived planes with the space broken into powerful areas. Vertical and angular lines play against the wall and window shapes. One knows where we visually are but it plays with our eye.*

*In ‘Shenandoah’ a landscape canvas with mounting clouds, Michael has captured the wind. The contrast of sky to ground excites the eye. For me it is the most powerful canvas I have seen of his work.*

*I am 87 and still paint. I have no room for more art in my collection. If I did I would buy it. No longer can I say: “for what they represent they are better than most of that genre” Michael has broken through and I would say of these works: wow! ...thank you Michael for what you have given to our eyes.”*

“Saltzman's professorial tone is well earned. Born in Chicago in 1931, he taught at UNC-Chapel Hill for three decades, building the art department and training a generation of artists through rigorous critiques.”

- Blue Greenberg – Art critic

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Marvin attended the University of Chicago and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago from 1954 to 1956.

After earning B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the University of Southern California in 1959, Marvin taught at Eastern Oregon State College, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, the University of Southern California, and was a member of the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1967 to 1996.

His unique landscape paintings have been exhibited nationally from California to New York. Saltzman’s paintings are held in numerous private and public collections including The Library of Congress, The National Academy of Sciences and The National Museum of American Art. Eno Gallery is honored to represent Marvin Saltzman.