

Natural Elements

An Art Exhibit Celebrating the Natural World

inspired by the music of Majel Connery, *Rivers Are Our Brothers*

Dr. Ross Beitzel Art Gallery, Rowan College of South Jersey

March 20 – June 8, 2023

Concert and Reception Tuesday, April 11th, 2:00 pm



ANGRY OCEAN

Linda Silver

The Sustainable Washington Township Creative Team is pleased to partner with the Gloucester County Cultural and Heritage Commission at Rowan College of South Jersey to present the exhibit *Natural Elements*. This exhibit was conceived as a melding of arts--visual interpretations of music. The artists whose work is showcased were challenged to convey concepts corresponding to a musical composition by Majel Connery, [*Rivers Are Our Brothers*](#), which is a narrative song cycle on ecological responsibility. The artists responded with their visions of Air, Cloud, Mountain, Rock, River, Snow, Tree and other elements of the natural world.

The Artists and Their Work

Wayne Avis

Clementon

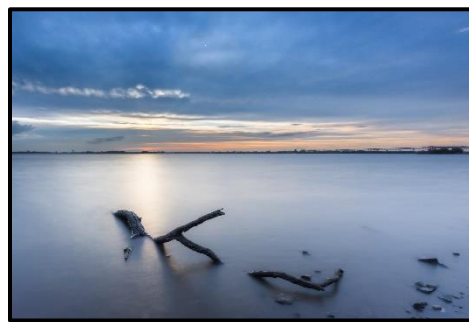
Email: wavis184@comcast.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wayne.avis

"I am a self taught photographer with over 25 years of experience. I like to shoot nature and landscape. But my passion is wildlife. If one stops and looks, there's a lot of beauty in the world. We all have to share this fragile planet together."

Sunset Redbank Battlefield Park Photograph, 13" x 16" framed. \$75

Sunset Redbank Battlefield Park 2 Photograph, 13" x 16" framed. \$75



Ross Beitzel

Almonessen

"A day without art is like a day without sunshine."

Code Blue Water color and pen and colored pencils, 14" x 20". Price on request



Carol Black

Sewell

Email : cafb@comcast.net

Website:

Facebook: Carol Black

Instagram: Cabby444

"I am a crafter who enjoys taking scenic photos. After retirement, I searched for a hobby that would combine my love of travel, photography and crafting. This hobby has become my heart-filled passion, which I hope everyone will enjoy."

Alaska Mountains Photograph, 5"x7"-\$35, 8"x10"-\$45, 11"x14"-\$55 (unframed)



Lauren Carbone

Washington Township

Email: laurenc@rccomputers.com

Website: redbubble.com/people/lauren1235

Facebook: www.facebook.com/laurens.photoshop

Instagram: @laurens.photoshop

"While hiking, I felt the mountains speaking to me. If you listen closely you can hear them whispering, 'You can climb on me, as you see my views. I can show you the land for miles, as the skies change every mood.' "

I Am a Mountain Photograph, .7" x 13". \$90



Lydia Congiu

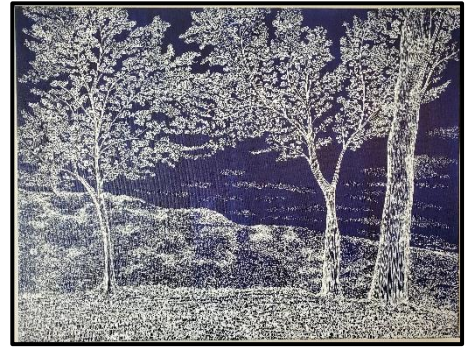
Marlton

Email: artist@lydiasland.com

Website: lydiasland.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/LydiasLand](https://www.facebook.com/LydiasLand)

"Walking through nature can be so peaceful yet inspiring. I enjoy creating movement and mystery with the use of a single color- white on a painted blue canvas. The trees become alive with the different strokes of a pen against the solid background."



Tree Harmony Ink and acrylic on canvas, 18"x24" unframed. \$350

Lisa David

Bridgeton

Email: davidsartjunction@gmail.com

Facebook: David's Art Junction

Instagram: David's Art Junction



"Beginning Art as therapy, I now teach to beginners aged four to Senior Citizens! I used Acrylic for this painting. It captures the gentle breeze while creating an effect that we become one with the painting as we see and feel the reeds dancing on air!"

Gentle Breeze Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 24". \$500

Gia De John

Gloucester Township

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Instagram: Bella.Canvas

"The title of this piece, 'Luna Norte' interprets 'the power of the sun and the moon.' If you look closely, you'll see an eye incorporated in the painting, as well as many other variations being displayed. On one end of the spectrum it portrays the idea of 'Mother Nature.' At the same time it is also conveying the sun and the moon, whereas the pupil of the eye signifies the moon, and the iris represents the sun. The following elements have been incorporated: the sun, the moon, clouds, water, evaporation, condensation, precipitation, trees, earth, nature, scenery, rocks, and plants."



