

"ARTISANS OF DUMMERSTON" ART EXHIBIT

August 13 – October 8, 2023

Dummerston Historical Society Schoolhouse

Dummerston Center, VT

ARTISTS' COMMENTS

1. "Evening Light"

Artist: Paul Stone

Medium: Oil

I cannot paint landscapes I see without being captivated by what I cannot see – the history of the place, human experience there over time, the weight and import such experience imposes upon the land.

An attempt at an explication of this conundrum is a defining element in my art. I feel, however, that when I am successful in the attempt, it is possible for unseen past reality, the spirit and history of a place, to re-emerge from the canvas, slipping unconsciously back into the world, there now to captivate eyes and minds not my own.

2. "Two Witches"

Artist: Michael Poster

Medium: Photography

These two are members of a tiny witch coven I photographed in 2008. The natural gas roughnecks and frackers had just shown up from Texas, hell bent on reversing the climate crisis by sucking vast amounts of "clean" fuel from under our feet. They claimed we'd all get rich too. The tiny witches knew better—they did all they could to drive the frackers home, but their magic was insufficient. The Texans bulldozed the fox den beside our home place; then they spoiled the land and water. Some of our neighbors blacktopped their driveways and bought Cadillacs, some lost everything they cared about. We ran away to Vermont.

Contact: mposter@michaelposter.com

3. “Red Barn with Shadows”

Artist: Nancy Burgess

Medium: Mixed Media

I have lived in Vermont for 30 years and I draw inspiration for my work from the Vermont landscape. “Red Barn with Shadows” is an example of my work.

I grew up in western New York and attended the Rochester Institute of Technology where I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in illustration and an Associates degree in graphic design. My studies in art history influenced my art work in that they made me want to do something different and invent my own unique style of art.

ABOUT MY WORK:

My art work is a combination of sculpture and painting. First, I build up a surface, or relief sculpture, by glueing objects to masonite board. Then, I paint my abstract relief sculpture in a representational way. The final result is a unique work of art – a mix of painting and sculpture, and a mix of abstract art and representational art.

ARTIST’S STATEMENT:

“If I could put it into words, I wouldn’t need to make art.” Nancy Burgess

Contact: Nancy@nancyburgess.com (802) 258-6416

4. “Votes for All Women”

Artist: Kris McDermet

Medium: Rug Hooking, Rug Braiding

Votes for All Women honors both the Suffrage movement and Suffragette Ami Mali Hicks-an independent woman who was also a hooking, braiding and painting artist. The right to vote was not given to Native American women and African American women until long after white women.

Threads and Textiles Re-Imagined represents my work using wool, Charmeuse silk, wool and silk yarns, velvet, and crushed taffeta to complete work that tells a story, or represents nature.

Some of the fiber techniques I use were developed years ago to make functional items, bringing warmth and comfort to early homes. Now I’m reworking these techniques to honor the past, but my designs are more contemporary. In addition I want to raise awareness of environmental and social justice issues in my work. Finished pieces may be three dimensional and more visually exciting by the addition of LED lighting from within the work.

5. “Light the Soul” Light Sculpture

Artist: Brianna Wright

Medium: Paper/Reeds

“From my heart to yours. This is a light sculpture made of recycled paper and reed. These sculptures are a practice of trusting in something greater than myself. Trusting what’s unseen, but deeply felt. To play and dance in the divine flow of creative energy, where the unseen become seen. To stay connected to all that magical, and to share with others, what flows through my heart and hope it brings warmth and peace to you.”

6. “For The Birds”

Artist: Rodrica Tilley

Medium: Pastel

In 2010 I rented a studio in the “Book Press”, and within a few months my husband, Michael Poster and I moved our residence to Dummerston. I had retired from a 30-year free-lance illustration career specializing in full-color magazine horticultural work. I continued to exhibit my watercolor, pastel and oil paintings in galleries in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Since moving to Vermont I finished my big self-directed project; making a plein air painting (on location) in each of our fifty states. Not all of my subject matter is flowery, but it does usually feature plants and landscapes, with the occasional still-life or figure. Look me up on the web....or make an appointment for a studio visit. I'd love to hear from you.

rtilley01@gmail.com

<http://fiftystatepleinairpaintingproject.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.rodricatilley.com/>

7. “Handcrafted Leather Goods”

Artist: Richard Cogliano

Medium: Leather

I love high quality leather items and, in 2016, I started making my own leather items. Each item is made entirely by hand without a sewing machine; every cut, stitch, and rivet is done by me personally. I particularly enjoy working with exotic skins such as American Alligator and Python. I only purchase exotic skins from tanneries that certify the skins are sustainably harvested and follow CITES

regulation. When working with exotic skins, there is little room for error, however the results speak for themselves.

