

Brenda Francis

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God gave me a gift I didn't know I had until I was 58 years old. My Mother was an artist and my sister is an art teacher. I was always artistic but I never believed I had the patience to paint. Now I don't have the patience for anything else. My mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's before I realized that I was interested in learning to paint so I was not able to benefit from her guidance. For two years, I found myself studying paintings, both my mother's and others', and recognizing that I understood HOW they achieved those shadows, the light, the movement, the folds in the clothes. I was still thinking that I should take lessons when an eight year old artist in England came across the Internet. He was being called the new Monet and taking the art world by storm. I immediately picked up the phone and called Brush and Palette in Tallahassee and signed up for classes. I had to wait a month for classes to start and I thought it would kill me! That was in September 2010 and I have been painting constantly ever since.

My husband and I both love photography and together, we have a lot of resources for my paintings. He's the better photographer and has been taking photos of many subjects for many years and has a large repertoire for me to draw from. We enjoy visiting wildlife preserves and 'stalking' birds, especially water birds, with our cameras in hand. He is my biggest fan! And I am his!

Juried Art Exhibits:

COCA Creative Tallahassee: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019

Gadsden Arts Center: Art in Gadsden Regional Exhibition of Fine Art 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Lemoyne Center for Visual Arts: Big Cat Exhibition 2011

Tallahassee Senior Center: Senior Artist Showcase 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

2nd Annual Art of the Heartland National Juried Competition, Mena Art Gallery, Mena, AK 2016

25th Southeast Regional Juried Fine Arts Exhibition, Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, FL 2017

Spring Into Art, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, Valdosta, GA 2018, 2019, 2020:

1 of 13 Paintings chosen for Colson 2020 Calendar, Valdosta, GA

Non-Juried Exhibits:

Gadsden Arts Center Artists Guild at Tallahassee Community College 2015

Bainbridge Firehouse Arts Center and Gallery 2015

Tallahassee Nurseries Artisans in the Garden 2015

LeMoyne Chain of Parks 2016, 2019

LeMoyne Holiday Show 2016

LeMoyne 2017 Membership Show

Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival, Thomasville, GA 2018, 2019, Juried Entry

Solo Shows:

Liveoak Art Gallery, Appalachicola, FL 2019

Jefferson Arts Gallery, Monticello, FL 2020