

December 15, 2001 Issue

Florals



Christmas is in the air. I love the sounds of the season. People are whispering with secretive looks on their faces. Children are giggling and squealing with delight. There is a murmur in the malls that reaches a crescendo as the day slips into evening. And, oh, the music! It lifts my spirit and whisks me back to girlhood. It reminds me that the world is all right even with all that has gone on since September 11th. I love the smells of Christmas, from the fresh pungent fragrant evergreens to the spicy cinnamon smell of pies and cookies baking at Grandma's house. There is the crunch of frosty white snow, the tinkle of bells and coins. The glitter of strings of lights, and this year, red, white, and blue everywhere.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

Next Issue: A Look Back

When you are at a loss for words, Try flowers. Flowers say it all . From joy to grief - hope to despair, there has been a flower there to commemorate the occasion.

“Times and customs change, but flowers remain.”

The language of flowers has been documented from ages past. Times and customs change, but flowers remain. You can probably recall the meaningful statements with the names of flowers in them. Such as:

- "Stop and smell the roses"
- "Daisies never tell"
- "As pale as a lily" etc.

My garden can be described as old English Cottage style. I have tall border plants and short sweet smelling blooms. I grow stately cultivated hybrids alongside nature's own wild flowers. And I delight in putting them on paper as a watercolor, pastel or gouache painting. This is my way of preserving forever the dew-kissed freshness; the transient full bloom that lasts for only a day. If only I could capture the heady fragrance of the Stargazer lily or the Chrysler

Imperial rose in a painting.

“My challenge is to convey the delicate beauty “

My challenge is to convey the delicate beauty, the fleeting essence of a particular flower without becoming "heavy handed". The painting must glow from within. The flower must look as if it will bend in the wind or bow beneath the weight of a honey bee. One of the best ways to accomplish this is to use watercolor as my media of choice for florals. However, more recently I have been doing some in gouache and pastel and find that quite satisfactory. I believe each flower will dictate the media best suited for its portrait.

Watch for these florals on my website. If you have a favorite and it is not there, let me know. If I can grow it, I can paint it!

Featured Artwork

Queen's Lace



"Awash in a golden sea of California poppies, the graceful white caps of 'Queen Anne's Lace' seem noble and serene. In field or garden this wild flower is hardy and prolific; enduring and welcome each fall."

Anemones



"Anemones are quite a delight. Quietly nestled among more showy Spring flowers, the anemone brings flashes of jewel like colors to those who look carefully for them."

Hollyhocks



"The deep maroon 'hollyhocks' that grow in my garden create an elegant backdrop for the dainty and more frivolous flowers. Upon occasion they seem to appear almost black. Who wouldn't welcome these tall beauties to their yard?"