CoglianoLeatherworks@gmail.com

8. “Old One #6”

Artist: Mathew Betz

Medium: Cherry Wood

I came to carving as a means to challenge my sense of understanding of the shape and form that is the beauty of the natural world. As a human observer of all the natural splendor we live in (these hills of Dummerston) I want to experience being part of creating, and thus perhaps move a little closer to understanding the visual beauty that surrounds us.

Of course as one descends into a challenge such as this, deeper mysteries unfold and creations such as this mask emerge. Who is this fellow? Where did he come from? What does he have to say? I hope this piece evokes something in you, the viewer in the same way it did for me creating him.

9. “Miller’s East Barn”

Artist: Eliza Greenhoe-Bergh

Medium: Cotton Fabric – Quilt

This is a picture of the Miller’s barn on Miller Road in Dummerston. I made this quilt in 2004. The colors have continued to fade so it is not now as pink as it used to be. The farm was first settled by Vespacian Miller in the mid 1700’s and is still owned by his descendants. Miller Road was originally called Putney Street, one of the first roads laid out in Dummerston. I have been quilting since the 70’s.

10. “Stoneware Basket/Vase”

Artist: Ahren Ahrenholz

Medium: Woodfired Stoneware Pottery

In 1971 I started in pottery was an apprentice at Michael Cardew’s Pottery – Wenford Bridge Pottery. Located in St. Breward/St. Tudy, Cornwall, UK. We made wood fired stoneware, planters for plants, vases for flowers, storage containers for food, casseroles for cooking, vessels – pitchers, mugs for liquids, platters, plates, bowls for serving food.

From 1973 – 1981 I was the village potter at Colusa Pottery in Kensington, CA

Partridge Road Pottery is at 228 Partridge Road, East Dummerston. 802-257-4060.
The workshop/showroom is open 11:00 – 4:00 Saturday and Sunday.
Website: www.partridgeroadpottery.com Facebook: Ahren Ahrenholz Potter

11. “Objects”

Artist: Ahren Ahrenholz

Medium: Mixed Media

I construct objects. It is a process of arranging materials: an inquiry into the elements of visual language.

The materials of line, mass, density, texture, color, the way they reflect and absorb light.

Each object poses questions. What are the visual/tactile elements that define it? What exists in perception beyond the literal meaning? What is the essence of iconic vs. symbolic form?

The objects presented are artifact of this inquiry.

Website: www.ahrenahrenholz.com Face Book: Ahren Ahrenholz
ahren.ahrenholz@gmail.com

12. “Road Trip USA #1, Totems, 2022”

Artist: Mohammed Daoudi

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

I was born in Tangier, Morocco on August 17, 1958. When I was a very young child my father was the concierge at the Rembrandt Hotel in downtown Tangier. One night an earthquake hit the town and an American tourist staying on the sixth floor of the hotel freaked out and jumped out the window of his room killing himself.

The US embassy staff took care of the poor man but left behind a suitcase that no one wanted. One day my father brought the suitcase home and threw it under his bed.

I was curious about this suitcase...a suitcase of a dead man. After a couple of

days I mustered some courage and opened the suitcase. Inside were some clothes, a magnifying glass and a bunch of books on the Italian artist Giorgio De Chirico. I had never seen books like that. ...photos of the paintings, this world between pages that I had never imagined, or seen before. I couldn't pry myself away from them for days....and ever since haven't stopped making art

<https://www.mohammeddaoudi.com>

13. “Jack-in-the-Box #2 and “Fog Bank Over River”

Artist: Joe Norris

Medium: Watercolor

Joe is a graduate of New England School of Art and has held the positions of Creative Director and Art Director for several Boston area ad agencies, before he opened his own design studio in Boston. His painting career has gone from representational art to abstract.

