

Seacoast Artist

The official newsletter of the Seacoast Artists Association

May/June 2024

SAA Gallery Body of Work Artists:
May 2024



"Peggy's Cove Boats and Fishing Wharfs - NovaScotia,"
Oil by Stephen Emery Carr

SAA Gallery Body of Work Artists:
June 2024



"Tiger Lilies, Star Island"
Watercolor by Carol Poitras



"Door #3, Shear, UK"
Watercolor by Cheryl Sager



"Butterfly Girl,"
Glass Sculpture by Gail Walsh Kushner

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

Exhibiting members: Angela Branon, Ann Brown, Annalee Mack, Bill Childs, Bill Mensching, Barbara Cowan, Barbara London, Carol Poitras, Cheryl Sager, Christine Blomquist, Dave Saums, Dave Turbide, Debra Woodward, Denise Brown, Dennis Skillman, Doris Rice, Gail Kushner, Jane Davis Copp, Jim Faist, Kathy Statires, Kevin Talbot, Lynn Krumholz, Marlene Zychowski, Natasha Dikareva, Noel Soucy, Pat Boyd-Roberson, Sarah Oppenheimer, Skip Berrien, Stephanie Williams, Sue Hennigan, Zoe Brooke

In this Issue:

**Seacoast Artists Association
130 Water Street
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

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gallery@seacoartist.org

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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 WEBSITE
www.seacoartist.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I'm writing this message as I sit in the gallery, greeting visitors and enjoying being in the presence of such beautiful and creative artwork. The new theme show has just been mounted and the opening reception was last evening. I listen to the visitors and guests as they view the various paintings and photographs. I'm thinking about the works on display that I love, and those that don't elicit the same feelings in me.

It's about taste, of course. I call myself an art lover and since you are reading this, you probably love art too. But we don't all like the same art pieces. I especially like boats, fishing shacks, seagulls and other works reflecting the seacoast. I'm not attracted to abstracts mostly because I don't understand them (but I'm working on that). People will come into the gallery and buy an abstract that I would not want hanging on my wall but it speaks to them, so I'm happy for them. Others buy the astonishing wildlife photographs or amazing wool "paintings" that are simply mind-blowing. Some patrons will not give these works a second glance. Unexplainable; "There's no accounting for taste".

That said, this human characteristic explains why the Seacoast Artists Association gallery is such a wonderful place. Our artists bring in an impressive array of their creativity every time we changeover our theme show, Body of Work panels, main gallery and window displays. So many different media, styles, approaches, subjects, viewpoints, skills and talents. The theme shows are especially interesting to me; how a somewhat vague theme (Show Us What You Love, the Great Outdoors, or By The Sea, for example) can inspire so many different interpretations.

Art inspires, educates, unites. We can happily agree to disagree when we discuss our likes and dislikes and in doing so learn more about art, ourselves, and each other.

— Dave Turbide, President, SAA

THEME SHOWS 2024:

Theme shows are open to members and non-members alike, but since member entry fees are discounted **THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO BECOME A MEMBER! Go to seacoartist.org and join today!**

All 2024 themes for the year have been announced, so you have time to create and submit every month!

We have a special theme show flyer in the gallery, there are details on the website **seacoartist.org**,

and members receive monthly emails with all the rules, but here is some general info:

• **Bring your work along with completed entry form available at the gallery and at seacoartist.org to the gallery on the specified drop-off day, 10-2. (See below)**

Entry fees: 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 16"x20" or smaller. More about hanging requirements at **seacoartist.org**

Receptions are held the Second Fridays of the month from 5-7 pm.

We appreciate food/beverage donations from participants!

May: In Full Bloom Second Friday Reception May 10

We are reborn each spring. Not just us, but all life around us. The perennials in our gardens; fuchsia peonies, fragrant lilacs and lily of the valley, and grass, lush and green under our bare feet, breathing life into our world. Where does your eye gaze, what do you see in this lovely month of May? We've waited all winter for gardens and fields in full bloom. And now it's here!

