



270 Irvin Garrish Hwy.

PO BOX 1719

Ocracoke, NC 27960

252-928-4400

downcreekgallery@yahoo.com

For Information Contact: Marissa Gross

Barbara Adams

Adams collection of paintings portrays Ocracoke Island, and natural elements of the outer banks and surrounding areas. Adams says she "Tries to paint weekly, that there is a beauty in Ocracoke's little village that has always inspired her painting.

Barbara Adams work has consisted of oils, watercolors, and even resin over the course of her career. She has been known to add elements such as raised surfaces and images on wooden boards and canvas, which she then coats in resin to complete the piece. She prefers to construct her own frames out of seashells and found objects, to complete painted works on canvas. In addition to mixed mediums, the artist also carves block prints, creating vibrant and intricate prints that showcase seashore themed images.

"I enjoy capturing light and shadows which sometimes leads me to new challenges and techniques. With a combination or mixture of impressionism in the background, I attempt to bring out a realist image."

Kitty Martin Mitchell

Kitty Martin Mitchell's work is greatly inspired by her father Charles R. Martin, who was a photographer. Mitchell also mentions many other artists; "inspired her while growing up, as well as Ocracoke Island, its natural beauty, and its residents."

Kitty explores multiple mediums, oils, graphite, and acrylic paint, utilizing many themes within her paintings that bring attention to world events. Kitty earned a Bachelor of Art with a focus in Studio Arts at The University of Pittsburgh and has been painting ever since.

Mitchell currently instructs the Art program at Ocracoke School. She takes great pleasure and pride in “watching young artists bloom.” Mitchell believes that teaching has allowed her to stay in touch with the creative playfulness of children. As well as adding a very inspiring element to her work as she incorporates some of the fearlessness of children into “playing with paint and images.”

Mary Bassell

Mary Bassell moved permanently to Ocracoke, NC in the mid 1990's. The artists' creativity and self-expression in her glorious Pastels, is well represented via liveliness and color, as well as through multifaceted sea spirited subject matter. The artist began to paint and utilize “pure pigment pastels” frequently upon moving to the island full time. Her favorite subject matter was right out her doorstep. The sea, sand dunes, water studies, and flora and fauna alike, are just a few of the artists favorite themes.

For 16 years, Bassell has explored the light and shadows that Ocracoke has to offer. She mainly paints “plein aire” and one can often spot her out on the beach dunes, and or South Point Rd. in the early morning light, and or evening purple dusk. The artist prefers to be out in the “fresh air” immersing herself in the natural beauty of the island, when she is creating new works.

Bassell has a working studio on the Back Rd., where she conducts regular pastel painting classes to suit both beginners and advanced artists of all ages.

Roy Revels

Abstract artist Roy Revels, features works consisting of original abstract paintings, mixed genre, drawings, and 3D sculpture. Revels, a well-established abstract artist, states that his work is;

“More conceptual than anything else, and means to be thought provoking. It gives individuals the opportunity to draw their own opinions about the work, rather than feed certain ideals and subject matter pertaining to the sculptures and paintings.”

Revels is a self taught artist who admits he does not like to “paint a pretty picture, I do however paint a story, a story where the viewer is forced into painting their own ending.” He likes to engage his viewers and encourage them to use their own ideals and become part of the experience. The artist prefers to work in a wide range of mediums, new genre, sculpture, jewelry, and fiber. He prefers not to title pieces, as the work is consistently changing.

Debbie Wells

Debbie Wells began making artwork in the early 1990's, concentrating initially on transparent watercolor paintings on paper. Although she attended several watercolor

workshops in the beginning, she considers herself largely self-taught. During this early time, Wells showed extensively throughout the state with the North Carolina Watercolor Society and served for three years on their board of directors. She attended several watercolor workshops, showing extensively thereabout the state. In the year 2000, the artist began to add collaged elements to her paintings.

Wells began to work on wood rather than paper, carving wooden pieces that she would finish with paint and collaged elements. Utilizing beads, wood, jewels, mirrors, and other media, she placed on antique shutter windows and doors, which served as her canvas. There are obvious themes in Wells' work of transformation, death and rebirth, and exquisitely feminine symbols such as eggs.

The artist states that;

“It was always a learning experience to show with a large variety of other artists from around the state, to meet and work with them, as we prepared for and participated in our annual shows. My current paintings are acrylic on canvas, most starting with the same black ground or under painting. These images incorporate figurative suggestions in silhouette and landscape elements in abstracted surroundings. I am also showing several 3-D pieces, some with bird skulls as the central element and a few small cow altars, as my fascination with the theme of “sacred cows” continues.”