



Here's food for thought. Do you like to eat? That's an odd question, but this season of the bountiful harvest of berries, fruit and garden goodies begs me to ask it! In my modest urban garden I grow tomatoes and ground cherries, blueberries and strawberries. The back alley provides a robust crop of blackberries and raspberries. The plum (Italian prune) trees are bursting with fruit, and a pear tree "plops" her goodies down from high branches. Friends and neighbors share apples, corn, green beans, potatoes and more, either canned or freshly picked. To sum it up, this is the season to enjoy the gifts of nature. As summer begins to wind down, I pause to reflect how very fortunate I am to be able to really enjoy eating good healthy food. May we all be so blessed!

Next Issue: Why watercolor?

Q. How long have you been painting?

A. All my life. I started drawing as a child and got my first oil painting set for Christmas when my oldest son was four years old.

Q. How did you learn to paint seascapes?

A. I sought out seascape painters and took classes from them. Once I learned the basics, I studied the ocean every time I had an opportunity to go to the beach.

Q. How do you decide what to paint?

A. I paint what I love....what I am excited about! First and always it is the ocean. Lately, I've been painting a variety of subjects: street scenes, people, (especially children), Americana, farmlands and animals, flowers...If it "grabs" me, it gets painted.

Q. Where and when do you work?

A. I have a terrific loft above my bedroom. It is quiet and has great light. I usually start my day at eight a.m., work until lunch, and back to work at one p.m. By three p.m., I am "creatively exhausted", so I go to any of the many follow-up tasks that go along with my career.

Q. How long does it take to do a painting?

A. Depending on the size of the oil canvas, anywhere from three days to three months, or a year. I always have a blank canvas ready for the in-between times while waiting for a piece to dry to a certain degree.

Q. Do you fit your watercolors, gouache and pastel paintings in those times?

A. Yes. I also take time to paint en plein aire on location or to demonstrate at public appearances, art fairs and speak to various art organizations.

Q. You have a large selection of limited edition giclee and photolithograph prints. First, what is a giclee print?

A. Giclee (say: "shee clay ") is a French word meaning "to spurt" or "to spray forcefully". It is done on an ink jet printer with water soluble inks in four colors.

Q. How do you make giclee prints?

A. I have a room in my basement set up with computers, printers and all the supplies I need to make my own giclee prints. The process is long and involved: from photographing or scanning the artwork, to color correcting, stripping, printing and trimming to signing and packaging them, and finally the distribution of the finished print.

Q. How many prints do you do?

A. I have available, right now, over 300 different images: some giclees and some photolithographs. The photolithographs are done by an outside print shop and I get the entire edition (usually 3000 plus 100 artists proofs) done at one time. The giclees, I do myself "in house" and can do one at a time as an order comes in.

Q. What is an artists proof?

A. An artists proof (or proofs) is generally 1/10th of the entire edition. In my case I limit the proofs to only 100 prints. In the old days, the printer pulled from the machinery approximately every tenth print to check for color and quality. The artist was on hand to "proof" these sheets. The accepted policy is that these proofs are marked A/P by the artist and numbered and given to museums or galleries or dealers as gifts. Any remaining of the ten percent can be sold by the artist at his/her discretion.

Featured Artwork

Garden Harvest (pastel)



"The 'garden harvest' is set out waiting to be taken in and prepared for the table. With rich colors of gold and green, accented by shiny red and plum, this is a pleasing display for the senses."

My Bunny (Gouache)



"This is my favorite toy. I love 'my bunny'. When I get ready for my nap, I will have my soft blanket and cuddle with my bunny and soon will be fast asleep."

Night Street (gouache)



"Bright street lights, stop lights and the headlights and taillights of cars and trucks, all glow and reflect in this scene of a 'night street' in the rain; anytown anywhere!"