June: Sunrise, Sunset and Moonlit Eves

We count on it. A chilly early sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean, later a cadmium orange sun calmly setting behind grand mountains and the tops of evergreen trees. And then, late at night we stand on our back porch or look up from our Adirondack chair by the fire and feel the vast beauty of the universe over our heads. A sky full of uncut diamonds, tossed down to us by the gods. Share with us your celestial wonder!

Drop off May 25 Pick Up June 29 Reception June 14

• **Please visit the SAA gallery or seacoartist.org for a full list of the 2024 Theme Shows.**

• **Awards:** Many theme shows offer Best in Show and People's Choice Awards.

The Best in Show winner, chosen by committee, will be awarded a free entry in the next Theme Show of the winner's choosing! The People's Choice Award is voted on by attendees of our Second Friday reception.

• **Congratulations to our Recent Theme Show Award Winners!**

March Theme Show Award Winners:

Best in Show: Peter Gumaskas for his Photography titled "The Light In The Place".

People's Choice: William Kramer for his Acrylic titled "February Walk"

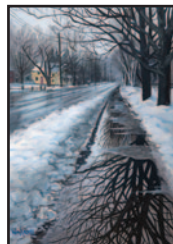
April Theme Show Winners:

Best in Show: David Blomquist for his Digital Photography and Poem titled "Lifetime"

People's Choice: Peter Gumaskas for his Photography titled "Vermont Barn"



"The Light In The Place"
by Peter Gumaskas



"February Walk"
by William Kramer



"Lifetime" by
David Blomquist



"Vermont Barn" by
Peter Gumaskas

BODY OF WORK SHOW MAY/JUNE 2024:



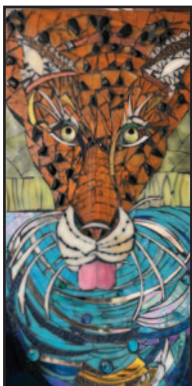
“Morning in the Alley - Mykonos, Greece,”
Oil by Stephen Emery Carr



“Hot Air Balloons,”
Watercolor by Cheryl Sager



“Chama River, New Mexico,”
Watercolor by Carol Poitras



“Leopard,”
Glass Sculpture by Gail Walsh Kushner

STEPHEN EMERY CARR (STEVE) - MAY: “ALWAYS NEAR WATER ”

My love of water and my interest in boats and architecture play a big part in the choice of subject matter for my artwork. Hence the name of this show: “Always Near Water”. But I paint too slowly to paint at the water’s edge. I mostly paint from photographs in my home studio. Often before starting a painting I will sketch the subject with pen. This helps me solidify the composition and understand how the light is falling on the subject.

In addition to being a member of the Seacoast Artist Association, I am a member of the Newburyport Art Association, and the American Society of Marine Artists. My paintings have been exhibited in numerous NAA Juried, Holiday and Selected Artist Shows, the Seacoast Artist Association, the Ipswich River Watershed Association, the Newburyport Artist and Culture Shanties, the Boothbay Region Art Foundation, the Exeter Inn, the Lamont Gallery at Phillips Exeter Academy, All Saints Parish (Brookline, MA) and Cambridge Boat Club.

I live in Newburyport with my wife Kate and our two West Highland Terriers. When I am not painting I am the Assistant Boy’s Crew Coach at Phillips Exeter Academy.

For more information, or to see more of my work, go to www.secarrart.com “The Paintings of S.E.Carr” or to instagram : #secarr136 and #stevecarr136. If you have questions email me at secarr136@gmail.com

CHERYL SAGER - MAY: “DOORS TO POSSIBILITIES: LET ME TAKE YOU THERE”

The first time I visited Europe I was just taken with how old some of the places and buildings were. I fell in love with the small doors that were sometimes in the oddest places and felt like they led to secret and special places. I have since been back and as before the doors, gates and windows just captured my imagination.

