

Auld Alliance Gallery's *Brushstrokes*

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TRAVEL TO AULD ALLIANCE GALLERY TO "THE DORDOGNE - JULY 2002: A JOURNEY'S REFLECTION"

Visual artist Dorsey McHugh discovered a wealth of breathtaking vistas and scenic inspiration during her recent travels to western France.

A series of paintings inspired by her visit will be shown at Auld Alliance's Fall Show, titled "The Dordogne - July 2002: A Journey's Reflection." The show opens with a champagne reception on Friday, October 25 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

McHugh and her husband Phil were thrilled to discover a charming stone cottage nestled within a rustic French village. "The photographs of the place we stayed were so beautiful; I knew it was where we should go," she says. "Everything was like 100 years ago. I painted in the morning, and in the afternoon we just followed our noses up and down tiny roads."

The quaint villages of Bergerac, the bright green pastures of La Forchet and the lush Dordogne River Valley all provided ideal subject matter for McHugh's bright, impressionistic landscapes. A shepherd guides a herd of sheep along a narrow dirt road in "Shepherd's Path," while "From the Garden" features colorful violet flowers blooming near a red roofed cottage.

Vivid rooftops, blue skies, wandering pathways and rolling hills and valleys dominate much of McHugh's landscapes, which she describes as "portals for respite." Her portraits and still-life pieces are equally engaging, uniting technique, color and subject matter to create warm images of a simpler time and place.

The South Dakota native began painting in 1988 as a way to cope with her father's death. "In the



"Creators Hand"



"Adventure on the High Sea"



"Gentle Pastures"

beginning, I used it as a tool to go through the mourning process," McHugh confides. "I'd get up at two in the morning and paint or draw his face over and over again...I'd lift up my head and several hours had gone by."

McHugh notes that her personal work has become "less restrained, yet more complex." This, she says, comes from becoming more comfortable with her craft. "When I first started painting, I was always doing it very carefully, painting in a really tight way," she explains. "But as I relaxed and started to paint emotionally, which is what I do now, it started taking on a life of its own."

The upbeat artist revels in subtle texture, and she applies her acrylics almost exclusively with a palette knife. "I love it when children touch my paintings," she says enthusiastically, "and when adults stand very close to see how many colors are hiding in any given spot on the canvas."

McHugh's bold colors and impressionist images have caught the attention of galleries across the United States. In addition to showing at Auld Alliance Gallery, her work has been shown regionally in Knoxville, Atlanta and Huntsville, as well as the Spencer Brown-Stone Gallery in New York City and most recently, the prestigious Foxhall Gallery in the Georgetown area of Washington D.C.

Before the star of our fall show embarks on her next planned trip — this time to Tuscany — be sure to join us on October 25 to meet Dorsey and view impressions from her latest journey. Call us at (615) 352-5522 for more information.



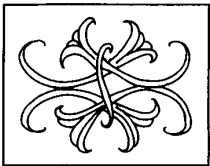
— THE ARTIST'S CORNER —

Auld Alliance welcomes two new artists to the Gallery: **Geoff Kilgore**, from Alabama, and **Paige Morehead**, who lives in Nashville. Geoff's work is representational with muted, rich tones, drawing inspiration from the old masters with a contemporary interpretation. Paige paints with jewel toned colors, with images emerging from an individualistic sense of whimsy and vitality.

Joel Knapp returns to the easel, having attended two seminars in Wyoming and Indiana over the summer to hone his technique. Part of the seminars' focus included softening hard edges of line and form in paintings, leading to a more impressionistic effect. The artists also worked in taking small plein air paintings to larger formats in the studio.

Stop by the gallery to view works from our old friends, such as Joel, and special new ones such as Geoff and Paige. They're continually looking for new ways to approach their art, and we would love for you to see the fruits of their labor.

Here is a great suggestion for teacher gifts, Christmas stocking stuffers and any other special occasion. We are carrying glycerin soaps of varying scents, such as sandalwood, sweet pea, honey almond, jasmine, etc. These are all handmade by young artist **Jill Thiers** to help fund her college education. Jill started Seneca Street Soaps this Spring and is off to a wonderful start.



**Auld
Alliance
Gallery**

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