

Seacoast Artist

The official newsletter of the Seacoast Artists Association

March/April 2022

SAA Gallery Body of Work Artists:
March 2022



"Sunset Storm," oil by Karen Desrosiers

SAA Gallery Body of Work Artists:
April 2022



"Celia's Flowers," watercolor by Bill Childs



"Fuchsia Blast," acrylic by Margaret Bowlus-Serino



"Arabic Woman," mixed media by Kerri L. Grant

In this Issue:

Seacoast Artists Association
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Exeter, NH 03833

Call 603-778-8856 • For directions, visit www.seacoartist.org

Please visit website for updates
www.seacoartist.org

Facebook link:
www.facebook.com/pg/Seacoast-Artist-Association-458673557524972

The Gallery is Open:
Wednesday through Saturday 10 to 5,
and Sunday 1 to 4.

Following the CDC guidelines, we are back to
Mask Required inside the Gallery. Thank you!
See www.seacoartist.org for updates.

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Debra Woodward
Anita Freeman
Carol Poitras

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SAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Seacoast Artist Association is to enhance knowledge of, and stimulate interest and appreciation in, the variety of creative arts available throughout Seacoast New Hampshire, by hosting exhibits for established and emerging artists; providing a gallery to house works of art, collaborating with other arts organizations, and by providing art education, mentor and scholarship opportunities for students pursuing a degree in the arts.

SAA WEBSITES

www.seacoartist.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As I write this, the second winter of Covid is winding down and Spring is but a month away. We found it necessary to close the gallery in January and open with reduced hours in February. Now, we look forward to opening with regular hours in March. These past two years have been a test for all of us, so I am anxious to see a return to (near) normal in the Gallery and the reawakening of nature that comes with spring! We will still be wearing masks and restricting gatherings in the gallery, so for now, any receptions will not include snacks and beverages. We will re-evaluate our policies as conditions change.

The holiday shopping season was good to us despite the clouds of the pandemic gathering during that time. As an organization we have been able to weather this storm and emerge strong, with new hope, thanks to the support of our members and especially our Exhibiting Gallery Members! I am hopeful that we will continue to work our way back to business as usual during the months ahead. Theme Shows and Body of Work Exhibits are back on track as of March, and the Gallery Members Exhibit is in the midst of a changeover. Work has continued on refining the Gallery operations during the shutdown.

The SAA's success is a group effort with several members deserving of special mention. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for staying involved and guiding the decisions that needed to be made while our in-person meetings were suspended. Debra Woodward has done an outstanding job of publicizing our exhibits and scholarship activities, writing articles that have been published online and in print, as well as organizing the Body of Work Exhibits. Annick Bouvron-Gromek and Lynn Krumholz have been handling Exhibiting Members and Theme Show changeovers (with help from several members) and continuing to refine gallery processes. Darlene Zahn's work as our Treasurer goes on perhaps without much notice, but it is so important and it is distinguished by her competence and reliability. My sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to our success by taking on the necessary tasks of running our operations!

I am most pleased by seeing members step up and take responsibility for tasks when the inevitable changes occur. The SAA is not just a gallery, it is a community of artists where the whole of our efforts creates a thriving arts environment in Seacoast New Hampshire!

president@seacoartist.org

Dennis Skillman, President, SAA

THEME SHOWS 2022:

Theme shows are open to members and non-members alike. All work must be framed in a professional manner complete with a wire hanger, and properly labeled on the back with artist, title, medium, and price. For a more consistent appearance on the wall, we recommend frames of brown, black, gold, or silver. All judged shows take into consideration many different factors when awarding **Best in Show**. These factors include, but are not limited to: originality, technique in the specific medium of the piece, presentation, subject matter, design, relevance to the stated theme and whether the piece is an original piece of art. Keep in mind that, for non-photography entries, reproductions such as giclée prints, prints that are not numbered (and are not hand pulled) and other reproductions are not considered for **Best in Show**. However, all art hanging in the show is eligible for the **People's Choice** award.

Fee for SAA members: \$10.00 per piece up to two pieces, non-members: \$20.00 per piece up to two pieces. Pieces OVER 16"x20" up to 22"x26" INCLUDING FRAME \$20.00/\$40.00. You may enter one oversize and one 16X20 or smaller.

Receptions will be held the **second Fridays of the month from 5–7 pm.**

• March: Black and White

Who doesn't love color? Those brilliant cadmium reds, gorgeous oranges, passionate purples! Yet, there is something so lovely about the clean, clear beauty of a black and white image. The values take on a new importance, the greys a special role. Without color we rely on composition and mood; we see beauty through a new and uncomplicated lens. We can't wait to see the art you have to share with us...black and white and all those subtle shades in between.

