

Nancy T. Baker: A Wider Lens May 1–28, 2024 The Craignair Gallery, Spruce Head, ME

Exhibition Statement

At times I have heard someone comment that a painting of mine "looks like a photograph." While I know it is well intended, I feel that somehow I have not delivered what matters most to me in the work that I do. Technically, in terms of a subject being accurately rendered, the piece might well have been successful. However, my north star is to offer a viewer a new way of looking at a subject and that is never as straightforward as a photograph. It is in the translation between direct observation and my internal, subjective experience of it where all the magic lies. I'm after the magic, the transcendence of reality. That can involve a shift in context, compositional choices, careful color harmony—the myriad of decisions an artist makes in a painting. When I am able to do that, to surprise you, I've made my mark. It is my intention that these paintings offer that to you and that you're moved by seeing and experiencing a familiar subject in a brand new way. And that doing so makes a lasting impression on you and encourages you to observe your world with a fresh perspective.

Artist Biography

Nancy was raised in Texas with a keen interest in art—nurtured by a parent—that in high school and college extended to include art history. In the early 80's she attended the Isabel O'Neill Studio for Painted Finishes in New York, and with those skills established a business of decorative painting for private clients and interior designers throughout New England and the Mid-Atlantic area. She explains that painting for her is a constant experiment because she is energized by new approaches, some intentional and others that spontaneously occur. While her background is in the plein air tradition her practice has moved in recent years to the studio and toward inventive larger works with a focus on still life and landscape.

In order to balance the demands of raising a family and her professional life, she renewed a rigorous practice and study of fine art. She received instruction in plein air and figurative painting at the Yellow Barn Studio in Glen Echo, MD, at the Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington, D.C., and was a recipient of a residency at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, VT, all while studying privately with well known artists whose work she respects: T. Allen Lawson, Don Demers, Ralf Feyl, Colin Page and Jerry Weiss. She has participated in the Frederick, MD, and Wayne, PA, Plein Air Festivals, and has enjoyed representation and featured exhibitions at the Metropolitan Gallery in Arlington, VA, and Granite Gallery and Mars Hall Gallery, both in Tenants Harbor, ME. Recently, Nancy illustrated an award winning children's book, *The First Blade of Sweetgrass*, published in 2021 by Tilbury House. Through the generous support of her community, she also designed and executed the first large scale public mural in her hometown of Thomaston, Maine.

Balancing Act oil on acrylic 12 x 19 inches \$850.00



Familiar Point
oil on panel
11 x 14 inches
\$900.00

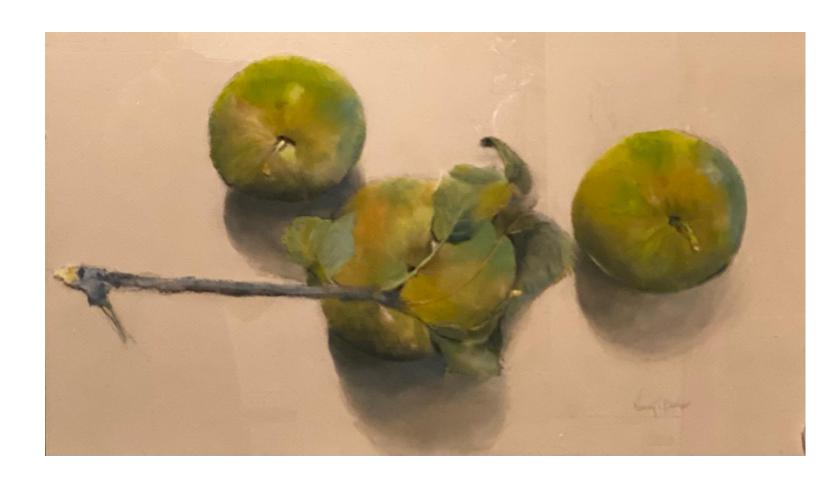
Content
oil on panel
12 x 9 inches
\$500.00



Make Way
oil on canvas
24 x 24 inches
\$1,800.00

Options
oil on canvas
24 x 18 inches
\$1,500.00





Overview
oil on acrylic panel
10 1/4 x 17 1/2 inches
\$600.00

Announcement oil on canvas 10 x 20 inches \$800.00





Homestead
oil on canvas
11 x 14 inches
\$700.00

Revisiting
oil on panel
24 x 18 inches
\$1,500.00



One Step Forward oil on panel 17 ½ x 10 inches \$800.00



Iris
oil on acrylic panel
7 x 5 inches
\$250.00



Sunflowers
oil on acrylic panel
7 x 5 inches
\$250.00



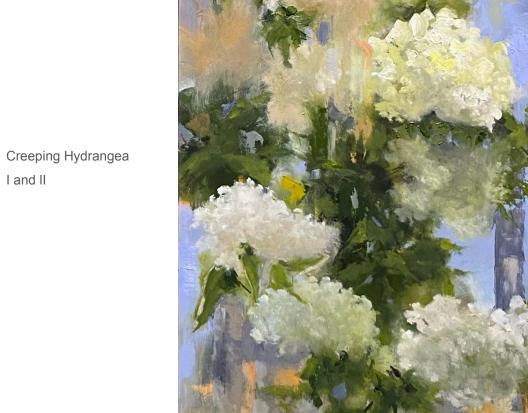
Creeping Hydrangea I
oil on panel
24 x 13 inches
\$1,500.00