I decided to take pictures I could paint and make these the focal point of my BOW. While sleeping, my brain as it often does, ponders, creates, problem solves and plans. It was through this process that I decided to take viewers behind the doors and into other places. Hence, the concept for “Let Me Take You There” was born. In this show you will discover doors from various locations, near and far. When you discover your door, the one you want to “take you there,” you then can choose the place you want your door to secretly open to, your “secret garden,” your “Narnia,” your “Calgon, take me away!” then that painting goes behind your door where it stays hidden until you reveal your secret and special place. Each painting is titled, dated and signed on the back. When you look for my signature on the front you will have to be bit of a detective because my signature is hidden within the painting. Enjoy the search and discovery.

CAROL POITRAS - JUNE: “FEELING THE PLACE, RELIVING THE MOMENT”

When I stop to capture a scene, I envision a completed painting. After finishing I recount that moment ,that day and the friends I’m painting with. It’s a memory of a short period of time doing what I love. A comfortable exhilarating experience.

I have many favorite places to paint. I enjoy Monhegan Island and along the New Hampshire and Maine coast. My newer adventures include painting workshops in Italy. I have traveled many times to New Mexico and love the colors and history of the area. One image I wish I had captured was a pink sunset on the mountains in New Mexico. The sky was dark and the mountain snow glowed pink as the peaks reflected the western sunset. Unable to stop on the highway the image remains- waiting to paint.

My painting style has changed somewhat. I have become more comfortable with the watercolor medium and enjoy trying to paint loose while still using some details. I remind myself it’s not a photo but a feeling I want to convey.

I am inspired by the artists I have met and friends I paint with. I see so much more in a painting than I used to when I began watercolor. I thank artists Doris Rice and Jan Kilburn for their friendship and art education.

GAIL KUSHNER - JUNE: “A GLIMPSE INTO AFRICA”

Gail Walsh Kushner has been experimenting and playing with glass for over thirty five years. She took her first class in California to learn techniques in leaded glass and fell in love with the glimmer and allure of colored glass. Over time, Gail transitioned to working with copper foil techniques and mosaic. Gail recently added woodworking to her repertoire which has allowed her to make each art piece and more three dimensional pieces with large sculptures that blend wood and mosaics.

As a professional educator, Gail worked in many roles and settings but always turned to art for a therapeutic release. She dabbled in clothing design, batik, and quilting but nothing lights her passion like working with glass. She incorporates many different rocks, chains and shells to add texture and interest to a design. After retirement Gail sought out opportunities to learn different techniques and applications. She can be found at her workshop in Milton breaking glass and putting it back together in fun and exciting ways.

Gail is a member of NHAA and has participated in a featured show and Body of Work exhibit.

2025 Body of Work shows are now full. Feel free to leave your names and contact info at the gallery or email Marlene at mmzychowski@gmail.com to be put on the waiting list. We do ask that you participate in 2-3 theme shows so we see your work. Members receive a discounted rate so now is a good time to join/renew!

Second SUNDAY Demos:



Bill Paarlberg,
May Second Sunday Demo



"Two Dogs," Glass Sculpture,
Gail Kushner June Second Sunday

2nd FRIDAY Music:



Dacha and Sava Thurber

photo by Debra Woodward



Jerry Short

photo by Debra Woodward



Dan Will and Rich Ploss
of Foreside Funk



March BOW
Exhibitor
Doris Rice



March BOW
Exhibitor
Sandy Hazelton



April BOW
Exhibitor
Ann Brown



April BOW
Exhibitor
Christine Blomquist

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 on 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. Just visit our website www.seacoastartist.org for more information. Questions? Give us a call or email membership@seacoastartist.org. Thank you!

SAA Scholarship Fund

PRIMAVERA: THE ART OF SPRING opens May 4th! 2nd Annual SAA Spring members show to benefit the SAA Scholarship Fund will be held at the Exeter Town Hall gallery on 10 Front St, 2nd floor, for three weekends in May: 5/4-5, 5/11-12, and 5/18-19, noon-4. Second Friday artist reception May 10th, 4-6PM with music by Exeter violinists Dacha and Sava Thurber.

The SAA Scholarship committee is finalizing the 2024 scholarship awards and will announce award winners by May 1st. Student award winners will be invited to submit a piece of their art in the May SAA Primavera Art Show. We're excited to share the expressive and beautiful art of our next generation artists.

