

A Leap Of Spirit and a Dance in Your Head!

The art of Jullane Rich on display at Tualatin Public Library

BY ANGELA WRAHTZ

August and September 2014 at The Living Room Gallery at the Tualatin Public Library give us the artwork of Jullane Rich, an accomplished watercolorist with a soft spot for animals.

“I paint what I love,” says Jullane, but if you drill down, you find out that for her getting from A to Z with a painting involves multiple steps. She thinks about what she would like to paint, then does her homework. Jungle animals fill her imagination. If you're lucky, you might see her in front of an exhibit at the Oregon Zoo where she will sit for hours studying her intended subject and the light. When the angle and the light are just right, the camera comes out. Trying to frame the painting in her mind in the view finder, she takes numerous photos. When she gets a good one, she thinks to herself, “It will be an even better painting.”

Notable in Jullane's work is fine detail, the essential end step in a long process. If you look at her portraits, you'll see the eyes are extremely important to her, and animal fur is realistic and painstakingly correct.

It is the inspiration at the beginning, however, Jullane takes the most delight



I Can Do This!

in describing, when she captures her moment in camera and can see the painting in her head. She says, “It is a leap in your spirit and a dance in your head and you do it (paint it) and see it come alive!”

Jullane began painting animals as an act of love. She started painting the beloved deceased pets of people she knew to help them with their healing process. She wanted to give those folks a fond remembrance of the pet that had meant so much to them in life. Word has gotten around. Jullane has become so well-known for her pet art that she gets commissions for pet portraits from all over the world with several paintings recently having shipped to New York City, Thailand, Haiti, and Africa.



Royal Priesthood

At her show you will see that Jullane paints more than animals. She has beach paintings she calls “Summer Fun” and large glowing florals. If you follow Jullane on Facebook you will see she happily posts photos of her work in progress. In this way you may see her work develop. “All things go through an ugly stage,” she says with modesty, and “There are stages and a process to get to where a painting is truly beautiful.”



Dreaming of You.

Jullane Rich grew up in Southwest Portland and now lives in Banks, Oregon. She studied art at Linfield College but went into nursing instead after graduating. Then she put down the paint brush entirely for 18 years while raising and fostering children. When she is not working or painting, she breeds West Highland Terriers, sews, and is very involved at her church. People who know her will tell you she has a very big heart. If you wish to reach her regarding commission work for pet portraits or other paintings, you may contact her at gdskr@aol.com.

If you are interested in learning more about opportunities at The Living Room Gallery, please contact Angela Wrahtz, Volunteer Coordinator at angela.wrahtz@comcast.net. This program is sponsored by the Tualatin Arts Advisory Committee.



Angela Wrahtz lives and works in Tualatin. She is a writer, award winning artist, President of WOW! Women of Watercolor ~ Guild of Artists, school volunteer, and a mother of two. You can view her art at www.watercolorsbyangela.com.