June 2019



Boothbay Blues • Polly McGrory • Oil on cradled gesso board • 24" 36"

spent most of this winter painting a colorful scene of Boothbay. A sun-splashed deck overlooks the water with a string of dollhouse cottages in the distance. Shades of blue and lemon make for a light-hearted, harmonious palette. Nice working on this cheerful scene with snowflakes swirling outside my window!

Seems like this winter went on forever. Not that it was scary... none of those howling hurricane-style blizzards with window-rattling winds. Just a sequence of smaller nuisances ... the snow falls, we shovel, snow melts, rain comes, gets muddy, then freezes. Every year, we say we'll make a pathway of steps from the driveway to the front porch. But when it's snowing, we can't build a pathway, and when the weather is nice, who wants to waste a beautiful day building a path? Mañana!!

So of course it snows before we get to it. I get the bright idea to put some small boards along the slope leading to the deck. Found perfect small shelf-size boards and carefully placed them in the muddy

path. Lookin' good!! With great confidence, I stepped on the first board, which slid into the second board,

dislodging the third, toppling over the fourth — rather like surfing in a sea of chocolate pudding. The cold continued for weeks. The snow squalls hid the gardens under a white blanket. Sunny days and daffodils were still out of reach.

At last, by mid May, our old broken-down fence was replaced. The shrubs and flowering vines and lilies are now flourishing. The old forsythia is covered with blooms. Spring is now really here!



GALLERYHOURS

WED 👸 THU 👸 FRI Noon to 4pm

SAT **₹** 11-2p.m.

or by appointment. Call 790-7003

Wolfgang's Latest Masterpiece



Wolfgang Loves all Things Nautical.

If you've been to our gallery, you've seen his many seascapes and paintings of vessels of all shapes and sizes. One dreary, rainy day this winter, he was leafing through old files of early advertisements, full of elegant illustrations by artists skilled at capturing a pose. Wolf came across a drawing of hands holding a net, a fine reference for the weathered hands of a seaman tending to his nets. He went to work, learning about textures and techniques ... and it's just about done.

Coming to the gallery soon!



ART WALK * SAT., JUNE 4-7P.M.

Join us for a sip of wine and some tasty bites and check out our artwork.

9 Friendship Road ■ Waldoboro ■ 790-1427 www.mcgroryandwolf.com



EVER SINCE I STARTED getting my hair cut at John Paul's Salon, I've been dying to try a painting of his wildly eclectic shop. Interiors are tough to do ... hard to figure out how to make the scene inviting. Without a figure to lend interest, the painting can lack magnetic pull for the viewer. But there's something about the atmosphere at John's place ... myriad objects are casually thrown together, but they have an unmistakable whiff of glamor, a mysterious appeal. John collects arty things and uses them to jazz up the shop's personality. Lends a friendly atmosphere, a transformation much like what he gives me ... a quick redo from ragged to ravishing with a few snips of his scissors. We have much in common ... art, photography, movies and bitchin' about politics and the weather. *****



THE WOODPILE calls to me in September ... there's the first chilly night, when I remember the sweet smell of the wood smoke curling from the chimney. In October, it's a pleasant nightly ritual. But this year, we ran out of wood at the end of February. The new Jotul woodstove is extremely efficient, but does take a bit more wood. March and April were still cold and damp, but the late snowstorms and lingering muddy yards slowed down wood deliveries. Finally, we got our new cord, and shared the stacking duties — speed record by stacking 46 wheelbarrow trips in 4 days. Now we don't mind a chilly evevning at all.



I love movies based on artists. I adored "I, I found a small painting by Frank H. Mason done

Claude Monet", was crazy about "Eternity's Gate", but thought the gorgeously animated gem "Loving Vincent" was better. All are inspiring, and make me want to paint like the Masters. But how to start?? Came upon William Howard Sanden's instructional video for John Singer Sargent's style, and I was inspired anew. The best teachers are the old masters, so taking on the task of copying a favorite work steeps the wanna-be master in the advanced methods, tricks and techniques that produce great art. Painting by POLLY McGrory

in 1939. The original is only 10" x 14". Frank did many paintings of freighters and liners, and this one is particularly dramatic. I blew up the size to 20" x 30". The toughest part was the water with its turbulent waves, and the odd stormy hue of the sky. Many layers of various greens and blues got the depth of the ocean right, and the roiling action of winds and waves.



Work in Progress



Sophie and Josie Davis, Violins • Colin Wheatley, Viola • Ju-Young Lee, Cello

STRING QUARTET IN CONCERT

JUNE 22 💢 7 P.M. Lush strings, dazzling virtuosity

and glorious music by Dvorak, Holst and folk tunes fill the program at Broad Bay Chrch. Theme: celebration of Medomak River and working waterfront. Music is paired with artwork and photos by

Midcoast artists.



