

## Small Works on the Wall Artists Bios/Statements

Sarah Brown of Marion has been exhibiting at the Marion Art Center since 1968. She studied art at De Pauw University and then went to art and music school in France at Fontainebleau. She is known for her vibrant watercolors, but in recent years has been painting with pastels. Her works reflect the wind and waves and lush gardens of our sea coast and surrounding communities. Using color and line, she expresses the special character of Southeastern Massachusetts. She has exhibited her paintings in galleries on Cape Cod, in Boston and Chicago.

Peggy Call-Conley earned her BFA in Art Education in 1972 from Southeastern Massachusetts University. She found her artistic inspiration early, and a childhood move from Boston to rural Middleboro afforded Peggy solace and adventures in nature which were reinforced when she arrived on the South Coast for college, living in New Bedford and the villages along the coastline. She eventually made her home in South Dartmouth and taught art in private and public schools for 35 years. Call-Conley has travelled to the Maine coast annually for art retreats, creating photographs and paintings that reflect her passion for the ocean and rocky coastline. Graduate courses in art developed her desire to pursue fine arts further, especially watercolor painting. A Board Member of the Westport Art Group, Peggy teaches two watercolor classes there. Her paintings are in private national and international collections, and she has also done commissions for private home and building portraits. Call-Conley's paintings have earned numerous awards in juried exhibitions, most recently to include the 2016 David Aldrich Award for Excellence in the Little Compton Community Center Summer Art Show. Of her work, she says, "I paint what intrigues and surrounds me. My eye may be drawn to a shadow's shape, contrasting light, or subtle color changes. The personal challenge is to complete a sense of place. While painting on location, I aim to capture compatibility with nature: including the energy which exists momentarily: stillness, tension, motion, strength, tranquility or serenity."

Jane Egan is a graduate of Massachusetts College of Art and a multifaceted artist who works with a variety of mediums, including oil paint, water color, and pastel. Among Jane's most recent accolades, she was awarded "Best in Show" for works in both the 2017 Bourne-Wareham Art Association and 2015 Taunton Art Association member shows. Her works have been juried into surrounding gallery exhibitions and national shows, and have also been on exhibit at the Marion Art Center, Marion, MA. Jane is an active member of a variety of area art-related societies, including Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, Taunton Art Association, Cape Cod Art Association, and Marion Art Center. She is currently vice president of the Bourne Wareham Art Association.

Dannie Engwert, after spending most of her adult life in the Midwest in the outskirts of Chicago, returned to the state of her birth... Massachusetts... four years ago. She has created work for this small works show from fabric she has designed, and hand woven. Each one of the works Dannie has placed in this show is entitled DANCE. Her art is designed to allow the viewer to rethink his own attitudes and values. Unless her art is captured in a photo, or in a

frame and taken home with the viewer, it will move on and become something more in the very near future.  
"This is installation art by a fiber artist. Dance with it and smile."

Angela Fiori was born in Cali, Colombia from an Italian family. After finishing High School in Bogotá I moved to Italy where I enrolled in the "Accademia di Belle Arti di Carrara" and where I spent four years studying Graphic Design under the guidance of well known professors like Bruno Munari, Vittorio Coppola, Pier Carlo Santini, Getulio Alviani and others who would travel every week from Milano to teach at our school. I spent my fifth year in Italy putting together a show with other two artists after winning a competition in Florence. In 1983 I returned to Bogotá where I got married and three months later my husband and I traveled to Boston where he enrolled in an MBA. While he went to graduate school, I applied to the MFA and spent two years focusing on Graphic Design under the supervision of Judith Richland and Joe Landry and participated in the "Fifth Year Competition" before graduating in 1986. After I got out of school, I worked in a graphic design office in Cambridge and eventually I ended up freelancing on my own. After my second son was born, I decided to stop working and didn't pursue the arts until I joined Ruth Kates in 2005 and fell in love with her and the class. This was the first time that I painted realistic work and for a while I tried to find my own voice and style by giving myself themes for the year. I went from "fish" to "backyard birds" from "Fenway Park" to "flowers" and "cows". Lately I spend most of my days in my studio in Dedham experimenting new techniques and trying to understand where I belong and what I need to say. Besides being an artist I also helped designing the sets for the musicals at The Bowen School in Newton during 8 years

"My purpose and struggle as a painter is to be able to reflect what I am feeling inside. This is a difficult task and always changing, but a very rewarding one when light and shadows, warm and cold, expression and color melt together and form an emotion."

