

Springtime in the Rockies

Brings ArtWalk to the Avenue

Springtime in the Rockies is a daily treat. Catching the weather channel requires a score card because weather patterns change so quickly. One day it is 70 degrees and the next day we shovel snow. My snow boots are parked right next to my flip flops.

Picking out the right footwear for the day can even change mid-day. But on Friday, April 2 we recommend you wear your most comfortable shoes so you can enjoy ArtWalk and Hunter-Wolff Gallery without worrying about your feet. This year art-lovers will get an opportunity to enjoy some new venues including The Second Floor Studios which is a cluster of artists in working studios above the Michael Garman Building. Once a month, they will open their studios to the public on Artwalk night. While you are visiting that section of the Avenue, stop in and see the Michael Garman Museum—and their gift shop filled with sculpture. Also joining ArtWalk is Range Gallery a new photography studio/gallery showcasing Kathleen McFadden’s work. Don’t miss it. There’s a real buzz on the street about all the great artists and new collections that are pouring into the galleries. Old Colorado City is a favorite destination for anyone enthusiastic about visual art. Here we offer the largest group of individually operated galleries in Colorado Springs and are prepared to introduce you to some amazing artwork.

This collaborative event started in 2005 to promote the visual arts through education, celebration, demonstration and was received by an enthusiastic public. Each year ArtWalk grows through generous sponsors like Ent Business Banking, Comcast, Dat’s Italian, Front Range Barbeque, Jake & Telly’s Greek Cuisine, Colorado Springs Imaging, Old Town GuestHouse, Westside Pioneer and the Historic District Merchants. Be sure to visit these sponsors and thank them for enabling us to promote ArtWalk’s remarkably diverse and high quality works of art on the Avenue.

Who’s Who — Jean Houghton

Jean (right photo) and husband Phil moved to Colorado Springs from Huntington Beach, California where Jean owned an art supply store and taught art. Her diverse background in the art world spans more than three decades of collecting awards and ribbons for her accomplishments. Today she is an award winning pastel artist and one of the founders of the Pikes Peak Pastel Society based in Colorado. Stop by and see why so many collectors are drawn to her warm and inviting paintings packed with a punch of human emotion.



2510 W. Colorado Ave | Colorado Springs
719-520-9494

www.hunterwolffgallery.com

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Jean Houghton





April 2, 2010

ArtWalk presented by



Mark your calendar and be sure to visit each "ArtWalk Presented by Ent Business Banking" gallery: All that Glitters, Arati Artists' Gallery, Cucuru Gallery Café, **Hunter-Wolff Gallery**, Michael Garman Museum, Second Floor Studios, Pine Creek Art Gallery, Range Gallery, Simpich Showcase, The Squash Blossom, and Thunder Mountain Trading Company, and Velez Galleries.

All located on W. Colorado Ave

Meet some of today's top representational artists, observe special art demos, and purchase works from a wide array of artistic styles. If you enjoy art in any form, don't miss this monthly event.

ArtWalk is made possible with the generous financial support of all our sponsors.

Support & visit our generous sponsors:

- ★ **Ent Business Banking**
- ★ **Comcast**
 - **Colorado Springs Imaging**
 - **Dat's Italian**
 - **Front Range Barbeque**
 - **Jorge's Mexican Restaurant**
 - **Jake & Telly's**
 - **Old Town Guesthouse**
 - **Historic District Merchants**
 - **Westside Pioneer**



Ask Kelli . . .

Q: What is the best way to clean dusty pottery with a textured glaze?

A: This is easy but one word of caution first. If your pottery is Raku, pick it up at the base of the vessel with two hands and if possible, move it out doors where you can whisk away the dust with a soft bristle paint brush. Do not use spray wax or soak in water. Raku pottery is very porous clay and a quick whisk with a brush is best. This works on all pottery that you prefer not to wash.

Q: I saw a painting I am interested in and am afraid it will be gone by the time I save up. Is there a way to put a hold on it for a week or two when I get my next paycheck?

A: Yes, by all means. We will accept a down payment and put it on layaway. There is no lay-away fee and layaway is a smart way to avoid interest charges.

Kelli

Send your questions to AskKelli@gmail.com

An Interview: Insight into the Business of Being An Artist

I recently met with career Artist Laura Reilly and we enjoyed a topic near and dear to our hearts – the business of art. She agreed to a one-on-one interview for a closer look at the business of being an artist. This is the first discussion in a series planned to bring you closer to those who are dedicated to the art of communicating without words.

Hunter-Wolff Gallery: First thank you Laura for taking time to provide insight into your life as an artist. You've been a professional artist for some time and even operated your own gallery until last fall. What would your collectors be most surprised to learn about you?

Laura Reilly: I think that I am naturally a very shy person. My nature is introspective, quiet and contemplative. These are characteristics that allow me to do the creative work I love, and I've been this way ever since I was very young. I was always the kid sitting under the tree with a book at recess, lost in my own world.

HWG: That is a surprise. When you started your career as an artist, what skills other than your creative skills did you feel would serve you well in the field of art?

LAURA: When I started working as a professional artist, the only skills I thought of at all were my artistic skills. Was I good enough, creative enough, talented enough to bring my personal vision into tangible being? Later I realized other skills were important, like time management, for one, and the need to continually increase my technical expertise, and the ability to communicate in a meaningful and clear way with collectors, galleries owners, and media professionals.

HWG: They have served you well too. After dedicating the past twelve years to your art career, what do you see as a next important step in your career?

