

Seattle, Washington

BALLARD-BY-THE-LOCKS, CAPITOL HILL, GREEN LAKE, LAKE WASHINGTON, LESCHI, MAGNOLIA, PIONEER SQUARE, PORTAGE BAY, VIEW RIDGE, WALLINGFORD AND MORE

(14 "Americana" Fine Artwork Titles Listed Alphabetically by the Neighborhoods)

BALLARD BY-THE-LOCKS

Phil and His Three Purring Pals ~ 12.1993

This was a commissioned piece that I painted for my friend (and co-worker for over 10 years) Phil Stewart. I pictured him holding his beloved guitar on the front steps of his vintage two-story wood frame cottage. The friendly home was located just off 15th NW in Seattle's Ballard neighborhood near the picturesque Hiram Locks. The painting would not have been complete without the inclusion of his three precocious kitties who more or less ruled the roost and provided Phil with constant entertainment.

CAPITOL HILL

Merrymaking with Mary Beth ~ 12.1994

This patrician two-story brick Federal-style residence was perched on the brow of Capitol Hill overlooking Lake Washington. During the holiday season, it was an absolute "Christmas confection" - decorated by its owner Mary Beth Ballantyne with thousands of tiny white fair lights that made it visible for blocks. Mary Beth did a beautiful job with the interior as well, filling the rooms with festive vintage toys and evergreen bows. This painting pictured her in the doorway of the house welcoming my sister Marilee, friend Mary and me to her annual Christmas Eve dinner party.

Merrymaking with Mary Beth's Family ~ 12.1994

This painting is an altered second edition of a portrait I did of this stunning brick Federal-style two story mansion overlooking Lake Washington from the west side of Capitol Hill near Volunteer Park. Owner Mary Beth Ballantyne had seen the original piece, which featured her in front of her home with my sister Marilee, friend May and me arriving for her annual Christmas party. Her home was so covered with tiny white fairy lights during the holidays that it could be seen for blocks. Mary Beth commissioned me to alter the piece by adding her sons, daughters and pets. This festive family portrait became her Christmas card art for 1994.

Autumn at The Academy Through the Years ~ 2.2010

In 1880, Holy Names Academy was founded by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary under the guidance of Mother Marie Rose Durocher. In 1859, the sisters came to Oregon, and about 20 years later established a school (23 students to start) in Seattle at Second & Seneca Streets. As the city and student body grew, the school relocated - finally settling at its current Capitol Hill site. Albert Beitung designed the handsome structure in the neo-classical style and in 1906, under the leadership of Sister Mary Leontine, construction began. Bishop Edward J. O'Dea presided as the cornerstone was laid in 1907 and the building dedicated in 1908. Originally it housed 12 grades and a Normal School, but over the years the Academy grew, met challenges and adapted to the changing world. When I painted its portrait, Holy Names Academy offered an up-to-date college-prep curriculum, while grounding students in the values that have ensured its success for decades. This piece pictured staff and classmates from three generations: (L-R) 1930s (frocks), 1950s (jumpers) and 1970s (skirts & blazers). The 1970s group included guests from Spokane's HNA - thus the different plaids.

The Stately Stimson-Green Mansion ~ 2.2002

The Stimson-Green mansion was designed for D.C. Stimson, a wealthy Seattle lumber merchant, in 1901 by Spokane architect Kirtland K. Cutter. Built for \$30,000 with an additional \$16,000 set aside for furnishings, Stimson tolerated the inconvenience of the 300-mile distance between Seattle and Spokane to use Cutter, because he was the architect he most preferred. Constructed in the classic Tudor, half-timbered style, this home is almost identical to the Amasa Campbell House in Spokane, but Cutter flipped the floor plans to take advantage of the Capitol Hill view. When Seattle became more crowded, Stimson relocated to the exclusive Highlands neighborhood, where Cutter designed a residence on a much grander scale for the family. The Joshua Green family then moved into this home. Decades later, the mansion was restored and offered to the public as a special event center.