Cynthia Getchell, a Fairhaven painter, has been recognized for her talent in drawing since early childhood creating mostly for herself, family and friends. She decided to view art more seriously by enrolling in the Fine Arts program at Bridgewater State College. On the advice of her favorite professor and her advisor, Cynthia left BSC to paint full time and to seek advice and instruction from established artists such as New Bedford portrait painter, Deborah Macy, Robert Duff, and John Borowicz of Dartmouth, MA. She began showing her work in May of 2000 at venues in New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Cape Cod and Little Compton; she has since participated in over 30 local, regional and national juried shows and competitions, has sold over 70 original works as well as several murals and has collected numerous awards along the way. For the past decade, Cynthia has shared her passion for the particular beauties of Southeastern Massachusetts through her sweeping landscapes and simple, sensitive still life and portraiture. Highslide JS Her paintings of shorelines, farm lands and wood lands, much of which are found in and around the area preserved by the efforts of the DeNormandie Co., are a Tonalistic/Realist depiction of coastal New England that project a uniqueness as well as a universal quality.

"Share in the stillness of an evening, the crispness of a winter walk, the power of nature and the importance of its preservation, the charm and "personality" of a still life subject or portrait."

Gabrielle Coyne Giblin currently resides in Fairhaven, MA, and is the former Art Dept Head at Dartmouth High School. She studied art education at Kean University and fashion and textile design at New Bedford Institute of Technology.

Christy Gunnels hails from Magnolia, Arkansas, and has lived and worked on the South Coast of Massachusetts for many years. She began her art studies under Marjorie Chamberlain in Magnolia, and exhibited during her formative years at the annual Art on the Square and the Columbia County Fair. Today her works are in collections around the United States, England, and France. Locally she has exhibited at Judith Kline Art Gallery, Gallery 65 on William, Rogers Gallery, The Drawing Room, Wamsutta Club, Nemaskett Gallery and the Millicent Library. She received her MFA from Bard College where she studied with Regina Granne, David Diao and Allen Cote. She was an art instructor and director of art for many years. Christy is a realist painter whose interest is the discovery of subtleties in color and form through intense observation, and how to represent them for the viewer. She engages these elements through various subjects: still life, landscape, and most recently the birds of New England. A few years ago she began photographing birds in and around the marsh at her home. She started incorporating the photographed birds onto boards with abstract backgrounds, noticing in some cases the ground reflecting the movement and fleeting presence of the bird. The position of a head, the tilt of the body, the lean in an eye, the play of light on feathers can reveal personality and expression not always apparent in birds.

Heide Hallemeier is passionate about the medium of watercolor, she loves it's fluidity and spontaneity. She savors the joy of painting outdoors with it's unexpected discoveries, especially in the New England Coastal landscape and boating scene. Having received her art education in Austria and Germany, she is now a signature member of the Rhode Island Watercolor Society and active in the Westport Art Group, the Marion Art Center. Her paintings have won numerous awards and were accepted in many national competitions. She teaches drawing and watercolor painting and juries competitions.

Nancy Hayes was born in Radnor, PA and now lives and works in Dartmouth, MA. She was raised in a family that held principals of design before comfort or practicality with an architect father and a floral designer mother which destined her to see the world through its structural patterns and organic essence. Upon entry to college, she had every intention of studying graphic design but was quickly drawn to the unsteady, risky life of the fine artist. After a solid art school education, she fell in love with terra cotta clay, went on to graduate school to explore its potential, and continued to use it as a sculptural medium for over twenty years. Clay was the perfect medium to build organic shapes whose exteriors she could enrich with intricate patterns and designs. It served her purpose as a sculptor, but was also limiting in its technical restrictions, especially concerning the use of color. Seeking a more direct means to explore visual relationships, she moved from working in clay to paint, from the three dimensional to the two dimensional. By doing so, she started on a journey that

has led her back home, where design is held in high regard and where line, color, shape and pattern are the subject matter.

"Painting permits direct access into my own personal laboratory where I develop forms and visual landscapes built from my imagination. I work with color, line, pattern and shape, arranging and rearranging until I am inspired to elaborate on a composition, going deeper into its texture, its biology. As a writer does, I am building my own characters, their personalities and context in which they live. Just as a reader injects their own personal knowledge into a story, enriching the plot, my objective is to allow the viewer to explore their own visual narrative, enhancing the forms with their imagination. For over twenty five years, prior to painting, I worked in clay as a ceramic sculptor. Restricted by technical limitations, I felt that I was working at the edges of what I was capable of conceiving. Painting gives me the tools needed to be as honest as possible as a visual artist. It is a forum where I can be the designer, color theorist, story teller, and inventor, giving form to my creativity."

