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Experiencing the Arts

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Artwork Analysis

On the second floor of the Science Center beautiful artwork is displayed. The piece entitled *Belvedere and Cupola* by Stephen A. Batzka is a real eye catcher. It is a combination of silkscreen and stencil with airbrush on velveteen. The colors, a combination of earth tones, and the way that they fade into each other creates a beautiful effect, one in which the work almost looks dated.

The artist's use of silkscreen and stencil allow for the colors to only appear in selected areas. Upon looking at the artwork only certain areas have color, while others remain white. By using silkscreen Batzka was able to achieve uniform areas of color, and together with the use of stencil he was able to maintain those areas of no color.

Batzka also uses the technique of chiaroscuro in order to make the structures appear rounded and three-dimensional. The color value is greater at the edges of each structure and then fades into white. By using chiaroscuro the structures in the print appear to have shape.

The use of warm earth tones gives the print an appearance of a sunset scene. The artist mainly uses a golden yellow in the background to make it appear as if the sun is setting behind the structures. This color gives the work a warm, inviting feeling. The other colors of fusia, green, and teal help give the structures in the work life. They also give them an antique rustic look when contrasted with the golden yellow.

The way in which Batzka arranged the colors in the work has a powerful affect on the piece. It almost appears as if he let the colors bleed on to the material. This technique makes the work seem aged. Even the colors he chose to frame the work give it an antique, dated feel.

Batzka had a wonderful vision in creating this piece of art. He used warm, inviting earth tones to catch the eye of his audience. The use of colors and his technique for applying them also makes the work appear aged, which makes *Belvedere and Cupola* a beautiful piece of art.