LAURA: My career goals change through the years, as I have grown and matured as an artist and a person. In the short term, I see myself creating collections of paintings, each group of paintings relating to a particular place or experience or interpretation of an idea. I also would like to work on larger scale paintings and more commissioned work. I enjoy the collaborative process of working on commission, creating work designed for a particular environment and collector.

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Fine Art . . . Treasures for a Lifetime!

Newsletters and articles are maintained at www.hunterwolffgallery.com. Call 719.520.9494 for additional information, artist biographies, current collection details, and event schedules. Forward this newsletter to a friend.



Fruit Salad 12x12



Saute 12x12



Guacamole 12x12



End of Day 8x10



Party Line 20x24



Yellow Roses 11x14

Top Awards & Recognition



Congratulations Jean Houghton. Jean recently learned she was accepted into the Women Artists of the West, a non-profit women artist's organization which is made up of over 200 professional artist women from 30 states.

Jean's work was also recently acquired by Kaiser Permanente and displayed at their Franklin building in Denver and Briargate offices in Colorado Springs.

April – Diamonds

A girl's best friend! The diamond has been a symbol of eternal love since the 15th century. The diamond is the most desirable and worthy of the title "precious stone". It qualifies for all the virtues implied: brilliance, hardness, rarity, antiquity, purity and permanence

Happy Birthday April Babies

What's the Meaning of This? *Painterly?*

Painterly – is a term used to describe a distinct technique used by painters (oil, pastel, etc) in which forms and images are defined principally by color areas, not by lines or edges. Painterly refers to the artist's brushstrokes which are very noticeable. Painters describe their work as painterly when the images look as though it may have been created through the use of distinct brush strokes. Laura Reilly is an artist who uses this technique in her work. Many other artists in the Hunter-Wolff Gallery also use a painterly style. *See if you can pick them out!*

Mark Your Calendar

April 2 - ArtWalk – 5-8 pm

April 24 - Gallery Talk:

Marlene Kort 2-4 pm

May 7 - ArtWalk – 5- 8 pm

Introducing Fran Dodd

"Color Me Beautiful"



"Effective and caring gallery partners make this <business> easier for an artist." says Laura Reilly (R) to Gallery Owner Sharon Wolff (L)

The Business of Being An Artist

HWG: We are all a little tired of talking about the woes of the economy. But how do you balance the challenges that are unique to an artist in a soft economy?

LAURA: The work of an artist is to be a poet and visionary, and create living works of art that have soul and meaning and speak to the world in a unique voice. These ephemeral concerns are paramount, difficult to achieve and require a different mind than the business aspects of what we do. The challenge is not the specifics of doing business that every entrepreneur deals with but the challenge of being both a business person and a professional creative artist. Effective and caring gallery partners make this easier for an artist.

HWG: Then what is the biggest challenge for an artist – in any economy?

LAURA: To continually create works of art that inspires, intrigues, and captivates - to say the unsayable in a non-verbal language. To create each work of art as if it was the only work of art that had ever been. Then to do it all over again with the next one!

HWG: With that kind of pressure, do you ever get bored with the idea of creating something new and how do you combat that?

LAURA: Rarely. My creative work is endlessly fascinating to me as one work of art naturally leads to the next, and there are always more paintings wanting to be painted and not enough life times to paint them. That said, it's good to have a break and look up from the easel. There's a big, beautiful world out there to enjoy. I like hiking, reading, spending time with family and friends, travelling and having a good laugh!

HWG: Because of your success, I'd say you have a good handle on most challenges. For an artist like yourself who relies on multiple galleries to promote and sell your work, would an art collector find the same or similar work in all the galleries or do you do different things for each?

LAURA: This is an interesting question! Since I only create unique art work, no reproductions of my paintings, I think collectors will find different works at different galleries. I think this is a consequence of the different focus and choices of each individual gallery. Each gallery owner selects from the artist the work that fits their vision for their gallery. The gallery is very much the owner of the art, so some of an artist's work will fit their vision, and some will not. There's a natural and appropriate selection process involved, and collectors will see a different body of work by the same artist at different galleries.

HWG: Most artists have some type of process to produce the volume they need to reach set goals. What do you do that keeps your efficiency level up to be a high production artist?

LAURA: For me, loving what I do and being conscious of the great privilege it is to be able to paint for my living is inspiration enough to keep me productively at my easel. Thoroughly learning the mechanical aspects of my craft - materials, processes, techniques, etc - has allowed me to hone the technical issues and save precious time for the important and rewarding creative work.

HWG: And, get in some hiking too. Thanks Laura, one final question. Any advice for collectors and those just starting out?

LAURA: Buy what you love and never compromise. If you don't see it right away but you love a certain artist's style, ask if the artist will do a commission for you. If you can afford it, buy the best you can and know that you will never regret it. And – buy from a reputable art gallery or art dealer.



Stay A Little While
36x24 by Laura Reilly



Sirens
14x11 by Laura Reilly

Laura Reilly has been painting professionally since 1998. Her natural artistic gift and early exposure to the world's rich history through travel and artistic heritage set her on an early path to a career as a successful professional impressionist artist. Laura captures the essence of her subject in bold and luxurious color without a heavy emphasis on detail.

Using short, broad brush strokes of pure and unmixed color for a painterly effect she masterfully captures the realities of everyday living using cheerful, "dazzling" colors, concentrating primarily on the effects of light and shadow. Laura's work is at www.hunterwolffgallery.com and Blog with us at www.hunterwolffgallery.com/gallery



Sun Worshippers
12x12



Side Walk Garden 12x24

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