Barbara Healy's paintings capture the quiet beauty of the south coast of Massachusetts. Oil paintings and watercolors are inspired by the diverse colors of light, atmosphere and nature. She uses color to enliven peaceful landscapes, seascapes and gardens. Her paintings try to be more than a snapshot, giving the feel of a summer sail or memory of an evening walk. A Connecticut native, Barbara fell in love with the south coast area while attending UMASS Dartmouth and stayed. Her degree in textile design has given her a background in color but often paints plein air to learn from nature. Her studio is in Dartmouth, MA.

John Irwin's work most recently featured in The Power of Paper Group at Gallery 4 in Tiverton, RI and in a three person show with Sandy Webb and Maki Carvalho at DeBlois Gallery in Middletown, RI. His art has been featured in several galleries in Providence, RI; New Bedford, MA; Andrews, NC; as well as various galleries across Rhode Island. John is a founding member of Imago Gallery. By day, John is a Teaching Assistant in the East Providence school system as well as a student at Providence College where he is pursuing his Bachelors degree. He also offers private art lessons.

Ruth LaGue grew up in Alaska, awed by the incredible vastness of the wild landscape. Gazing at the expansive skies and majestic mountains as a girl, Ruth recognized that she was a small part of something much larger than herself. Traveling through India in her twenties, she became consumed by the landscape of the spirit — that limitless interior universe that lives in each of us. The marriage of the two experiences ignited a lifelong quest to connect the outer and inner within her paintings. To her, landscapes represent fragments of time that will never be again; intimate moments of communion with something greater than herself; quiet meditations to which she bears witness. They compel her to paint. She finds that the most exciting part of the creative process is observing the juxtaposition of colors and textures as they form a depth of field — how a simple dark line next to a light field of color can come alive and represent a landscape in its barest form. Ruth LaGue strives for visual economy in her work: Can a block of color represent a field of dry grass on an early spring morning? Can a simple, dark blue line that runs across the canvas embody the ocean's edge at sunset? She wants her viewers to imagine themselves within the landscape, recalling a memory or pausing to remember their wholeness. "Landscape in its barest form."

Michelle T. Lapointe is a resident artist at Hatch Street Studios where she creates expressive painting, stained glass optical illusions as well as stained glass sculptures. Her foray into art started when she took a night class at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School in 1989 and from there, she branched out.

Kyle Riseley was born in Fairfield, CT and raised mostly in Westport, CT. Her visual memories are dominated by natural spaces in and around coastal Connecticut and Massachusetts. She graduated from Staples High School where she studied art, and from thaca College where she studied psychology. She spent the early part of her career in the publishing industry in New York City, (Prentice-Hall, Watson Guptill, McGraw-Hill) doing postgraduate design coursework at NYU and Parsons School of Design. She managed a freelance design studio in Ridgefield, CT before dedicating herself to education as a communications professional in independent schools focusing on photography and graphic design. She began painting landscapes during summers on Martha's Vineyard and has apprenticed with Bridgewater, CT artist, Lori Zummo. An avid outdoors person and conservationist, Ms. Riseley served as one of the early Open Space park rangers for the Ridgefield Conservation Commission and her illustrations were used in the first edition of the town's Walk Book. As a volunteer with the Marion Garden Group, Riseley helps to plant and maintain village planters and window boxes. She also enjoys sailing her Bullseye, Francine, in Buzzard's Bay. As a landscape painter, Riseley's time spent out of doors in the natural world is clearly reflected in her work. Her early career in design and photography have influenced the many ways she uses color, light and form to bring the viewer into her world of mossy habitats, sandy walkways, and marbled skies. Kyle's paintings have been exhibited at the Marion Art Center, (80 Pleasant Street, Marion, MA) and at Highfield Hall and the Falmouth Art Center in Falmouth, MA; CCNS Annual Art Shows in Rowayton, CT; the Burr Estate, Fairfield, CT; Art in the Park, Marion, MA; Watch Hill Library and Improvement Society, Watch Hill, RI; the Wooster Community Art Center, Danbury, CT; and the Century House, Nantucket, MA. Paintings are held in private collections in Connecticut, New York, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, Florida, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Colorado, and Maine.

