

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Reception Begins Flowers Exhibit



Betsy LeVine's 'Before Me' oil on panel.

Art works featuring flowers ushers in summer and the new monthly exhibit at Guardino Gallery, 2939 N.E. Alberta St. A reception with the featured artists opens the show on Thursday, June 30 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The main gallery will feature paints in oils on birch panels by Betsy LeVines. Her concept, "Beauty is Before Me," concerns flora and mirrors. Screen paint-



er Dennis Floyd will show his works of flowers that are colorful and almost abstract in their creation.



'Roses of Converano' a screen print by Dennis Floyd.

The gallery's featured area will show works by Jeanne Drevas who works with old skateboards to highlight her fasci-

nation with the distressed graphics and markings found on the undersides and sides of the skateboards.

Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel

Stories behind the church members who lost their lives

"We Are Charleston," is a comprehensive new book about last summer's tragic events at South Carolina's Mother Emanuel Church.

Herb Frazier, an award-winning journalist and childhood member of Mother Emanuel, Dr. Bernard

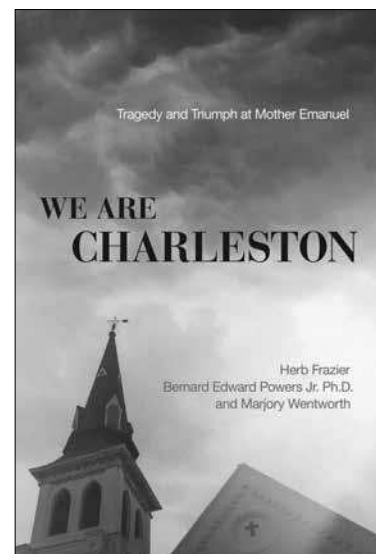
Edward Powers, another church member and professor of history at the College of Charleston, and Majory Wentworth, South Carolina's Poet Laureate, are the authors of the book which is based on extensive interviews with family and friends of "The Emanuel Nine" –

the church members who lost their lives on June 17, 2015, when a young white man opened fire on a prayer meeting at the church.

The book also details the triumphant 230-year history of the AME Church – the largest body of African-American Methodists

with 7.5 million members worldwide – and its role in America's social justice story from slavery to the civil rights movement.

The oldest AME church in the Deep South, Mother Emanuel's perseverance in the face of adversity and discrimination serves as an example of faith and forgiveness to the entire world.



It was no coincidence that this particular church was chosen for this grievous act.

"The tragedy at Mother Emanuel AME Church affected us deeply," the authors said in a group statement. "This book is our attempt to honor those whose lives were lost, the survivors and their families by telling their stories in the context of Charleston, the nation's racial history and the social justice efforts that have been the hallmark of the African Methodist Episcopal Church."

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