Exploring the area between representational art to total abstraction is the place where he likes to create his paintings. Implying rather than rendering, invites the viewer to participate and to engage with the created image.

Through the use of color, collage, typography and graphic elements as a starting point, Joe attempts to develop an underpainting that suggests a previous history that adds to the sense of spatial and visual depth.

Joe paints in a newly constructed studio building in Dummerston with abundant light and beautiful views of the landscape.

14. “Dresden Plate”

Artist: Sara Ryan

Medium: Cloth – Quilt

I started quilting over forty years (!) ago with guidance and encouragement from master quilter Eliza Greenhoe-Bergh. Whenever I've gifted a handmade quilt for a new baby or a marriage, I've requested that the recipient use the heck out of it, and not store it away or treat it as a museum piece.

This Dresden Plate design quilt was created to mark the birth of my son, Sean, in 1984.

15. “Five Little Monkeys Wash the Car” Illustration and Book

Artist: Eileen Christelow

Medium: Koh-i-noor Black Pencil #3 and Gouache

“Robins! How They Grow Up” Illustration and Book

Artist: Eileen Christelow

Medium: Drawn and painted on computer, using digital pen and watercolor in Adobe Photoshop

Eileen Christelow is the author and illustrator of more than thirty picture books for children – fiction and non-fiction.

Her first book, Henry and the Red Stripes, was published in 1982.

A self-taught illustrator, she has experimented with pencil, pen and ink, \watercolor, gouache, watercolor crayons...and for the last fifteen years she’s drawn and painted using Adobe Photoshop on an Apple computer which gives her access to dozens of pens, pencils, brushes, paints, pastels, and most importantly: editing capabilities.

You can find out more about her and her books on her

Website: www.christelow.com

16. “Blue & White Bubble Glaze Bowl”

Artist: Christie Herbert

Medium: Stoneware Clay

Christie Herbert teaches in the art department at Landmark College. She has a MFA degree in visual arts from Vermont College of Fine Arts. She lives in East Dummerston with her husband, Bill Conley.

17. “Back Street Old San Juan”

Artist: Roger Turner

Medium: Photography

I have been taking pictures since graduating from college. Subsequently while in the Navy, I took advantage of a fully stocked and equipped darkroom during a year-long assignment to McMurdo Station in Antarctica to learn about developing and printing. I have been a member of a couple of different camera clubs over the years where I learned about composition and shooting techniques.

In 2007 I made the transition from film to digital, and I have been learning about digital photo processing since then. As a faculty member at Leland and Gray UHMS, I had many opportunities to develop sports photography skills, and through my long-time interest in travel have had many opportunities for photographing landscapes, street scenes, and wildlife.

Of course working on the *Views of Dummerston* and contributing to the Historical Society's annual calendar have caused me to train my photographer's eye on our wonderful town, and I thank the Historical Society for organizing this show.

18. “Miller Road Map”

Artist: Linda Rubinstein

Medium: Ink, Watercolor, Colored Pencil

Dummerston based artist, Linda Rubinstein, has created more than seventy one-of-a-kind and multiple artist books – all volumes that she designs, constructs, writes and draws.

The subject of many of her books and journals, the natural world, led to an intense exploration of her Miller Road environment. Having revived a grade school interest when designing 2 large maps of the islands she visited annually in Nova Scotia (*Middle Island*, 2009, *Outer Island*, 2016.) it was a natural step to bring that special over-view that illustrated maps can hold to Miller Road.

The two dimensional *Miller Road* brings together something of the history, agriculture, seasonal patterns, inhabiting animals, and architecture found in this New England microcosm. This map centers on the site where she and her family have lived in since 1972.

I greatly enjoyed creating this Miller Road map—I consider it my way of adding to and connecting with its esteemed natural and man- made history..

