

# Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, Offers Works by Art Matters Group

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, will present the exhibit, *Anything Goes*, a multi-artist show being presented by Art Matters, a studio art group that meets to paint and critique their work on Thursday afternoons at the gallery. The show opens Oct. 5 and runs through Nov. 3, 2012. A reception will be held on Oct. 13, from 4-6pm.

The group began in 2006 as a pastel class, which was taught by noted SC artist Jane Staszak. The lively and talented group dubbed themselves the Pastel Sisters and had their first group show at Sunset River Marketplace in 2010. Since then the class has evolved into an open studio where they often explore media other than pastel. Early this year, they changed their name to Art Matters in order to cover a broader range of style and work.



Work by Nancy Guiry

her life's journey shine through on every canvas. Roberts and her husband Tom, who had a four-piece Gaelic ensemble until earlier this year, will perform during the Oct. 13 reception. She tells us they recently named their duo Obscurity, as a nod to their relative unknown status.

Linda S. Young is an award-winning artist originally from Brookline, MA, and now lives in Cape Cod and South Carolina. She works in pastel and oil. Her ability to capture the nuance of a scene has helped her win many awards including two Best In Shows. Young is a member of 21 in Truro, South Cape Artists, and is a signature member of Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod. She has been in numerous juried group and solo exhibitions. Her work hangs in numerous national and international private collections.

Mary Grace "MG" Cain was a successful commercial advertising designer for much of her career. After 40 years of working for paying clients, she now draws and paints for her own enjoyment. Her favorite media are pencil, charcoal, ink, and watercolor. Says Cain, "Every work is a happy accident."

Sue Ruopp spent 20 years as a labor and delivery nurse and has also owned her own shop. She has beaten breast cancer and survived two brain tumors and now says her life endeavors are culminating in eclectic art expressions. Unschooled in art, she brings an "outsider" stroke to her creative pastels, acrylics, watercolors and pencil drawings. Hers is a wildly unique voice in the jungle of today's art expressions.

Joanne Bendy has always enjoyed art and nature. Being an avid gardener inspires her photographs and paintings of landscapes, birds and flowers. She uses bright and luminous colors to portray her passion for nature.

Barbara Riggi is a recent transplant from Connecticut who began learning to express nature in pastels just a few years ago. She is particularly interested in equine and ballet subject matter.

Susan Nern has explored a variety of subject matter and says she is especially inspired by coastal landscapes. Her pastels have a soft impressionistic feel that capture the calm serene essence of her subjects.

*Anything Goes* is a vibrant, energetic collection of artwork that serves to inspire the viewer to follow his or her own muse and embrace the creativity that can be found in everyone.

Other Oct. events at Sunset River Marketplace include the Brunswick Arts Council Fall Show and Sale from Oct. 8 - 13 (reception and awards ceremony Thursday, Oct. 11, from 5 to 7pm) and Ann McCray's Studio Clean-Out from Oct. 22 to Nov. 17, a special event for collectors that will feature a large selection of the Wilmington, NC, artist's oil paintings at greatly reduced prices.

Sunset River Marketplace showcases work by approximately 200 North and South Carolina artists, and houses some 10,000 square feet of oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, mixed media, art glass, pottery, sculpture, turned and carved wood and artisan-created jewelry. There are two onsite kilns used by students in the ongoing pottery classes offered by the gallery. A custom framing department is available. There are also classes in oil painting, watercolor, pastel and figure drawing.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 910/575-5999 or visit ([www.sunsetrivermarketplace.com](http://www.sunsetrivermarketplace.com)).



Work by Brenda Bree Goff

Artists participating in the exhibition are: Jane Staszak, Nancy Guiry, Brenda "Bree" Goff, Liz Roberts, Linda Young, Mary Grace "MG" Cain, Sue Ruopp, Joanne Bendy, Barbara Riggi, and Susan Nern.

Jane Staszak works in pastel, acrylic and ink. Her work has been accepted into many prestigious state and national exhibitions. Her long list of awards includes a Best in Show from the National Show at Southport, NC and the Cape Fear Annual Show in Fayetteville, NC. Other honors include an invitation to show at the prestigious 2011 Pastels by Invitation Exhibition in Cape Cod, MA. Staszak excels at character studies, impressionistic landscapes and animal portraiture.

Nancy Guiry is a versatile and talented multimedia artist who paints with great sensitivity. She has studied with nationally known artists such as Mary Whyte, Arnie Westerman, Carl Dalio and Mike Rooney. Recently, she has been focusing on portraits and character studies of people. One of Guiry's portraits recently earned an Award of Excellence at both the Waterway Art Assoc. and Brunswick Arts Council shows in NC. Her expressive landscape paintings capture the essence of each scene using color and value.

Bree Goff is an award-winning artist, currently working in pastel. Earlier this year, she earned third place in the Waterway Art Assoc. show for her pastel portrait titled *Gabriel*. "I absolutely love this medium. The depth and vibrancy of color that can be achieved is amazing," she says. Goff's focus is usually the landscape. "I am fortunate to live on a tidal river which affords me wonderful views of marshes, sunrises, sunsets, and coastal wildlife. I enjoy the always hanging play of light in nature and its effect on both real and imagined color."



Work by Jane Staszak

Liz Roberts is a creative whirlwind. She's an artist, an author and a musician. She is well known for her colorful, dynamic abstract paintings that are both thought provoking and delightful. The emotions of

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## Anything Goes: Pastels & Mixed Media

Oct. 5 -  
Nov. 3, 2012

Reception:  
Oct. 13, 2012  
4 - 6pm



*Kindred Spirit*, pastel by Nancy Guiry



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## ACME Art Studios in Wilmington, NC, Features Works by Michelle Connolly

ACME Art Studios in Wilmington, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *All Sorts*, featuring works by Michelle Connolly, on view through Oct. 18, 2012.

These new works by Connolly shows her exploring a variety of mediums and materials - some traditional oils and pastels on canvas and paper contrasting with other more primitive materials - sheet metal, wire, cardboard, discarded scraps of wood and found objects; like the old boot jack which she uses for a mask-like goat face. The artist responds to the materials she has at hand in her studio or that she finds on location whilst out for a walk. Working in a comfortable chaos Connolly creates landscapes and figurative works as she sees them emerge in her mind's eye from the materials around her.

The exhibition, *All Sorts*, a play on words - it takes all sorts, shows there are a lot of

different personalities in the show; some of the Characters that Connolly creates are positioned like an audience with the painted and assembled faces hung above the old chairs or stools; some happy and some more severe. *All Sorts* also refers to the variety in scale and form with several 3 dimensional

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