"My work reflects an appreciation of nature and an inner desire to preserve the places I know and inhabit. I've been recreating those places in small format landscape paintings for close to twenty years. Work begins outdoors, observing and capturing either with a sketch, or lately with the lens of an iPhone, the placement of a shadow, the curve of a stream, the angle of a rooftop. Composition is the starting point, the beginning of an excavation of place and the uncovering of its aesthetic power over me. Continually captivated by the shapes and textures of the woods, skies, seas, ponds and marshes of New England, I begin to lose myself in the process of painting when my brush starts to swirl with pattern and color and the painting begins to take on a life of its own. Capturing the reflections, the textures, and the light in those places, mixed with the deep russets, smoky lavenders, brilliant blues, mossy greens, and salt-washed ochres, is an alchemy I seek to render. Making paintings that have been described as fresh and playful, I work and exist in a space between reality and abstraction. I seek to both represent those natural spaces and to imbue them with a musicality that time and freedom in the natural world affords. The patterns of the scrub oaks, the texture of the

junipers, their collision with the colors of the bogs, bark, lichen, berries, and hills, all these elements combine to create a visual score or impression. While photographing, sketching, and settling in a place to paint are meticulous and studied processes for me, painting itself is a more transformative and intuitive act, one in which I lose myself in pattern, hue, and the physical motion of mixing colors, applying paint, moving the brush, and viewing a canvas."

Mary Ross received a B.A. from Massachusetts College of Art. She was a landscape painter initially, taking most of her inspiration from nature. For many years, Mary has been exploring Collage, combining her painting expertise with beautiful handmade papers. The Paintings and Collages of Mary Ross are in many permanent collections throughout the US and Europe. Mary uses gorgeous hand-made papers, torn and painstakingly layered, to create richly textured colorful forms. Subjects range from Abstracts, florals and Landscapes to a fanciful world of Whimsical images.

"I've always thought my fantasy world was triggered by my childhood reading of fairy tales. From this imaginary world has emerged Mermaids, Fairies & Angels, scenes of the Casbah ... then into the forest with Owls & Mushrooms!"

#### Brenda Wrigley Scott

"The birds of beach and marsh are my subjects ... paintings on paper as pages of a sketch book ... quick drawings done in the field and embellished in the studio. Fascinating images of grace and power - avian energy suggested in line, color and texture."

Alice J. Shire is a Marion resident and is an active member of the Marion Art Center. She received her BS in Art Education from Massachusetts College of Art and her MA in Teaching Creative Arts from Bridgewater State College. She taught in the Duxbury Public Schools for 39 years and retired in 2003. In 2003, Shire began, in earnest, pursuing her love for watercolor painting, which was sparked as a freshman at Mass Art. Over the years, she has taken classes and workshops from notable artists. She exhibits locally on the South Coast. Memberships include: Marion Art Center.....co-chair of exhibition committee; Westport Art Group; Bourne Wareham Art Assoc.; Plymouth Art Guild.....juried Russell Gallery artistHer subject matter is eclectic, drawn from nature, personal interests, and anything else that catches her eye for good design.

"Making art has always been a source of joy, whether I was teaching or doing my own work. The best thing about making art is everyone can do it and find that joy."

#### Marc St. Pierre

"Similar to an early explorer, I search for new territories and I map them. Beginning with the collage process, I construct a surface reminiscent of aerial views. This groundwork may suggest islands or the meeting point of landmasses and water for example. Then, a layer of linear elements is introduced to evoke topographic patterns. These patterns become a physical overlay as they are suspended in translucent wax. The paintings are a dialog between the unsystematic and the constructed. The end result moves the eye gradually over this precarious equilibrium constantly in flux."

Nicole St. Pierre is an owner and artist at Gallery 65 on William in New Bedford, MA. Originally from Quebec, she studied Ecole Normale Merici and UMass Dartmouth. Nicole specializes in fiber arts - including knitted and hand-felted works.