Creeping Hydrangea II
oil on panel
24 x 13 inches
\$1,500.00

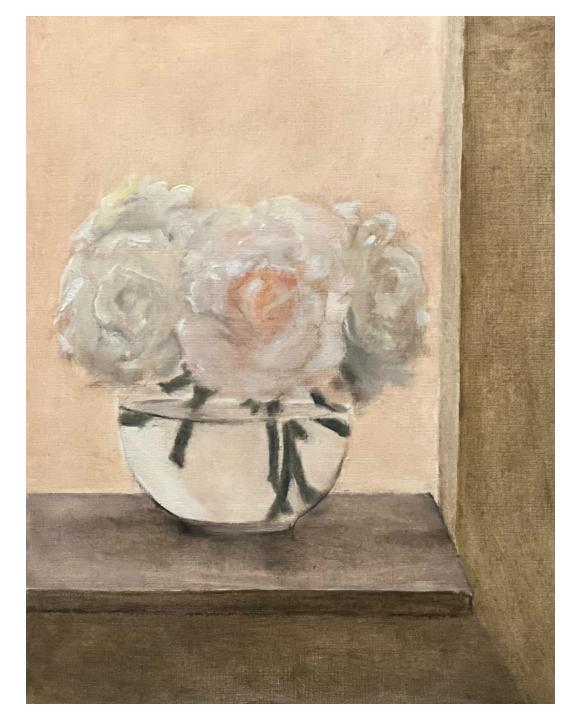








Blush Roses
oil on linen mounted on panel
10 x 8 inches
\$400.00

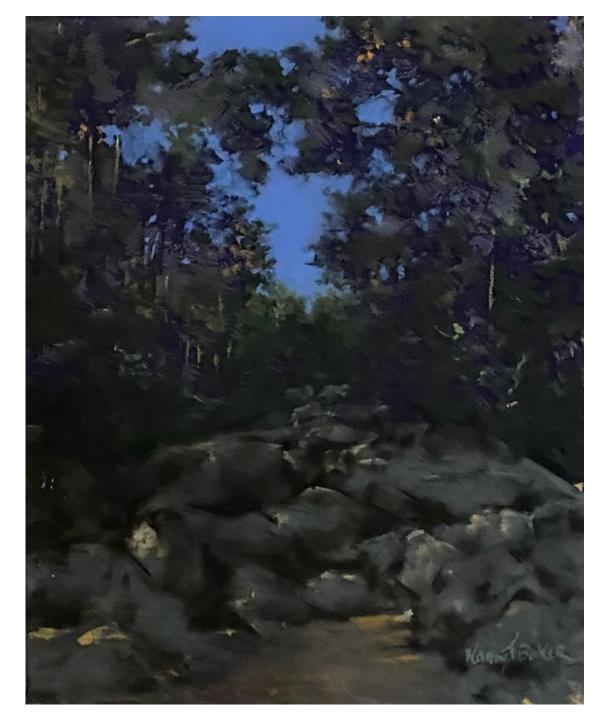


Casablanca
oil on panel
7 x 5 inches
\$400.00

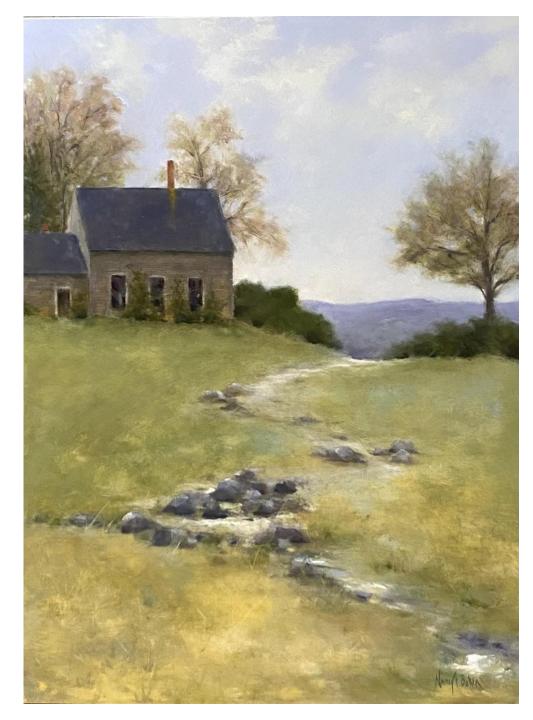




Be My Guest oil on linen 11 x 14 inches \$800.00 Rockslide
oil on acrylic over collage
10 x 8 inches
\$600.00