Luna Norte Acrylic paint, watercolor pencil; 10"x20". Price to be negotiated

Emily Gilman Beezley

Manasquan

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Instagram: @egilmanart

"A glowing cloud nimbus appears like angel wings above multihued lines marking the earth/water below. "Harmony" is one of my 'CurviDeLinear' oil paintings where the lower portion of the canvas is broken into segments via woven topographical lines."



Harmony Oil on canvas; 14"x18".
\$1,120 framed (15.5" x 19.5")

Catherine Gowen

Princeton

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Instagram: catherine_gowen

"I work in watercolor and pen and ink at the interface of science and art, in themes of botany, geology, and ecological conservation. My works focus attention on things slight, small, and ephemeral - things that might be easily overlooked- yet are the foundation of our Earthly experience. Small colored pebbles are a primary feature of the beach at Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Refuge at Great Bay, NJ. The variety of quartz and sandstone pebbles brightens a walk along the tidal zone. I composed this painting from collected pebbles in a Zen-style ordered representation."

Great Bay Beach Pebble Enso
Watercolor, 12"x12" (framed). \$6



Dominic Martelli

Sicklerville

Email: dommartel@aol.com

"This piece is a set of three plein air drawings done at Batsto Village, NJ. The tree, gnarled and twisted, had a knot hole completely through its trunk. As I did the first drawing I realized that I would do two more, one from each side."

Serenity Graphite on paper, three drawings framed as triptych, 42"x21.5". NFS



Christine Masterson

Turnersville

Email: obey578@gmail.com

Website: Raw photography and art

"I am an artist who uses my lens as a paint brush."

Frozen in Time Photograph. \$50 (framed)



Katharine Philip

Glen Ridge

Email: klphilip777@gmail.com



"I am combining ink and cold wax in search for a more visceral, textural surface that will elicit unexpected associations. Utilizing wax is challenging, as I'm forced to struggle against it. It is difficult to get ink, graphite, and watercolor to stick to the wax. Adding a surprise ingredient, is always energizing. Sometimes, I can carve through the wax revealing the white of the original paper, much like scratchboard. The difficulty creates improvisational opportunities that augment the descriptive power, force and rapture, of nature."

Snow on the Mountain - Lake Placid

Ink and cold wax on yupo paper 23.5"x29.5" unframed. NFS

Catherine Root

Turnersville

Email: Root3@comcast.net

"A self-taught amateur artist, that's me always looking to improve my interest in art. I primarily work with pastels, but enjoy learning different methods and techniques of painting in all mediums."

Sun Burst Pastel, 16" x 20" (framed). NFS



Charlotte Ryan

Pitman

Email: crmoonbeam@gmail.com

Website: www.Charlottesweb.vpweb.com

Charlotte Ryan, shares her vision, spirit, and the 'fortuitous luck of timing' through photography. Occasionally her images provide an invitation to become an explorer of naturally created portals, crevices and openings. It brings to mind the philosophy of singer, writer and poet, Leonard Cohen, 'there's a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.' She has exhibited her work in various Gloucester County libraries and galleries as well as Art Space, in West Cape May, the Galleria and Riverwinds Community Center in West Deptford, Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts, Millville and Hammonton Art Center. She has been the recipient of several Juried Art awards.

Grey Pearl Sky Photograph, 14" x 11". \$95.



Taking Flight Photograph, 14" x 11". \$95

Norman Schmidt

Erial

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Facebook: Norman Schmidt

"My classically trained professional art career started as an illustrator in the US Air Force over 55 years ago. At the completion of duty the focus then turned to advertising and graphic design working with major Fortune 500 companies until retirement. Fast forward, to current day, I often find myself returning to the 'Why?' Why, I started in the artistic realm many years ago, creating drawings and paintings in the hopes, to give the viewer the opportunity to experience a feeling, as well as to tell a story typical not seen. My painting, 'One Hell of a Sunset' was one of those moments while I was Plein Air painting one evening. I have always found clouds to be mythical and magical in how they change both in front of you and on the canvas as you paint. I hope you enjoy my art, currently on display in the 'Clouds' category at the Dr. Ross Beitzel Gallery's 'Natural Elements Exhibition.'



One Hell of a Sunset Oil on canvas, 22" x 30" (framed). \$1,500

Linda Silver

Washington Township

Email: silverillustration@gmail.com

Website: <https://lmsilverd50f.myportfolio.com/>



"Nature has a fluidity and an imprecision that I love to paint. The inexactness of water gives me the freedom to use my paints to fill in blanks as to how I want to see the world. The immense and unharnessed power of an 'Angry Ocean' tide carries life to and from seas, rivers, lakes, ponds and rain puddles."

Angry Ocean Alcohol ink, print and acrylics on gallery wrapped canvas, 36"x36" unframed. \$400



"I love to paint nature in all its amazing forms: sturdy rock, crumbling earth, bodies of water, lush vegetation, rain, sunlit flowers and airy skies. A feeling of peace descends as fluffy snowflakes reflect the subtle colors of the world outside a window. A gentle blue 'December Snowfall' creates a winter wonderland of crystal coldness."