Drop off by Sat. February 26 before 3pm, Pick up March. 26, 2022

• April: Eye of the Beholder

"I paint what cannot be photographed, that which comes from the imagination or from dreams, or from an unconscious drive. I photograph the things that I do not wish to paint, the things which already have an existence." --Man Ray

Let's try to do both! And to do this, we ask that two artists pair up together. It's a little different from past years. In the past, Eye of the Beholder was a match between a painter and a photographer, but this year we're opening it up to any pair of artists, regardless of the medium. Just find another 2D or 3D artist and paint, photograph or create the same subject in your own way. Both artists' work will be displayed together for the exhibit.

Drop off by Sat. March 26 before 3pm, Pick up April 30, 2022

Please visit seacoartist.org for updates or follow us on **Facebook**.

SAA NEWSLETTER: Submit stories & announcements to denise@adceteragraphics.com by **April 15th**, prior to publication. Thank you!



"Portals Cong"
oil by Karen Desrosiers



"Crescent Tree"
acrylic by Margaret Bowlus-Serino



"Star Island Chapel"
watercolor by Bill Childs



"African Woman"
mixed media by Kerri L. Grant

BODY OF WORK SHOW MARCH/APRIL 2022:

KAREN DESROSIERS - MAR. 2022 "CELTIC SPRING"

It has been said that wherever you stand in Ireland you will see at least 40 shades of green. This is never truer than in spring when the land and sky come alive. The heart and soul of Ireland and the Irish people shine through the beautiful, rugged landscapes, the brightly painted buildings, the ancient architecture, and the wild flora (not to mention the beer). Themes of the Irish culture feature heavily in my artwork. I love color and texture and the expression that I can get with them. I paint primarily with oils, in an impressionistic manner, applying thick textures and rich color, in a process that has an element of building to it, beyond painting, maintaining the brushstrokes, and creating work that is almost 3-dimensional. Mixing my own colors is one of my favorite parts of the painting process and enables me to strive for those 40 shades of green in my work. I am an artist and writer living in the seacoast area of New Hampshire, with a studio at my gallery Lane House Arts Center in Hampton. In addition to painting, I enjoy working in a variety of mediums, both 2D and 3D, and doing photography. When I'm not creating art, I am a university writing professor and freelance writer in fiction and non-fiction. Her website is karendesrosiers.com

MARGARET BOWLUS-SERINO, MSTD - MAR. 2022 "THE HEALING POWER OF TREES"

I have painted at least seventy-five trees. Trees provide healing from my prayers when I paint because they offer such a blessing of positivity through their "connections." Trees connect to each other and communicate to help each other. Those who have my tree paintings in their homes tell me of the healing feelings and peacefulness they provide. It is my prayer that people could replicate that behavior. The lovely and simplistic location of Albion, PA where I was born and raised helped to foster my creativity which I exercised and practiced from a very young age. My very talented father taught me much about art and media. Over the years, I have had much support and encouragement from mentors, friends, and family. I also experienced plenty of "dangers, toils, and snares" (words from 'Amazing Grace'). This song and its truth describe my experiences and motivation well, thus becoming the name of my business: Amazing Grace Arts. I pray for each recipient as I paint, and, I have been told this is a healing energy. Margaret has exhibited at Market Square Day and the Berwick Craft Show; StarCraft's, Black Widow and Pleasant Street Barn all in Epping; Seacoast Crafters in Somersworth; the Red Barn in Durham, CT; and the libraries in Epping and Plaistow.

BILL CHILDS - APRIL 2022 "STAR ISLAND SOJOURN"

Bill Childs knew he wanted to be an artist when recovering from some childhood ailment, he did a crayon drawing in the sunroom all over the back end of the living room chimney. His parents were not pleased. Later, at Barnstable High School in Hyannis, Bill had a chance to apprentice with his art teacher, the accomplished mural painter, Vernon Herbert Coleman, who painted more than 100 murals for the WPA. "After high school I used to come home weekends from Boston and work with him on murals all around the Cape. One of these murals is of the Exeter Falls across from the SAA gallery in the Edward Jones office." After graduating from the Massachusetts College of Art, he accepted an art teaching position in Southern NH with a break in the US Army. Bill then taught at Oyster River High School for 30 years. The watercolors in this Body of Work exhibit focus on several visits to the Isles of Shoals over many summers, specifically on Star Island. "The timeless nature of its granite outcroppings, the hotel and cottages having survived storms and fires over the years, the surrounding ocean, and a rich and varied history of fishing, pirates, regattas, and a summer center for artists, writers, and musicians on a nearby island make it a fascinating place to paint."

