

Other Settings & Scenes

ASSORTED SETTINGS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES
PLUS ENGLAND, WHISTLER, B.C. AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION



ALASKA: ANCHORAGE

Port-A-Port Alaska ~ 12.1982

This trading-post-themed painting was completed as a Christmas gift for my friend Jack Marshall who was pictured on the front porch with his business partner Bob McClure. Inspired by artwork by the late Charles Wysocki, this piece was a montage of all of the important people and issues Jack faced at that point in his life including raising his three children (his daughter Kelly had just moved in with him) and growing his business concerns in Washington, Alaska and California.

ARKANSAS: FAYETTEVILLE

Bob's Backwoods Bathroom ~ 2.1996

This fun little portrait of an outhouse in the "backwoods" of Arkansas was painted as a poke-fun-at-you gift for a friend suggested by one of his colleagues who grew up in the same part of the state. His friend swore that it wouldn't be a legitimate outhouse without the obligatory moon above the door. This little painting got the good laugh that I had hoped would be generated!

ARIZONA: CAREFREE, MESA AND SCOTTSDALE

The English Rose Tea Room ~ 8.2007

Situated in the heart of beautiful Carefree, Arizona, the English Rose Tea Room provided authentic English cuisine in a truly unique and exquisite Victorian atmosphere. Considerable attention was given to replicate the true splendor and feel of a formal English Tea Room, yet the style remained feminine and romantic. From a simple scone with Devon Cream to "The Duchess of Bedford's Formal Afternoon Tea," there was something for every discerning tea lover's palate. Pictured seated and enjoying a cup of tea were friends Bev, Fara and Natasha while the English owner of the tea room Jo Gemmill waited to greet other guests.

Desert Delight ~ 5.2008

In 2003, Doug and I purchased a cozy Mesa, Arizona patio home overlooking the #8 green at Alta Mesa Country Club with the notion of becoming "snow birds" when we retired. Doug attended college at Arizona State University on a golf scholarship in the 1970s and loved the climate, so spending his winters in this part of the United States had always been his dream. His folks had both passed by the early 2000s, so he used his inheritance to purchase this charming place which we've updated over the years to make it our "own." Our stucco cottage became the setting for countless hours of fun and relaxation for both us and friends and family who frequently join us there for fun in the sunshine. We're pictured in front of our "desert delight" with chums Marie and John Herbert and Marie Marx and Rick Strohm.

Desert Dream House ~ 1.2002

This beautiful Southwest-style home was once home to my dear friend Marie Marx during her marriage to Rick Strohm. During high school days, Marie, my sister Marilee, and I waited until 5:00 p.m. every evening for our parents to finish their work days and pick us up after school, so hours of conversation and confidences formed very strong friendships. Although our careers and personal lives drew us to opposite ends of the United States, Marie and I have always stayed great friends, encouraging and supporting each other. One of her dreams was building this handsome new home against the backdrop of the desert mountains in Scottsdale - she and her once husband Rick designed it together. In early 2002, I visited her on a "milestone" birthday and gave her this rendition of her home. Later she moved back to the Pacific Northwest where she was able to spend more time with her family.

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CALIFORNIA: SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco Sweetheart ~ 3.1986

This San Francisco, California house was a perfect example of the fame Carpenter's Gothic style which is so prevalent all over that remarkable city. I added the whimsical background and embellished this very early painting with pots of tulips. I'm pictured in the window with paints and canvas in hand. The inspiration for this artwork was a photograph I found in a coffee table book celebrating ornate Victorians entitled "Painted Ladies."



MINNESOTA: CHOKO

Old Ole Ulvestad Farmhouse ~ 10.2009

This vintage farmhouse located in Choko, Minnesota, looked much the same as it did when it was constructed in 1899 by Ole Ulvestad. Notice the buckboard buggy behind the house. This piece was commissioned by Patricia Hampton and featured a portrait of her father's family. Most of his eight sisters wore their "Sunday best" frocks sewn from the same red plaid bolt of fabric by their mother (back upper right). An avid genealogist, this painting was inspired by Pat's trip back to this Minnesota farmland in the summer of 2009. She gave prints of this home portrait to her brothers and sisters as Christmas gifts and used the image to highlight the book she compiled on her family's history.



