Captured Moments: Mary Jo Hinds

East Gallery Nov 4 - Jan 20, 2024



Artist Statement:

When I started this "artistic journey", I used a thin coat of paint to cover the small canvas boards that I used. I had the tendency to make my work very 'tight' and detailed. As confidence grew, adding more oil to the canvas made my colors more brilliant and lifelike, which encouraged the production of larger pieces of work. Along with this, I gained the desire to add more freedom to my artwork, letting the viewer "finish the picture" that they wanted in their own mind.

Seldom do I go a day without putting some oil on a canvas because of the enjoyment it gives me and a strong desire to produce better work. The successful artist doesn't depend on the number of years you paint, but how often you hold the brush without the fear of trying something new.

It is my desire that those viewing my work are able to take a break from their fastpaced world and find a peaceful spot in one of my landscapes, almost smell the fragrance of the florals, or see the part of my soul that I have on exhibit.

Bio:

Jo was born in Sheridan, Wyoming and moved to Rapid City, South Dakota when she was in the second grade. Early on, Jo had a natural interest in art since her father was an artist, utilizing his talent in his business as a sign painter. Upon graduation from high school, she enrolled in secretarial training and secured a position at the local radio/television station. While there, a friend and co-worker introduced her to a fellow airman from Ellsworth AFB and within a year they exchanged vows at the Cathedral in Rapid City. After devoting her time to raising

their five children, she again sought employment outside the home in the retail industry.

Retirement brought with it the opportunity to return to her love of art when she began taking classes in oil painting with local art instructors. Later, she expanded her knowledge by studying different mediums with Mary Muller, a renowned artist in Des Moines, Iowa. What began as a desire to paint a few pieces for her home and family had blossomed into a passion to create.

Because of her enjoyment of painting and powerful desire to produce better work, she seldom goes a day without putting some oil on a canvas. She feels that success as an artist is not necessarily dependent upon the number of years' experience, but upon how often they hold a brush without the fear of trying something new. She always says that she "loves to be in her paintings, to smell the rain, to walk barefoot on a beach, to listen to a waterfall." It provides her with an escape from a hectic, fast-paced world, if only for a brief time. There are times when she finds it difficult to part with her artwork, because she feels that each of her paintings contain a small piece of her soul.