

Artist Profile

Rachel Clearfield

Clearfield Studios
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I paint highly detailed oil paintings that show the beauty of the vanishing landscape of Sandy Mush and all the wonderful details of that which lives and grows in this area.



Artist Bio

Born in England on July 27, 1946, Rachel Clearfield was a self-taught child prodigy. As a young girl, she composed poetry and illustrated her poems with beautiful paintings. After completing high school she was educated at the Newcastle College of Art and the Manchester College of Art, both in England.

In the late 1960s, Ms. Clearfield moved to Amsterdam and rural Holland where she was inspired by the natural beauty of her surroundings. There, she painted brilliantly colored symbolic animals amidst exquisite natural settings. Her work became well established and was subsequently published in many European magazines. She was awarded a prestigious grant from the "Contra Prestatsie" and her paintings were purchased by the Dutch government as well as by collectors in London, Paris, and Belgium.

In 1976, Rachel relocated to the United States. During this time she sold many of her paintings privately to collectors in California, Hawaii, and New York. When she moved to Florida in the late 1970s, her work was shown at Gallery Lanvin, Gallery Deborah Hellman,

Gallery 1029, Gallery Lorraine, and Gallery Marguerite Gil. She made numerous appearances on television and in the Miami Herald.

The artist calls her present mode of painting "classical visionary" inspired by the legendary masters of the Renaissance. Although the roots of her technique reflect the classics her messages are contemporary. She is immersed in the vision of planetary healing for all elements of nature and species of existence. Rachel has given benefits for various animal rights and environmental organizations including: Greenpeace, the Nature Conservancy, the Rainforest Alliance, Clean Water for North Carolina, and the Prem Rawat Foundation.

Since moving to Asheville in 1990, she has been shown in the Blue Spiral Gallery, the Broadhurst Gallery, the Merrimon Gallery, and most recently in the Discovery Gallery in Washington, DC. Rachel is an avid flower gardener and paints directly from the beauty which surrounds her home in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

Art critic Sylvia Penn wrote of her work, "With Rachel we undertake an unforgettable journey to magical vistas of unspoiled beauty and dream-like quality. The diversity of details, the patterns, the intricate rhythms, presented in a visionary style, add up to haunting landscapes of inner experiences, not soon forgotten."

Artist Statement

With lyrical tenderness and flowing precision, I capture the awe-inspiring beauty of the natural world that surrounds my studio. My goal is to share beauty and harmony by creating paintings that are healing and uplifting.

In a classical genre and out of my deep gratitude for life, I offer exquisite landscapes, still-lives, florals and figures, all of which glow from a meaning within, set in a timeless silence.