NORTH CAROLINA: CHARLOTTE

Karen's Carolina Cottage ~ 12.1999

2000 marked the end of a twelve-year long rewarding career as senior graphic designer for Muzak, the company that was at one time famous for soft melodies played in elevators to relieve the stress of folks riding in them). When I joined the company's headquarters in Seattle, its footprint had expanded to include all genres of music for businesses worldwide. In 1999, they relocated to Charlotte, N.C. and the new art director Karen Kotowicz who I had worked with for several months moved there as well. I was engaged to my future husband Doug at the time and Karen made the end of my tenure with Muzak a very pleasant life transition. As a "bon voyage" gift, I painted this portrait of the darling two-story cottage she had purchased in Charlotte.



OREGON: CANNON BEACH

Doug's Dream House ("The Needles") ~ 3.1998

This piece was completed for my husband Doug in spring one year before we were married. It commemorated a wonderful Valentine's Day weekend spent at Cannon Beach - our first vacation together. On our morning beach walk, he shared with me that this rustic log beauty "The Needles" was his "dream home" there. He even scrambled up a steep bank to get some photographs for me. Those shots resulted in this surprise gift for his March birthday.

Fun @ Sun at Haystack Rock ~ 3.1999

This seaside portrait was a special birthday gift for my sweetheart Doug Ward before we were married. We spent the 1998 Thanksgiving weekend at beautiful Cannon Beach with Doug's extended family - all pictured in this piece. The artwork celebrates the gorgeous sunny Friday after Thanksgiving which was so warm and pleasant that the beach in front of Haystack Rock was overflowing with vacationers in shirt sleeves - walking their dogs, flying kites and scouring the sand for sea shells. It was an unforgettable family holiday.



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PENNSYLVANIA: DOWNINGTON

Scott's Pennsylvania Palace ~ 12.2008

This handsome brick two-story Downington, Pennsylvania house was the beloved home of the Scott family when this artwork was commissioned as a "summer" portrait in 2008. The four Scott's were pictured on the front lawn enjoying a picnic with traditional family fare: peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, potato chips, crisp veggies and fruits snacks, juice - and of course, huge slices of watermelon. Who wouldn't want to be part of the traditional all-American get-together?

WASHINGTON: CLE ELUM, OCEAN SHORES AND PULLMAN

Cindy's Sweet Spot in Cle Elum ~ 6.1987

This expansive, comfortable house was home to a co-worker of mine who commissioned this portrait for a special reunion of her large family in Cle Elum. "Must-have's" for this artwork were her favorite horse (pictured with Cindy in the foreground) and the dozens of pots filled with colorful blooms that her father was famous for in the little rural community.

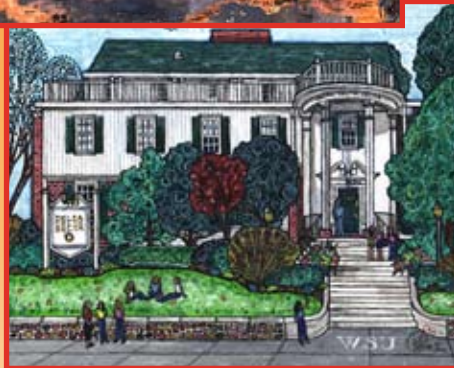


Outing at Ocean Shores ~ 9.1994

This vacation spot at picturesque Ocean Shores on the coast of Washington State belonged to a couple who were very close chums of an avid golfer friend of mine. They very generously loaned their vacation hideaway near Ocean Shores Golf Course to us for an excursion weekend - and as a thank you gift, I painted their charming lofted cabin and left a framed print of it for them upon our departure.