Her work has been seen regionally and nationally in solo and group exhibitions and graces numerous private collections. Her most recent book, *Pandemic Journal* (2021) documents the first six months of the shutdown. It was published on line by Vermont View and included in the exhibit *Unmasked* at the Southern Vermont Art Center. Linda and her architect husband live on a rural road where they have raised two children, and an abundance of flowers, vegetables, and house plants. She has been an active member of the Vermont arts community.

19. “Sardinia Street Scene”

Artist: Connie Evans

Medium: Watercolor & Ink

I am a teacher and lawyer who moved from Boston to Dummerston in 2005 and retired 6 years ago. With time (at last) to pursue other interests, I have dabbled in a range of arts – including figurative sculpture, book- and box-making, collage, painting with watercolor, gouache and oil, Japanese sumi-e painting, pen and ink drawing, paper marbling, and botanical drawing – but my primary focus has been watercolor painting. I credit my classes with Lynn Zimmerman, first at the River Gallery School and now via Zoom, for a solid foundation.

I have shown my work twice at the Crowell Gallery in Newfane, earlier this year at Brooks Memorial Library, at Matt Brown Fine Art Gallery, and other spots locally.

Painting helps me to really SEE – to appreciate the amazing array of greens in springtime, the play of light and shadow, the tiny fascinating patterns that make a flower a work of creative genius. I paint from life and photographs. What makes an image sing for me? Harmony, intricacy, bold color, an unusual perspective. I have not yet settled on a particular style. Rather, I am working to refine my technique and to master the skills that will help me bring beauty to life on the page.

20. “Waxsmith”

Artist: Philip Hamm

Medium: Wax, Wick, Stones, etc.

Wax, wick and stone sculpture

Philip Hamm, a 42 year resident of Dummerston has been a “waxsmith” for more than 50 years of his life. He has exhibited at craft fairs in Massachusetts and Vermont.

Philip began working with wax as part of his engineer training and developed a unique method of sculpting figures and flowers with wick. When he moved to Vermont, he began including Vermont stones in his work and some of his wife Marcia’s Sumie brush paintings. He often includes candles or lights as part of his sculptures. As a behavior specialist in schools for many years, he used his craft in his barn studio as a way of centering, mediation and relaxation.

21. “Pottery by Lisa Blake”

Artist: Lisa Blake

Medium: Clay

In 2008, Lisa moved to West Dummerston, leaving West Chesterfield, NH where she had lived for many years, and leaving behind her pottery studio which was in a barn on her property. Having no studio, she gave up making pottery and moved onto other “hobbies” which included knitting, taught to her as a child by her mother. Lisa has practiced the Baha’i faith for close to 50 years which helps her “keep my identity”. She is always looking for something new to explore.

22. “Birches” and “Summer Storm”

Artist: Linda Rood

Medium: Watercolor

When I retired from teaching high school English ten years ago, my hope was that I would be able to use my time to do things that I had never had time to do. I began to take classes in the CALL program at Keene State College, and a year or two in, they began to offer classes in watercolor painting. I thought, “That sounds like fun.” I was immediately delighted by the way the paper, the water, and the paints worked together and I was hooked.

I have continued to take painting and drawing classes whenever I can, and I have found a community of fellow watercolorists who share my enthusiasm. It has been deeply satisfying to see my own progress and improvement, to always discover new techniques, and to enjoy the meditative absorption that painting brings me. I have gained a new way of seeing and a deeper appreciation for the work of all artists. I am still very much a student and I am grateful for the pleasure that painting has brought me.

23. “Undercover”

Artist: Lucie Barone-Benoit

Medium: Acrylic

Lucie Barone-Benoit was born in Mumbai, India, lived in Rhode Island with her parents and twin brother until age 5, and has resided with them in Dummerston, Vermont since Kindergarten. She graduated from Dummerston School this past spring and received the Arlene G. Forrett Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to the School community. During her 9 years at the School, she studied various art forms and explored different media along the way.

She had the honor of having her art showcased in a downtown Brattleboro gallery in 2019. While she had the privilege of being accepted to the Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Natick, MA for this fall, she decided to defer her acceptance and attend her high school experience at BUHS where she has already elected multiple arts classes.