KERRI L. GRANT, D.C. - APRIL 2022 "RISE OF THE SACRED FEMININE: WOMEN FROM AROUND THE WORLD"

Portsmouth NH native and self-taught aspiring artist, Kerri L. Grant, has always had a deep love for the arts, culture, visiting museums, and spending hours at the ocean's edge in quiet contemplation. She never tires of listening to the ocean crash upon the shore or sitting in wonder of cloud formations in the sky which she has dubbed God's ever-changing canvas. When she is not immersed in painting, Kerri is a licensed chiropractor and energy healer, and loves to travel. Her travels have taken her to the Middle East, Africa and Europe where she studied the mysteries of Jesus, Mary Magdalene and the sacred feminine. These experiences have shaped her life significantly and have become her inspiration to put paint to canvas for the past three years. "Artistically, I've discovered that one's personality is transferred to the canvas and can be your greatest strength as well as your greatest weakness. In my case, I'm highly detailed and challenge myself to produce works that are more abstract, flowy and less structured to create balance both internally and externally with my work. I work with acrylic paint, watercolor and ink on canvas, ceramic tile and various fabrics, and paint mostly with brushes though I have been known to use my fingers and various objects to create texture."

More than half of the slots for 2023 Body of Work shows are already filled, so please email Debra at woodwardda@aol.com if you are interested! There are openings in Jan, Feb, March, April, June, Sept, and October, but they are going fast. Fees for MEMBERS are \$100 Jan-May and \$125 for June-Dec. See more at seacoastartist.org



Mystery Bag Kit
items wanted for 2022 contents

SAA NEWS:

Membership News Thank you to all our members for being part of the SAA! As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization we rely our members to make it one of New Hampshire's much-loved destinations for artists to display their work and art lovers to enjoy!

Whether you are an artist, art enthusiast, or a friend of the SAA, we would love to have you continue your membership or become a new member in 2022. **Renewals are due the first of the year, but you can join as a new member anytime.** Just visit our website seacoastartist.org for more information. Questions? Give us a call or email membership@seacoastartist.org. Thank you!

SAA Members Winter Art Exhibit at the Exeter Inn through April 5

Artists this season include Barbara Adams, Valerie Allen, David Blomquist, Bill Childs, Jane Copp, Anita Freeman, Danielle Genovese, Sue Hennigan, Sarah Oppenheimer, Doris Rice, Martha Rives, Chery Sager, Sarah Tambling, Phyllis Tracy, and Debra Woodward. The show runs through April 5. Open to the public. Tell your friends to visit SAA Exeter Inn Art Exhibit.

SAA Scholarship Committee Mystery Kits items needed

The **Scholarship Committee** is beginning work on their very popular **Mystery Kits** which go on sale June 1. We are looking for 50 identical items (small enough to be glued onto canvases) to be put in the kits. Items needed by May 1st and can be dropped off at the Gallery. Any questions please email Carol at spoitras2@comcast.net.

SAA Plein Air Group at the Currier Museum

Join the Plein Air group on Saturday, March 12th from 10-noon for a pencil sketching session at The Currier Museum in Manchester. This is a free day for NH residents, so no admission charge. An individual rate will be charged for out-of-state individuals. However many libraries offer discounted rates and members are allowed a guest for free. Please contact Carol if you are from out-of-state. There are also 15-minute docent talks, and we may participate at 11am or noon. There is a cafe available to purchase lunch. The museum is on 150 Ash St. in Manchester and parking is free for visitors. currier.org

Note: Pencils only in the Galleries. Masks are required and proof of vaccination.

SPRING PLEIN AIR WORKSHOPS

Doris Rice 2022 Watercolor adventure in New Mexico this spring!

Reserve your spot now to join Doris Rice for a watercolor adventure in New Mexico this spring! 5/16 -5/24 -- 4 nights in Santa Fe, 4 nights in Taos, with field trips along the way. We'll be visiting Ghost Ranch and share the landscape visions as seen by Georgia O'Keeffe. We'll explore colors of the region, so exciting in the difference from New England! Info at dwww.dorisorice.com, email at dorisorice@comcast.net



Doris Rice

Bob Richardson Monhegan Island Plein Air Adventure

Bob Richardson has new dates for his Monhegan Island Plein Air Painting Adventure this summer. Now arriving on Monhegan Island on Sunday, July 24 and departing on Thurs, July 28. Three full days of oil painting classes 7/25-27. Email him at bbr4@comcast.net or call him at 978-792-5734(h) or 267-614-6333(c) for more info or to reserve your spot.



Bob Richardson class

SAA FACEBOOK GROUP:

Connect with members and share your art based Facebook and Instagram pages. New members can also receive positive feedback (if they want it!) or ask questions. For submission opportunities and general information beyond what gets covered in our newsletter visit: www.facebook.com/groups/SAAmembers/

Help SAA get the word out!

The SAA is a **community** of artists. There are many things you love about this community and our gallery. **Can you help us tell more people about what you love?**

- Meet with fellow members and come up with ideas on how to bring more people into the gallery and increase art sales.
- Strategize on soliciting donations and calling for volunteers to help with marketing.
- You do NOT have to be an expert. Just have ideas and passion.
- Once a committee is formed you will be surprised at how much fun it is to meet with others with the same goal. Interested? Please email marketing@seacoastartist.org