December Snowfall Alcohol ink and pencil giclee print, 16"x20" framed to 20"x24". \$175

"A sun dappled sky ignites a fiery hillside of blooms. I remember this scene as one from a spring day of my childhood. I am glad to be able to recreate this "Field of Red Tulips" from 1958."

Field of Red Tulips Alcohol ink print on gallery wrapped canvas, 24"x36" unframed. \$300



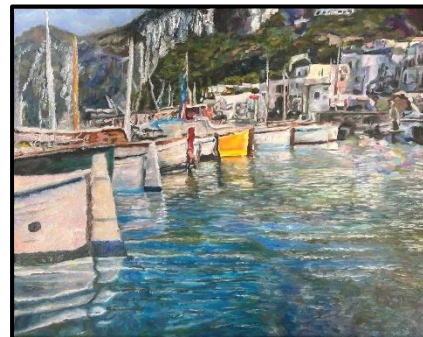
Tatiana Vukicevich

Washington Township

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"Through my artwork, I inspire others to see the elegance around you. I use oil paint to capture the rich colors in landscapes and seascapes. I use brushstrokes to illustrate the vibrant hues and the light and the shadows, to emulate the beauty of the world's natural surroundings."

Capri Oil on canvas, 16" x 20". NFS



Gay Walling
Pitman

Email: gwalling23@gmail.com
Website: gaywalling.artspan.com



"

I gravitate toward rendering quiet settings to reflect the sense of calmness found in the search for beauty in the ordinary. It is my way of taking a closer look at life and sharing that experience with the viewer."

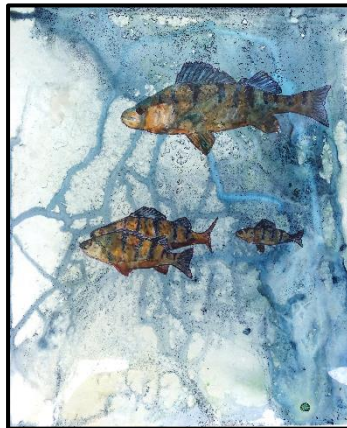
Winter Marsh Oil on canvas 18" x 24", \$500

Mary Waltham
Princeton

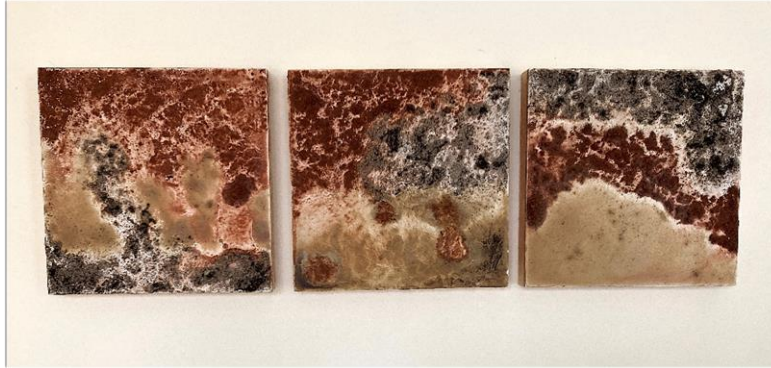
Email: mary@marywaltham.com
Website: www.MaryWaltham.com
Instagram: [@marywaltham](https://www.instagram.com/marywaltham)

"Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) is a cool-water fish most abundant in the open water of the Delaware River. 'Yellow Perch' is part of a series focusing on the Delaware River species that thrive, and also those that are endangered. My work is intended to contribute to public debate about our environment and the questions we all need to confront to sustain it. Through a range of visual media I hope to spark new conversations, by bringing the landscape to life."

Yellow Perch Watercolor on Mylar layers, 14" x 17" framed. \$425



"'Ground' is part of a body of artwork centered on the often-over-looked soil that we walk on, harvest from, and excavate. The title 'Ground' originates from the Old English word 'grund', and means foundation or base. These soil works explore afresh the rich surface materials that we take for granted but that are themselves a link between the rock core of the earth and all that lives on it. I want to emphasise the powerful visual impact of the varied colors and textures found in a selection of different local NJ soils."



Ground New Jersey soil pigments ground and combined with archival artist binder and painted on cradled wood panels. Varnished and sealed to prevent erosion ("spalling"). Three (unframed) pieces (triptych), each 6" x 6" x 0.88". \$450



The following were recognized as Winners in their categories:

Air – *Gentle Breeze*, Lisa David

Cloud - *One Hell of a Sunset*, Norman Schmidt

Mountain – *Alaska Mountains*, Carol Black

River – *Yellow Perch*, Mary Waltham

Rock – *Great Bay Beach Pebble Enso*, Catherine Gowen

Snow – *Code Blue*, Ross Beitzel

Tree – *Tree Harmony*, Lydia Congiu

The Creative Team gratefully acknowledges the following supporters for sponsoring the artist prizes:

Bellia Print and Copy Century 21 Rauh & Johns

Columbia Bank Music at Bunker Hill

Rotary Club of Washington Township Sustainable Washington Township