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# Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, Features Works by Lauren Terrett

Society of Bluffton Artists (SOBA) in Bluffton, SC, will present *Local Color*, featuring works by Lauren Terrett, on view from July 5 - 31, 2016. A reception will be held on July 8, from 5-7pm.

Terrett's show is titled Local Color, which is appropriate in more ways than one. She is inspired by the vibrant and lush lowcountry atmosphere, customs and features that infuse her surroundings here; and because of her skilled use of "local color" in her paintings – that is the natural color of her subjects. Her work is intuitive and impressionistic. Thick paint, texturing, charcoal lines and many colors define her paintings. Lowcountry seascapes, flora, local people, and local landmarks are her favorite subjects.

Originally from Connecticut, Terrett first discovered her love of fine arts in high school where she flourished with her teacher, who gave her confidence and courage to experiment and start to develop her skills. She went on to pursue a Fine Arts degree from Cazenovia College in upstate New York. While there, acrylics became her medium of choice. She remembers her professor pushing her talent to a new level.

After her first daughter was born, Terrett decided to pursue her lifelong desire to become a Registered Nurse. Along came her second daughter and there proved to be little time to paint. While she found parenting and her nursing career both very rewarding, she longed to get back to her art. In 2015 she married the



Work by Lauren Terrett

love of her life, and with his encouragement, took a leap of faith. She left nursing and immersed herself in her painting.

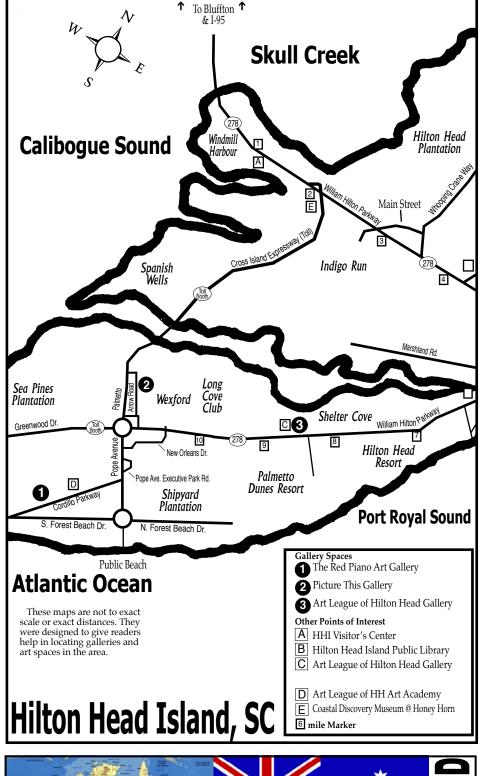
Terrett credits The Society of Bluffton Artists and The Hilton Head Art Academy for providing varied classes and venues to show her work. Lynda Potter has been her mentor and continues to guide her on her journey. "While nursing has enabled me to help others heal, painting has a healing effect on me." Terrett is back at her canvas as much as time allows as she now splits her time between nursing and painting. She currently calls Bluffton home and her grown daughters live nearby.

Please join us to meet Terrett, enjoy Local Color, and the work of over 100 other member artists.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Society at 843/757-6586 or visit (www. sobagallery.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be July 24th for the August 2016 issue and Aug. 24 for the September 2016 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now. And where do you send that info? E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).

You can also contact us by calling 843.693.1306.





Editor's Note: Judith McGrath contributed her writings about exhibits and events taking place in Western Australia to Carolina Arts for about a decade. Although she was writing about events taking place thousands and thousands of miles away, they seemed relevant to what was going on here in the Carolinas. Her contributions were very popular when we first ran them and continue to be popular on our website's archives. We've decide to revisit them from time to time.

## A Few Words From Down Under **Reviewing the Critics**

by Judith McGrath, first published in November 2007

Spare a thought for the poor art critic. All we hear is moaning and wailing from artists and galleries about the dearth of art criticism. Yet, when someone dares to write an honest critique of an exhibition, be it praising or denigrating, those same complainants 'chuck a wobbly'. (Australian for 'throwing a tantrum') This leaves the critic stuck between a rock and a hard place, either condemned for being prejudicial or dismissed as lacking knowledge and/or understanding of the newest inspirational art.

With that in mind you'll understand why I classify myself a Reviewer rather then Critic. No, it's not to protect me from the slings and arrows of irate readers it's more the case of correctly defining what I do. As a 'reviewer' I need only record my reaction to, and interpretation of, the

art on exhibition. If the work is good it should be explained why; if it's imperfect but shows promise 'corrective' criticism can be offered; if it's bad ignore it. (As they say, there's no such thing as bad publicity!) It's about helping the artist and the viewer, it's not about ego.

For example, I recently attended an exhibition of new sculptures by a respected ceramic artist in this town. It had been years since she'd presented her work at home as she'd been exhibiting and participating in workshops around the world. She creates androgynous figures with exaggerated proportions to suggest the uniqueness of humanity.

Recalling her first show many years back I could see the thread that linked these new efforts to her primary forms and how her style had evolved within her theme. It was also obvious that, like me, just about every other viewer in the gallery could pin a personal narrative to at least one figure. People were discussing the works with other attendees, whether they were acquainted or not. One woman approached me to relate what she read in one form and wondered if I felt the same. We were joined by a gentleman and each delighted in the other's reading of the work. The exhibition was a wonderful experience and I reviewed it accordingly.

The following weekend the Sunday newspaper's relatively new art critic wrote about the same show. He considered the figures deformed, the designs etched into the white slip on some forms too busy, the flattened busts derivative of Modigliani

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