

Feb. 24th - Fourth Friday Gallery Night
Featured Artists



RIVERSIDE DENTAL ARTS
Gabriel J. Rich III, DDS • William D. Carmichael, DDS

Ann Parks McCray



Ann Parks McCray works in oil on gallery-wrap canvas to create abstractions that capture energy in bold strokes and palette. The influence of her natural surroundings is everywhere present in her work. She often creates abstractions of water, trees, sky, and flowers. Her work allows a wide range of personal interpretation by the viewer and invites

contemplation as well as visual pleasure. Many of her paintings are suited to large airy spaces where light and distance combine to emphasize a sense of freedom in the work.

Ann also fashions one-of-a-kind multi-strand art necklaces from semi-precious stones, wood, shell, glass, and antique beads. Marrying beauty with function is a personal goal of hers as is harmonizing space. In her own words: "A person's visual experience is psychologically and emotionally significant to a positive life experience. The human heart rests in beauty."

Originally a stoneware potter, Ann completed undergraduate work in studio art at Amarillo College in Amarillo, Texas, and has painted and beaded for 20 years. In addition to New Elements Gallery in Wilmington, NC, her work is represented at Red Sky Gallery in Charlotte, Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, and The Gallery in Beaufort, S.C. A selection of paintings is available through New Elements Gallery at Bangz Day Spa, also in Wilmington.

Ann works from her home studio in Wilmington. More photographs of Ann at work in her studio are available at [Rick Ricozzi Photography's blog](#). Preview books of much of her work can be explored at www.blurb.com.

J. Michael Kennedy



Michael holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and has been painting professionally since 1992. Originally from Ohio, he moved to the Low country in 1986 to be near the coast and enjoy the sunny climate. He paints primarily low country landscapes and scenes featuring the lovely architecture of historic Charleston. Referring to many of his paintings as "skyscapes," he explains they are landscapes that focus primarily on dramatic skies, clouds, the sun and moon and how the light and colors in the atmosphere affect the landscape.

Recently, his painting "Luna" was chosen by [Southern Living](#) magazine to be featured in their "Idea House" in Raleigh. He has won awards in several regional shows and his work is in private and corporate collections throughout the U.S. and Europe. He is also a recent recipient of the Best of Show/Mayor's Purchase Award at the opening of the Piccolo Spoleto Outdoor Juried Art Exhibition this year. His work is in private & corporate collections throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Bruce Bowman



Born and raised in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Mr. Bowman developed an early interest in architecture. He pursued this interest and later changed his residency to North Carolina where he earned a Bachelor of Environmental Design in Architecture at NC State University in 1983. The School of Design allowed him to also develop his interests in visual design as a secondary discipline. As a licensed architect in the early 1990's he is responsible for several significant structures in Wilmington, which is now his home. These include the Holiday SunSpree at Wrightsville Beach and the New Hanover County Judicial Building Expansion which features a 4'x 8' glass mosaic also created by Mr. Bowman.

In 1997 he began pursuing his art interests again and is now represented by New Elements Gallery in downtown Wilmington where he has been the featured artist in two two-person shows. His art influences include Van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso as he has developed an expressionist style emphasizing bright colors and exaggerated perspective. His subjects often include buildingscapes and interiors utilizing palette knives to apply the oil paint.

Betty Brown



Betty Brown is a painter of people and places, attracted by subject matter that invites exploitation of color, shape, and texture. She finds inspiration at home and travels to the Greek Islands, Portugal, France, England, Italy, Scandinavia, New Mexico, and Maine.

Having lived in Wilmington, North Carolina, since 1965, Brown is a native of Greenville, South Carolina. She began studying painting and drawing in 1975 in workshops with nationally recognized artists including watercolor with Charles Reid, Burton Silverman, Marbury Hill Brown, and Alex Powers; pastels with Wolf Kahn; oil with Charles Sovek, Scott Burdick, and Camille Przewodek; printmaking and life drawing with instructors from Ringling School of Art and Design at Wildacres, North Carolina; and book art at Penland School of Crafts. Brown holds degrees from Queens College in Charlotte, North Carolina, and graduated with Honors in Art from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

She has been a member of Watercolor Society of North Carolina, Wilmington Art Association, North Carolina Poetry Society, North Carolina Writers' Network, and CIVA.

Brown's work is recognized with awards in regional and national exhibitions. The arts Council of the Lower Cape Fear awarded her a Program Grant. Her work is found in corporate and private collections including BB&T, Bank of America, Duke Medical Center, First Union Securities, General Electric, SAS Institute, Inc., Wachovia Bank, Worsley Companies, Springs Industries, First Citizens' Bank & Trust Company, and First Union National Bank. She has work in the permanent collection of the Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

She has vast experience as an exhibitor, juror, and teacher in museum classes and regional workshops. She is instructor at Sea View Inn's annual Artists' Week on Pawleys Island, South Carolina and at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina.

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Originally a native of Columbia, MD, Kevin moved to North Carolina in 1991. He began as a designer/art director/pre-press manager at a Triangle-area printing company. In January 2001, he started his own graphic design company, The Vision Vault, Inc. A commercial illustrator since 1980, Kevin has worked primarily in the sports entertainment field (Carolina Hurricanes, Durham Bulls, Baltimore Orioles, NASL, NASCAR, WCW, etc.) as well as the retail snack food and beverage business. He started oil painting in the summer of 2004 and participated in a number of shows at various galleries in Raleigh and Wilmington. His primary work is figurative painting in oils and acrylics, as well as watercolor and pen and ink drawings. Kevin cites German Expressionist, French New Wave, and Film Noir as form and subject influences, as well as artistic influences of Greg Manchess, Skip Liepke, Frank Frazetta and Gene Colan.

Kevin lives in Raleigh with his wife, Nanette and two children, Ian and Dane.