

"Spring Fog"

Poetic Water Reflections Exhibit at the Bozeman Public Library

BY SHARLYN GUNDERSON-IZURIETA

Local artist, Loretta Domaszewski, known for her nature inspired landscape paintings and murals highlighting the Gallatin Valley, is the Bozeman Public Library's Exhibiting Artist in the Atrium Gallery for May and June, 2011. The exhibit and accompanying workshops will emphasize waterscapes in the Gallatin watershed.



"Poetic Water Reflections," an exhibit of oil paintings and Haiku Poems is the culmination of a partnership with the Greater Gallatin Watershed Council (GGWC). Ms. Domaszewski has been working with the GGWC to learn about streams, lakes, rivers, and the extensive dirch system in the Gallatin watershed. This collaboration inspired her to paint a series highlighting the water resources and the influence of how residents play, view and utilize those resources.

Ms. Domaszewski's artistic goal is to "enlighten the viewer, stop them in their tracks, touch one or more of their senses, take them somewhere else for a moment." She is motivated by the fluid approach of movement in nature and how it is applied in multiple layers of rich transparent colors and textures, creating beautiful subtle transitions.

According to Julia Becker, Director/Professor at the University of Great Falls, "Loretta is able to work with the paint to actually create light. She has such a deep connection to the earth as a living body. They physicality of it, the shape and curves, the way light travels through water, the arc of a valley, the form and movement of the land, the patterns of a current. She speaks a universal language."

To compliment the Phetic Water Reflections Exhibit, Ms. Domaszewski is offering a series of workshops and lectures for children and adults, in collaboration with GGWC. These workshops are sponsored by the Bozeman Public Library Foundation's Artist-in-Residence Program, which will start April 30, and continue throughout May and June. The first workshops, one for children and one for adults, are titled, "Water Runs Through It: Immerse Yourself in Water Patterns, Streams and Rivers." Karin Boyd, GGWC Board of Director, and a Geomorphologist, will provide information about river formation and moving water patterns in riverscapes. This will be a catalyst for painting watercolors inspired by water patterns and sounds. Each river panel will be part of a mural displayed at the library.

The second workshop will be a walking tour of the creek at Bogert Park with Gary Weiner, Director of the Rivers and Trails Program from the National Park Service, and will cover information about the Bozeman Creek Enhancement Project.

A third workshop will highlight rain gardens in the Gallatin watershed. Sharlyn Izurieta, Coordinator for the GGWC, will collaborate with Ms. Domaszewski to provide the community with information about rain gardens and the variety of native plants used to improve water health in our local streams, rivers and lakes. Students will create expressive watercolor paintings of local rain gardens and native plants.

The public is invited to the opening reception, sponsored by the Library foundation, May 6, 5:30-7 p.m. in the Atrium Gallery at the Bozeman Pubic Library, 626 E. Main Street. Loretta Domaszewski will highlight her oil painting process in the gallery and at the library creek, during the May and June exhibition. Each session will allow the public to explore the subject of moving water through the artists' personal interpretation.

Ms. Domaszewski will donate a percentage of all Poetic Water Reflections sales to the Bozeman Library Foundation and the GGWC to help the non-profit protect and enhance water resources in the Gallatin watershed.

A graduate of Tufts University, the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts, and Brandeis University, Ms. Domaszewski formerly taught at Bozeman High School, Nantucket Island School of Design and the Artsn and Beall Park Art Center. Her work has been exhibited in Boston, Nantucket, New York City, San. Francisco, Connecticut, New Mexico and Montana. She is known locally for her nature inspired oil paintings, murals, and artist in residencies in Montana public schools. She teaches private weekly classes and workshops for children and adults at her Loretta Fine Art Studio in the Emerson Cultural Center, the summer HIKE. BIKE. ART. CAMP, at Bozeman Lodge and Hillcrest Assisted Senior Living Facilities, the Bozeman Cancer Support Community, and at REACH for the developmentally disabled community.

The Greater Gallatin Watershed Coalition's mission is to "promote conservation and enhancement of our water resources while supporting the traditions of community, agriculture and recreation." Sharlyn Gunderson-Izurieta is the Watershed Coordinator.

lorettafineart.com bozemanlibrary.org greatergallatin.org





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