



THE SHEER JOY OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

LAKE OF THE OZARKS PAINTER MAKES THE CONNECTION | By Lauren Foreman

PULLING FROM THE GREENS, golds, and blues of the Caribbean blossoms, Lake of the Ozarks artist Nancee Byington splatters oil and watercolor ink, feeling and depth onto her canvas. She credits her creation to the “sheer joy of color, music, and artistic expression.”

Art begins with “memories of the many places I’ve been in an effort to yield something unique and greater,” Nancee says.

“In my artwork, it is mostly looking for things that will touch people’s hearts as opposed to a picture,” she says. “It will create their own beauty in their own lives.”

Tracing her work to its modest beginnings, Nancee reveals the journey that resulted in her becoming president of her own corporation, Creative Dimensions Inc. and owner of Elegant Flair, her gallery at Lake of the Ozarks.

In the beginning, this Best of Missouri Hands artist admits, “I painted only for my family and for our own home, so I wouldn’t sell my art.” She already had a career at Monsanto, a multi-faceted company. But while there, her creative side would work its way into her work.

It was after she completed two of the big-

gest projects of her career at Monsanto, one being the first-ever international marketing meeting and the other the 1996 summer Olympics program in Atlanta, that she made



a move. She had been planning her leave of Monsanto for two years and realized after leaving Monsanto that all the significant accomplishments, projects, and contributions were tied in some way to intentional “works of art.” Finally, she embraced the career that allowed her creative tendencies to be realized artwork, interior design, and business consulting.

Nancee now uniquely approaches art from the perspective of the viewer, and befittingly, she is able to capture their sentiments. After selling thirteen commissioned paintings to a resort at Lake of the Ozarks, she unmaskes her secret—color. There was something inspired in the colors she chose, and the colors pulled that same inspiration out of the buyer.

“I believe most artists who typically have a variety of art create from the heart as opposed to a particular model,” Nancee says. “I think it’s totally looking beyond what you normally see.”

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From left: *Shipwrecked* by Nancee Byington uses color to make a connection between the art and the buyer, as does *Building a Great Nest*.