

The Sanctuary Gallery in New Bern, NC, Features Works by Jude Lobe

The Sanctuary Gallery in New Bern, NC, is presenting SMALL FOR FALL, featuring works by Jude Lobe, on view through Nov. 30, 2017.

The Sanctuary Gallery is New Bern's newest art gallery and is artist owned and operated representing regional and national artists. The fine art and fine craft gallery has a diverse collection of paintings, drawings, sculpture and hand-crafted jewelry.

Jude Lobe works as a graphic designer and visual artist, nature is her muse. A love of nature has been a continual thread throughout her life and Lobe's paintings and enamels are inspired by the natural environment. "My desire is to capture the emotion of the scene with texture, brush strokes, glazes and colors chosen from the palette of the environment I'm painting. It's the memory of the place or experience that I want to express." Lobe's process begins with a walk outside, then followed with quick sketches and color notes. Then back at the studio to begin painting the images remembered.

As a professional artist having to pay 40% - 50% commission to galleries, Lobe began looking for alternative ways to sell art. Over the past two decades, some artists have found that owning and running their own gallery by themselves or with several other artists can be very successful. In 2007, she joined with 14 other artists to open Hillsborough Gallery of Arts outside Chapel Hill, NC. This year the gallery has celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Some reasons an artist may want to open their own gallery. The artist is in charge of what gets exhibited. It also brings you together with other artists where you can exchange ideas about art. It becomes a space to experiment in your creative arena and test drive it to potential customers. You get to talk with clients and hear what they have to say about your art. So why would an artist who is successful

in their own gallery be willing to exhibit in another gallery?

"When I heard that artist Chris Wagner was opening his own gallery and was looking for artists to exhibit in his gallery, I was eager to support another fellow artist's endeavor", replies Lobe. "He has taken a sad looking building and completely renovated it and made an elegant space for art. The space is fresh, contemporary, inviting and designed to highlight artworks. It was hard to turn him down. And I am also a huge fan and owner of his

In the last five years, Lobe has been painting less in oils and concentrating on cold wax & oil and encaustics (hot wax). Her theme is earth and sky and the connections between us and the natural world. "As a part of nature, I believe we need to natural environment and with others. In nature things change, evolve. Like a forest goes through an ecological succession, so do we as individuals evolve and are at present a compilation of bits and pieces of the experiences we traveled."

This idea Lobe translates in her art and finds the cold wax and oil lends itself perfectly in expressing this idea. It affords the opportunity to show a history of the painting by building up layers, obscuring what's beneath, and removing layers to reveal bits of past layers. It represents the history of a life that becomes the compilation of bits and pieces of it's past experi-

As a regular exhibitor at the Sanctuary Gallery, Lobe shows her works in cold wax & oil, encaustics and oil paintings.

New Bern is a charming place to visit any time of year. The Small for Fall event at the Sanctuary Gallery would be well worth a stop on your trip. And you might even catch Chris painting, as he has his studio set up within a space in the gallery.

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Friday, December 1, Saturday, December 2, &

Craven Arts Council in New Bern, NC, Features Two New Exhibions

The Craven Arts Council in New Bern, NC, will present two new exhibits including: an exhibit of wildlife photographs by Elaine Varley, on view in the Director's Gallery at the Bank of the Arts, from Nov. 1 - 30, 2017, and Critters Christmas, centered around animals of all kinds, on view in the Main Gallery at the Bank of the Arts from Nov. 3 through Dec. 30, 2017. A reception will be held on Nov. 10, from 5-8pm.

After two careers, first as a teacher and then a registered nurse, Elaine Varley began her photography journey with a class at ASAP photography in Greenville, NC, as well as online coursework through National Geographic and Creative Live. These lead to a passion for learning more about photography, including numerous workshops and trips across the United States for the perfect shot.

When asked what she loves to shoot the most, Varley's response is "anything with fur and feathers and grand, expansive landscapes. Varley is a member of the Twin Rivers Artists Association, the Coastal Photography Club, and Eastern Region Carolina nature Photographers. Her work has been displayed in a number of group and solo exhibitions in the region, including at the New Bern Library and the Turnage Theater in Washington.

Centered around animals of all kinds, Critters Christmas, an exhibition of origi-



Work by Elaine Varley

nal artwork by local artists showcases the talents of eastern North Carolina.

Crtitters Christmas celebrates all creatures that swim, fly, wiggle, walk, or slither, in a variety of mediums and techniques. The exhibit showcases local talent here in eastern North Carolina and provides the community with art on an immediately relatable scale.

Featured artists include: RK Ives, Daphne Thomas, Craig Gurganus, Brenda Manheim, Dawn Rozzo, Jonathan Bowling and many others. A variety of mediums are represented in the exhibition, including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, ceramics, and more. All work in the exhibition will be for sale through Craven Arts Council and Gallery.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the council at 252/638-2577 or visit (www.

Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, Features Works by Eric McRay

Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, will present *The Everyday World*, an exhibit of works by Eric McRay, on view from Nov. 10 through Dec. 29, 2017. A reception will be held on Nov. 10, from 5-8pm, during the downtown Art Walk.

McRay's guiding principle is, "An Artist's style is his visual language by which he communicates". Thus, McRay is multilin-

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