

Nelson Fine Art Gallery



Sunlit Courtyard by Sandy Nelson



Located in Lumina Commons
910.256.9956
1982 Eastwood Road
Wilmington, NC

Sunset River Marketplace

continued from Page 22

ketplace. Event coordinator Sol Levine said, "The NCWAS is looking forward to exhibiting our artwork and the natural beauty of North Carolina in an area of our state where we have not exhibited before and in a prestigious gallery such as Sunset River Marketplace."

NCWAS artists are well known for their depictions of wildlife, botanicals and the Carolina landscape. This exhibition includes a noteworthy combination of photographers, oil painters, watercolorists and acrylic artists.

Raney Rogers, who is already one of the exhibiting artists at Sunset River Marketplace, works in both watercolor and pastel. She has been living and painting professionally in the Blue Ridge Mountains for over 20 years. Rogers has earned awards all over the world, and has just produced an instructional DVD.

Formerly an animation artist and producer for companies such as Disney Studios, Hallmark and Warner Brothers Animation, Tony Craig began pursuing fine art and photography in the late 1990s. He is the author of "Country Stores in North Carolina," a photographic collection of anachronistic shops off the beaten path. Today he exhibits his wildlife and nostalgia watercolors at Sunset River Marketplace.

Jeff Christian's work has appeared in the state's educational publication, *Wildlife In North Carolina*. His watercolors, oils and prints have helped to promote a list of conservation organizations such as the Coastal Conservation Association, Ducks Unlimited and Heroes on the Water.

Susan Mason grew up in Atlantic, NC. She has recently returned home after 20-plus years teaching in Arctic Alaska. She works in both photography and watercolor, her pieces often reflect her love for the natural works and down east Carteret County.



Work by Jeff Christian

Ginny Lassiter, owner of Sunset River Marketplace, said, "I was delighted when Tony Craig approached me about hosting this exhibition. We try very hard to offer the community a broad range of events and exhibitions, so I'm excited to bring a wildlife show of this caliber and scale to the area."

The North Carolina Wildlife Artist Society was formed in 2009 with charter members invited by an organizing committee. The Society now consists of juried members from across the state including many award winning artists. The artists vary in style and medium, but the common denominator is that they love wildlife and the natural beauty of the state and illustrate this through their art. Media include watercolors, acrylics, oil, sculpting and photography.

The mission of the group is to bring the highest quality wildlife art available to the fore and offer a variety of services and opportunity for the wildlife enthusiast. Another mission is to become a strong, continued above on next column to the right

influential factor in education within the school systems; provide special funding for scholarships in wildlife research and preservation; and provide ongoing exhibitions to show the abundance of the state animal and plant species in their natural environment.

Much more information including events the Society is participating in or sponsoring can be found on the website at (www.ncwas.com). For artist bios and contact information, refer to the website.

Husband and wife team Joe and Ginny Lassiter opened Sunset River Marketplace in June 2002. Ginny is executive director of the eclectic Calabash gallery, which features North and South Carolina artists only, and is known for its offering of fine art and crafts. The 10,000 square-foot space houses approximately 200 artists working in a range of style and media, including oil, watercolor, acrylics, pastel, photography, clay, fiber, turned wood, intarsia, hand-blown glass, leaded glass, metal and more.

Sunset River Marketplace is an avid



Work by Susan Mason

supporter of the arts. It has hosted exhibitions for the local Brunswick County Arts Council and local art leagues in addition to the sixty-fourth annual *Watercolor Society of NC Juried Exhibition* in 2009 and the upcoming 2012 NC Wildlife Artist Society Exhibition.

Sunset River workshops have included classes with nationally known artists such as John Poon, James Sulkowski, Mary Alice Braukman, Morgan Samuel Price,

continued on Page 24



Yellowfin Pack by JK Christian

N.C. Wildlife Artist Society Exhibition

November 21, 2012 - January 5, 2013



www.sunsetrivermarketplace.com

10283 Beach Drive SW
Calabash, NC 28467
910.575.5999