

# GEORGIA MOUNTAIN LAUREL

*June 2011*



"Hope" is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul  
And sings the tune without the words  
And never stops-at all  
*Emily Dickinson*

*Dedicated to the Storm Victims of Northeast Georgia*

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*Local References Available*

# The Arts



## Cover Artist *Celia Durand's* *Pixelgraphs*

Celia Durand our June cover artist was born in Argentina, where she studied and worked before moving with her family to New York. It was there she followed her artistic inclinations in ceramics and sculpture studying with ceramist Elaine Brown and with Argentine sculptor Carlos Bartolini.

Life took over and Celia dedicated the next several years to the upbringing of her children and the care of her family, but still found time to teach herself the basics of early microprocessors and computers.

The road to "The South" took Celia and family to Washington D.C., where she learned computer programming by reading books and experimenting. She wrote several programs, including The Banner Machine -- which printed large size banners using a dot matrix printer -- and a number of companion utilities for a retail point of sale software package.

Shortly after the 1996 Olympic Games, Celia and her family moved further south to Atlanta. North Georgia and its beautiful mountains and waterfalls, teeming with colors and life, awakened in Celia a need to capture it all in her photographs. And in no time at all, she also fell under the spell of Georgia's coastal towns and islands, with their salty air and sunny friendliness.

Celia then started to highlight in the photograph the colors and the shapes that attracted her in the first place, what she remembered from the sites visited and to remove all that was extraneous to those feelings. So after working professionally with computers for many years and being an amateur photographer and art lover for many more, Celia found a way to combine her two passions -- art and technology -- through an emerging new medium and created PixelGraphs Photomontages.

Celia Durand is currently the website administrator and members' gallery editor of [www.northgeorgiaartsguild.com](http://www.northgeorgiaartsguild.com), the online site of the North Georgia Arts Guild, an association of regional artists. The website showcases its members' paintings, textiles, pottery, wood and metal crafts, stained glass and jewelry. The guild was organized in 1994 as part of a grass roots art grant project of the Clayton Women's Club. It was formed with the purpose of bringing together artists and people interested in the arts so that they might share their knowledge, expertise and friendship and to support art awareness in the community.

Celia's prints, from flower portraits and backyard birds to back roads scenes and country gardens, as well as desk calendars with those themes, are now offered at Mountain Makins, located at 68 North Main Street in Clayton and at Georgia Heritage Art Association Art & Fine Crafts Gallery at 8016 South Main Street in Helen, GA. You may see more of Celia's work at her website, [www.pixelgraphs.com](http://www.pixelgraphs.com).

Contact Celia Durand by email at [cdurand@pixelgraphs.com](mailto:cdurand@pixelgraphs.com).

by Kevin Croom