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GREEN LAKE

Happy Times at the 303 House ~ 11.1987

This pretty little dove gray bungalow with its large white brick fireplace was home to my younger sister Marilee for over a decade. Located on Latona Avenue a short walk from Green Lake in Seattle, it was the setting for countless barbecues, picnics, Halloween parties, birthday celebrations, Christmas open houses and more. It was "party central" for my sister and her friends and she played the role of hostess to a "T." When I painted this piece, Marilee and her partner Pete were avidly into gardening and had planted blossoms of every size, shape and color in addition to fresh veggies they added to their menus all summer.

LAKE WASHINGTON

The Queen of Seafair ~ 8.1999

Seafair in Seattle - what a spectacular celebration that was! The city's two-week event-filled festival meant hydroplane boat races, the Blue Angel air acrobatics and FUN in the sun! 1999 marked the 50th anniversary of this city-wide celebration. Seafair is also a time when vintage boat owners take their "ladies" out to join onlookers in floating crafts which crowded Lake Washington during the festival. I christened this old Chris Craft and this painting "The Queen of Seafair" (an imaginary name) and filled her with friends who were thoroughly enjoying the boat races.

LESCHI

The Husky House ~ 9.1998

This artwork celebrated the love affair with the University of Washington Huskies that the owners of this little brick Tudor cottage shared. Note their Husky flag blowing in the autumn breeze. The home, which has always been loaded with personality, belonged to Margy and Scott Samuelson, and overlooked Lake Washington from Seattle's Leschi neighborhood. The Samuelsons worked hard to preserve the original rustic feel of this vintage lake cabin. They kept the original stone fireplace, wood paneling and wagon wheel-style chandelier in their great room. Also original to the property were the stone pathways that crisscrossed the back yard and led to a large outdoor stone fireplace and Hansel-and-Gretel-style garden shed. *Highlight* - For decades, the couple hosted a holiday open house to kick off the parade of Christmas ships on Lake Washington. Revelers walked the short two blocks from the house to toast themselves by the shoreline's blazing fire and sing Christmas carols.

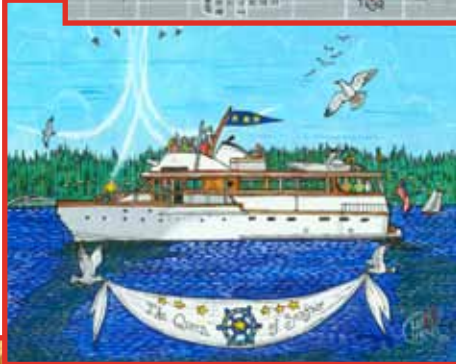
MAGNOLIA

Diane's Darling ~ 4.1998

This brick Tudor was the first house Bill and Diane Pryor shared together after their marriage began. With tireless attention to detail, the couple worked to redecorate and showcase all of the home's unique architectural details. Diane was a true "sleuth," uncovering treasures at garage sales and antique shops, which resulted in a charming, gracious residence. Its best feature however, was the stunning, panoramic view of Puget Sound from the dining room, living room and master bedroom suite.

Visiting Claudia's Cottage ~ 9.1995

This pretty home blessed with an "Anne-of-Green-Gables" feel was located on East Magnolia's hillside. The painting showed just a detail of the house as it was a tall two-story with an expansive front porch and back gardens and lawn that Puget Sound's Interbay neighborhood. It was restored and decorated charmingly by my friend and golfing partner Claudia Carr-Gilleland I pictured waving from her front porch. Claudia was an avid gardener and surrounded her cottage with colorful, sweet-smelling hanging baskets and flower-filled beds. *Highlight* - During Christmastime, she was known by her friends as the "Christmas Queen" - pulling out all the stops and decorating her cottage from head to toe in tiny white fairy lights and shiny baubles for her annual holiday open house.

