



Fun Houses

Artist captures personalities of homes

By Jo Lord

Artist Tracy Mang likes to say she sees the world through Dr. Seuss glasses. After one look at her paintings of Richmond homes, it's easy to see what she means.

In Mang's work, structures become fluid, shadows take on green hues and bricks become purple. The goal, she says, is to capture the personality of a house and the people who live in it. Mang recently painted a house for a woman with such a big personality, she instantly knew that the house would have to be hot pink.

The idea for her Seuss-esque works came about when Mang painted a friend's home as

a gift. Since then, she's painted numerous homes and even a church, historic St. James's Episcopal Church in the Fan, at the request of one of the reverends. One of her favorite paintings was done as a gift from a daughter to her mother, who was downsizing to a smaller home. "She'd lived there her whole life," says Mang. "It was very hard for her to leave her house, and this way she didn't have to."

Mang's acrylic-on-canvas home portraits start at about \$1,500 for a 22-by-28-inch painting. For more information, call (804) 937-4210 or visit www.myjunkyardart.com. ■