According to Lucie: “I’ve had a passion for art even before Kindergarten. In addition to visual arts, I have dabbled with the flute and I’ve studied the piano since kindergarten as well. I am an avid baker and I have a passion for soccer and basketball as well as art! I am thrilled and honored to have my art picked for showcase in this gallery!”

24. “The Camp on Bunker Road”

Artist: Eugene Ferrara

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Eugene had been summering here on Bunker Road with his family since 1950 and permanently since the late 1990’s at which time he created this painting of the family camp.

Eugene previously participated in the 2007 “Dummerston’s Own” art exhibit with an en plein air (“in the open air”) oil painting titled Camp Partridge, and the 2008 “Art of Dummerston” exhibit with a lovely painting entitled Maple Tree in which he viewed the maple trees as portals to his field. “All my paintings are from direct observation.”

25. “Wood Art”

Artist: Sonny Brookes

Medium: Wood

“Good wood is what I do. I never throw away wood. It's a challenge that I enjoy. The more useful the project, the more I enjoy it.”

26. “The Hitchcock Roll Bench”

Artist: J. Peter Doubleday

Medium: Book Matched White Oak/Ebonized Ash

I get great satisfaction when people run their fingers over my work and say, “Wow!” I’ve learned that when I make the wood look good it, in turn, makes me look good.

Business name: **Long Bridge Woodworking**
Moto: **The Beauty of Wood In Useful Shapes**
Maker: **J. Peter Doubleday**
Location: **Dummerston, Vermont**

More of Long Bridge Woodwork furniture can be seen at:

Vermont Artisan Design, 106 Main St, Brattleboro
Fire Arts Studio, Rt 30, Brattleboro
Collectors Cottage Shop, Rt 100, West Dover

27. “Hall Table with Drawers”

Artist: Bruce Berg

Medium: Figured Maple with Ebony Details

My work with furniture began in 2006 with the completion of our new home in Dummerston and our need for items to furnish the house.

The designs I am drawn to reflect my admiration for the clean, yet elegant forms developed by shaker craftspeople and the work of contemporary makers such as Garrett Hack.

Woodworking challenges me to combine the analytical skills needed to design pieces that satisfy functional requirements and the properties of the materials, with the more emotional desire to blend lightness and grace into the piece.

28. “Live Seam Dining Table”

Artist: Evan Lanterman

Medium: Black Walnut and White Oak

Evan Lanterman is the sole proprietor of Lanterman Woodworks. He spent his childhood in Saxtons River and developed a strong interest in the relationship between art, design and nature. Evan graduated from Rhode Island School of Design in 2001 where he studied Industrial Design. He made Rhode Island his home for over twenty years before moving to Dummerston with his family in 2022.

After his time at RISD, Evan spent the next three years building hand-cut timber frame homes and accessory buildings with a builder based in southern Rhode Island. In 2004, he began to work independently as a design/build residential contractor specializing in frame to finish carpentry.

Over time, Evan also began to build furniture from locally sourced materials and mill wide slab lumber from salvaged trees. He finds inspiration in the unique characteristics of the material in an effort to honor the life cycles of the trees that continue through his work. Evan approaches each project with a gentle nature, an innate attention to detail and a diverse background of experienced craftsmanship.

Lanterman Woodworks evan@lantermanwoodworks.com

“Whimsical Sculpture” –Cigarbox Guitar

Artist: Bob Nield

Bob can be found outside performing on his instrument.

In this piece Shishka Bob utilizes an electric Cigarbox Guitar which utilizes a repurposed tenor banjo neck played through an Amplifier which is cobbled together from an industrial-style Drive-in Movie Speaker installed on a Microphone Stand, and topped by a retro-style Microphone. Cigar Box Guitars are a traditional type of home-made instrument made and used by many cultures around the world and prominently in American folk music in many diverse rural traditions.

The guitar is played through a modern amplifier. In this case, music played and sung is quite incidental to this Whimsical Sculpture, and performing on these implements brings another dimension to the art, and hopefully adds to the whimsey, mirth and merriment to the experience.

Shishka Bob can be found busking in downtown Brattleboro and occasionally in other places on his **Perpetual “Tell Me Where To Go” Tour.**