Susan Strauss grew up outside of New York City where going to see art in museums was an important influence for her painting. She has a BFA from Cornell University. After college she tried to figure out how to be an artist and make a living. She painted backgrounds for the Boston Ballet, helped build a blimp that flew around a NYC Disco, worked on a prizewinning short film and as a personal chef. She studied Shiatsu, architectural rendering and faux finishes. Eventually, she started her own business hand painting custom decorative finishes for clients, decorators, and photographers. Strauss has work in many private homes and public spaces. In 2014 she earned a Post Baccalaureate painting degree from UMass Dartmouth. Selected solo shows and group exhibitions: in MA - Colo Colo Gallery, Bromfield Gallery, UMass Boston, Gallery NAGA, Brickbottom Gallery, New Bedford Art Museum, Tufts University, Boston University, Art Institute of Boston; in RI - Gallery4, Van Vessem Gallery, Taste, A Coastal Living Gallery and Newport Museum; in NY - Art in General, Alan Brown Gallery, and Prince Street Gallery. Grants: Millay Colony for the Arts, MA Artist's Foundation, MA Arts Lottery and Public Art Works RI. Cover article *abstraks* magazine June 2012.

"I paint from direct observation and contemplation of both inner and outer landscape. When I go outside to paint plain air, I may return with an abstract painting of that experience or a meditation on weather. A narrative may weave its way into a non-objective studio piece. A "finished" painting could get scraped down to reveal a new openness or an overlooked opportunity. Recently, I have begun to experiment with layering different ways of seeing and letting these contrasting combinations share space. Each painting begins either from observation or imagination, setting in motion an open-ended exploration that allows the work to lead me toward what I do not yet know. As I paint, I am searching for a feeling of place that develops over time within each painting. I spend a long time looking as I paint and remove paint. Seasonal change and poetry inspire me to examine color. Connection to the ocean, to trees and to the making of a garden teach me patience and a long view. Each painting I make is built on the archeology of paintings I have made and upon memories of the ones that got away. When the work is going well, quiet and music weave there way into the physical act of painting. As I paint, I am learning, taking risks and working to make connections between seen and non-visual experiences. If I can translate some of these experiences, I hope that the painting will resonate. Then, that spark can be shared with you."

Sharlie Sudduth grew up in Cambridge Ma and went to Smith College, majored in History and took an art class. After getting married and growing her family with 4 children, there wasn't much time for art so in her spare time, she volunteered in elementary school and for family planning. She actually started a yarn shop and began to love color with skeins all around her. Then she went to graduate school for a master's degree in counseling/psychology and worked for Hospice as a volunteer coordinator. And, it was only upon retirement that she actually started painting full time.

"I started painting when I retired 14 years ago with a class at RISD beginning with watercolors. My favorite painting is *pleine aire* as I love to be in my paintings. I start with a feeling of beauty about the places I am in and just enjoy the process of drawing and finding my way into what I think I want to paint. Often I discover something more as I go along painting. I settle in, feeling the sun and the wind and often losing a sense of time and myself as if in a meditation. I like my paintings to tell stories and imagine being there. Now I also paint in oils and have joined the Providence Art Club where I love painting with others."

#### Allen TenBusschen

"I have always been interested in lines, patterns and shapes. I have a deep love of the process of Intaglio printmaking, the lines you see in these images are an attempt to recreate the lines that are traditionally seen in printmaking. Birds represent the qualities I listed above quite beautifully, by recreating them in 2 dimensions I am exploring the subtle and sometimes extreme intricacies of the species. There are almost 10,000 documented species of birds, and each bird, while being part of the larger whole, contains certain variations that make it unique, this notion is one that is reflected in the human race as well, we are all connected but varied in our own different ways. Birds also carry a universal connection, they exist in every culture, with thousands of different meanings and omens attached to them, the symbol of the bird opens up a cultural dialogue between the inhabitants of the world, while we all recognize the beauty of these creatures, we sometimes forget the meanings associated with them. Seeing the birds represented in this graphic form helps bridge the gap between the literal depiction of birds and their iconographical nature. By depicting them in these ink drawings, we are also reminded of the patterns and beauty of the natural world that we often forget to slow down and observe. My other passion stems from these observations, humanity is reminded time and time again how we are 99.9% the same based on our DNA. With that in mind there doesn't seem to be any room for distinction, but through small differences we all become individuals with distinct and individual qualities that distinguish us from one another. Portraiture allows us a glimpse into the relationships that exist between humanity. A portrait show the viewer the relationship between the sitter and the artist allowing the feelings and thoughts to be represented visually and presented for interpretation. These drawings exist to help us take some time and observe the subtle intricacies, the details, and the beauty of the animals that inhabit the world with us. They remind us to celebrate the variations in one another, and understand the beauty that comes from differences."

Patricia White is known to many at the Marion Art Center as a long time art instructor and exhibiting artist. Her paintings of flowers, local scenery and still-life using various paints are compelling. Most recently she has started using watercolor on canvas - with great results!