Friends Forever at the Delta Delta Delta House ~ 9.2002

The National Chapter of the Delta Delta Delta Sorority was begun at Boston University on the eve of Thanksgiving in 1888. On December 14th, 1918 Delta Delta Delta opened its doors at Washington State University to become one of the prettiest, most popular houses in the Greek system. Allison Orrico, who was a student there when I painted this piece (and the daughter of our good friends Mark and Janis Orrico), suggested it as a subject. The result was this artwork celebrating springtime, sisterhood and lifelong friendships. Pictured were Phyllis Hinkins (house director for her last year there), Allison and several of her sorority sisters.



THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST & WEST COAST

The Peggy Places ~ 8.1976

This painted was completed for my youngest sister Peggy as a special wedding gift on occasion of her marriage to Jeff Barton in 1976. This piece is a montage neighborhood of all of the houses that Peggy had lived in up to her wedding day - two in Spokane, Washington (one on the South Hill and one in the Spokane Valley), two rentals in the University District of Seattle where she attended the University of Washington's Nursing School, our family's lake cabin at Hayden Lake and the house she moved to as a newlywed in California's Walnut Creek area. Before finally settling in Spokane, Washington, the couple spent several years in Danville, California and in Honolulu, Hawaii. I pictured Peggy and Jeff in the driveway of their new home.



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THE UNITED KINGDOM - ST. IVES, CORNISH COAST OF ENGLAND

Belyar's Croft in Cornwall ~ 2.2004

When I journeyed to England in 2002, I stayed at Belyar's Croft in of St. Ives, a harbor town and renowned artists' colony on the Cornish Coast of England near Land's End. Because of its sun-filled summers and five breathtaking beaches, the area is known as the "Cornish Riviera." St. Ives gained even more notoriety as the village Porthkerris in Rosamunde Pilcher's popular 1980 novels, "The Shell Seekers," "Coming Home" and others. The folks who owned the three-story stucco cottage did a wonderful job of making guests feel like family and shared lots of stories about the sea captain who had once made it his home. Built in the 1800s on a hill overlooking the harbor with views of the Atlantic from every room, it was a short five-minute walk down to the harbor. The innkeepers lovingly tended the beautiful gardens that framed it - really something to see! Tragically a few years after I stayed there, a terrible fire nearly destroyed the structure. It was such a special place, I hope it was restored.

THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA - WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Welcome, Whistler Wonderland ~ 9.2009

Whistler . . . what a magical winter wonderland - although it gained a fine reputation as a summer destination as well! This large vacation home, owned by the extended Orrico family was the setting where my husband Doug proposed to me on New Year's Eve at midnight at the beginning of the millennium. I painted us into the lower left foreground. We brought in an unforgettable new year with Doug's friend Mark, his daughter Allison and several of her Washington State University chums. I painted the Mark Orrico family in the upper window and Brent's family in the lower right foreground.

THE FORMER SOVIET UNION - U.S.S.R. - TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN

The Children of Tashkent ~ 2.1988

I visited the former U.S.S.R. (as it was known at that time) in 1988 with a group of about 25 Americans from Seattle, Washington on a "good will" trip. Tashkent had been chosen as one of Seattle's sister cities and it was one of the three that we visited as we also spent time in Moscow and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg). In Tashkent, my friends and I befriended a group of local citizens who welcomed us with open arms. We were lucky enough to spend an entire day at one of Tashkent's day schools for children where we were entertained with dancing, singing and poetry readings in English by the youngsters. This was amazing as our visit was completely impromptu. I painted the Russian classroom - notice that nap-time means actually sleeping in a bed. At that time each classroom had a portrait of Lenin prominently featured - similar to pictures of George Washington in American children's classrooms. This painting of the school children was hung in a gallery in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The October Revolution Parade ~ 2.1988

During my visit to the former U.S.S.R. in the autumn of 1988, our group of assorted travelers was incredibly lucky as our trip coincided with the annual celebration of the 1917 October Revolution (the overthrow of the Tsarist royal form of government). This painting showed the parade marchers, a handsome float and some of the visiting Americans. I'm pictured in a red sweater standing next to the trip's perpetually sunglass-clad chairman Ron King. This painting was hung in a gallery in Tashkent, Uzbekistan at the kind invitation of a curator there who befriended me during our visit.



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