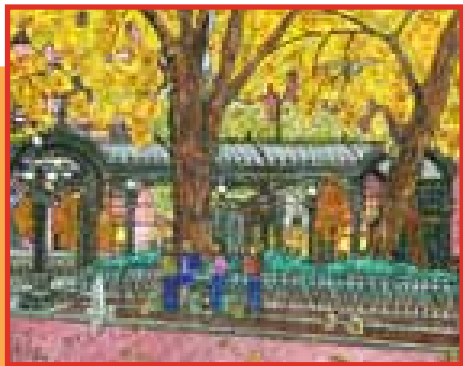


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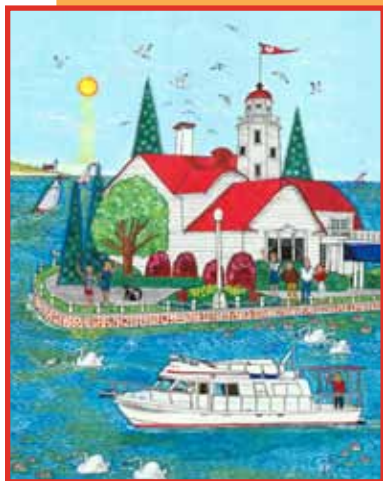
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PIONEER SQUARE

Pioneer Square Pergola ~ 10.2002

Seattle's pergola has been the signature focal point of Pioneer Square for decades. Early in 2001, a delivery truck accidentally clipped the 91-year-old pergola, pulling the ornate cast-iron structure to the ground. Skilled craftsmen restored this beloved landmark in August, 2002 (in record time!), much to the delight of both locals and visitors. Pioneer Square has always been a compelling historic destination to visit any time of year, but especially during the holidays when tiny white fairy lights sparkle everywhere. I pictured my niece Kelly Barton with her girlfriends Bonnie, Katie & Lauren taking a break from shopping to enjoy the beautiful autumn setting.



PORTAGE BAY

Yacht Club on the Lake ~ 3.1996

Boats of all sizes and shapes - yachts, cruisers, fishing boats, sailing vessels, ferries and more - have always been a huge part of leisure life in the Puget Sound region. Rumor had it that there were more in Puget Sound than in any other part of the United States. When I painted this portrait of the Seattle Yacht Club on Seattle's Portage Bay, I took quite a bit of poetic license with the grounds in the foreground - creating a lily pad-laden inlet with swans swimming around a beautiful yacht. The cruiser belonged to longtime friends Gail and Dick Klein. Gail was the songstress in the local jazz trio BLT and band members Paul West and Lee Phelps and their wives were shown waiting to board the "Honeybun. *Highlight* - Gail commissioned this piece as a special surprise "milestone" birthday gift for her husband.



VIEW RIDGE

Leslie's Little Bungalow ~ 12.1993

This was a portrait of a modest little bungalow in the View Ridge neighborhood west of the University District just before its owners gave it a very ambitious all-round "face-lift." With the help of an architect, the couple added a second story including a deck and large windows in the back to take advantage of the panoramic view of Lake Washington and Mount Rainier. They also updated the woodwork, doors and windows throughout and completely remodeled the kitchen - taking it from the 1940s into the 2000s. The home was completely transformed but still retained the simple charm that was shown in this portrait.

WALLINGFORD

Winter at Wallingford Arms ~ 6.1987

During the 1980s I moved into (and subsequently managed for two years) a handsome vintage brick "Brownstone" apartment building in Wallingford near Green Lake. Owned by a professor at the University of Washington, he worked diligently to carefully preserve and maintain the structure's interior with its crystal chandeliers, built-in cupboards, decorative woodwork, crystal drawer pulls and cove ceilings. Renters signed an agreement promising to keep everything exactly "as is" (i.e. no painting, changes, etc. without written permission). Even with decades of use, the building kept its fine original charm. When I lived there, the pre-World War II ice-boxes were still in the kitchens and the building employed steam heat powered by a large boiler in the basement. This artwork only suggested the personality of the place and was not an exact architectural rendition.



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