The Scholarship Team is thrilled to announce Carol Poitras and Sarah Oppenheimer will be taking over as Co-chairs in May, replacing Maryclare Heffernan and Stephanie Williams. Please consider joining this hard working, fun group. If interested contact Maryclare at maryclareheffernan@gmail.com. The Board and Scholarship committee thank Maryclare for her passionate and dedicated three years of service.

Second Sunday Art Demos NEW TIME! 11:30-1

May 22, 11:30-1 – Bill Paarlberg grew up in Hampton, NH, and lives in Kittery Point, ME. His two favorite things are making artwork and being outdoors in nature. Educated as a scientist, Bill has been a fine artist, architectural illustrator, and freelance marketing creative his entire working life. He specializes in watercolors, preferably painted outdoors. He is an instructor at Sanctuary Arts in Eliot, ME, the Currier Museum in Manchester, NH, and Shoals Marine Lab on the Isles of Shoals. For SAA, Bill will discuss the many-splendored life of the working artist and introduce the latest in his Famous Monsters series of Portsmouth, and show how he composes from his own recycled work, images from the media, and new original drawing. He will also do a brief watercolor demo to inspire people who have not tried "the most difficult painting medium."

June 9, 11:30-1 – Gail Kushner has been experimenting and playing with glass for over thirty five years. She took her first class in California to learn techniques in leaded glass and fell in love with the glimmer and allure of colored glass. Over time, Gail transitioned to working with copper foil techniques and mosaic. Gail recently added woodworking to her repertoire which has allowed her to make each art piece and more three dimensional pieces with large sculptures that blend wood and mosaics. Gail will demo her technique creating mosaic pieces on small wood backgrounds. She will talk about her process for design and will let you in on her secret to making expressive eyes for her animals. Mosaic is a process that is time sensible and messy. Gail will bring pieces that are in different stages of the process.

SAA Second Friday Music at the Gallery Series: 5-7pm

Join us for art, music and light refreshments

May 10 TWO SHOWS!

• **At the Town Hall, 4-6pm, Dacha and Sava Thurber** -- Come early to the Exeter Town Hall and thrill to the amazing violin of brothers Dacha and Sava Thurber when they return for another special "Primavera" program!

• **At the Gallery, 5-7pm, Jerry Short** -- Maine singer-songwriter returns with original compositions, old favorites, and new tunes from his 30+ year career on guitar, harmonica, dobro and vocals.

JUNE 14, 5-7pm, Synchrus Jazz with Rich Ploss, accompanied by Dan Will on keyboards.

Both are members of Foreside Funk who recently sold out Jimmy's Jazz & Blues Club in Portsmouth!

Join Us For SAA PLEIN AIR

Tues, May 14 Newcastle Commons, 10-1. No charge for admission this day.

Tues, May 21 Swasey Parkway, Exeter, 1-3

Tues, May 28 Peirce Island, Portsmouth, 10-1

Mon, June 3 Portsmouth, 10-1. Meet at Hearth Market, 60 Penhallow St.

Tues, June 11 Newfields boat launch, 10-1. Marsh views

Mon, June 17 Annick's Garden, Exeter, 10-1

Tues, June 25 White Gate Farm, Epping, 10-1

Sat, July 13 American Independence Museum Festival, Exeter, 10-4

Weather dependent and will be confirmed before each event. Watch SAA emails and Facebook!

Email Carol at spoitras2@comcast.net with questions.

MEMBER WORKSHOPS / NEWS

Doris Rice watercolor classes Thursday evenings at SAA gallery

5:30-7:30+, \$30 per class or \$150 for 6 classes. In addition to these ongoing indoor classes, we paint outdoors in a variety of lovely locations when the weather is good.

"Seacoast Local" plein air returns in August! Dates and locations TBD. Register now.

Deposit \$100. Registration is required for all classes. All levels of experience are welcome.

Please email Doris at dorisrice@comcast.net. See more at dorisrice.com.



Doris Rice Doris at
Great Island Common