

## A crawl through Art

As demanded, myself and significant other went to an art exhibit. Instead of going to just another museum we chose to do something a little more out of our element – an Art crawl. We were admittedly unsure and uncomfortable with the scene. We arrived perfectly on time but there were still a lot of people. It was uncomfortable, I suppose, because we are not artists of this nature or particularly knowledgeable and we had NO idea what we were getting into. A crowded place called “the art company” on 5<sup>th</sup> avenue was our starting place. I was more distracted by the people than the art. Unwelcoming- to say it kindly. This probably had more to do with my social anxiety than anything. Nevertheless, that is how I felt. Once I found a friendly face behind the counter she explained to me how this crawl worked and what I needed to do. “Just enjoy yourself” she ended after handing me a map and telling me where the wine was- I suppose I am not good and faking comfort.

So, we started looking. I was underwhelmed (but what do I know) of pretty much everything in this building. The musical instrument sculptures were kind of neat but I have seen more thought provoking pieces in Old Time Pottery. There was what I thought had to be intentionally unappealing fruit and veggie paintings. Then the wine room in the garage, where there were more interesting pieces- triangle shaped men on bikes with small circle patterns of color, very geometric. On our way out there was a really neat photomontage of Nashville.

Next we crawled to “Art in the Arcade”. We found ourselves more enjoying the buildings and architecture than the art in the crawl. There was a little shop (that was so my feel) with a huge pencil drawing of a long haired man that drew me inside. I meant to pay better attention to the artist name but was having sensory over load episodes and totally forgot. My favorite part of her shop was the upstairs where there was this “book nook” that I fell in love with. It had small windows that overlooked the breeze way that we walked in from with two teal chairs and a table and this tiny nook with bookshelves surrounding a built in seat bench. I wanted to lounge in that book nook for days but I did not know if I could touch it or actually lounge so we kept on moving.

I started noticing that each artist had a theme to all their works. Mainly focusing on one particular medium. We started skipping the less interesting shops but there were few. We found this one shop, or should I call them galleries I don't know, where everything was oversized and non-representational. They had a smooth seamless gloss over the what I think to be oil paintings on some type of stone. I cannot be for sure, the little information papers that hung below or beside each painting did not give that detail. The high saturation in the paintings was incredibly luring. The thick gloss coat over them just made it that much more of an intense color. We also noticed that each little shop had a scent that overwhelmed the room. We figured it was to help set the mood for their crafts. In this room it worked.

Next we kept crawling but we didn't go in any more art venues. We walked the streets and gazed in a few other places but did not go inside. We enjoyed our new and different experience of art culture. I thought the experience was more prominent than the actual art however I will note that when I have large enough walls and hefty revenue I will definitely buy my homes décor from one or several of these artists' boutiques. Few are better than Old Time Pottery's collection of art but as they say "To each their own".