Subtle Season oil on panel 24 x 18 inches \$1,500.00

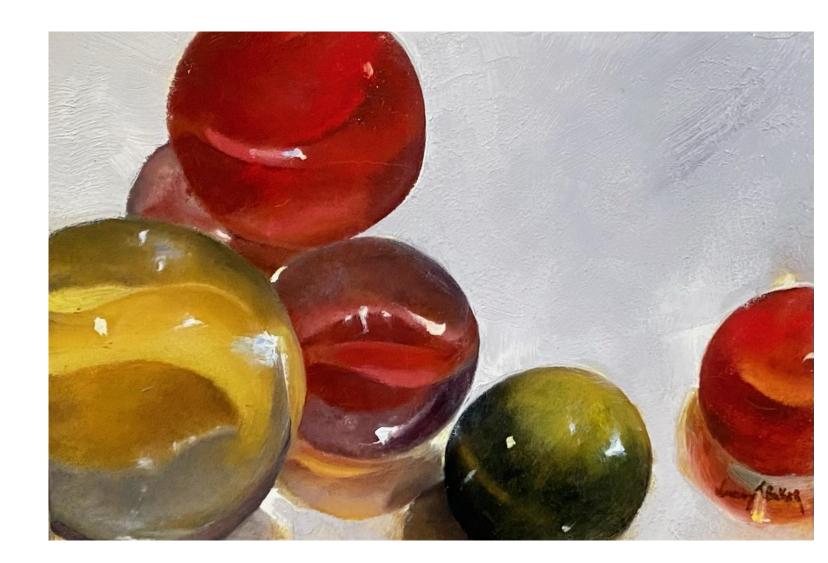




Light Play
oil on acrylic panel
6 x 9 inches
\$300.00

Pewter oil on canvas 12 x 47 inches \$1,800.00





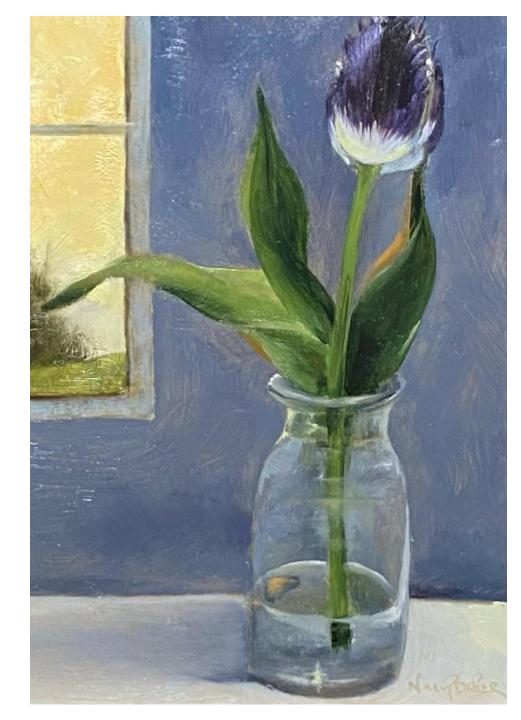
How They Roll
oil on acrylic panel
6 x 9 inches
\$200.00

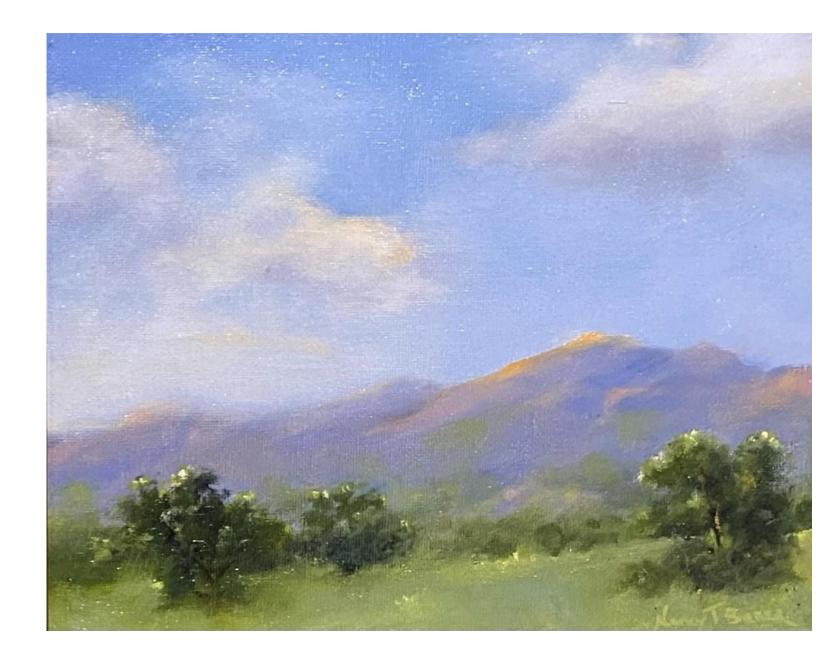
Anemones
oil on panel
10 x 8 inches
\$450.00



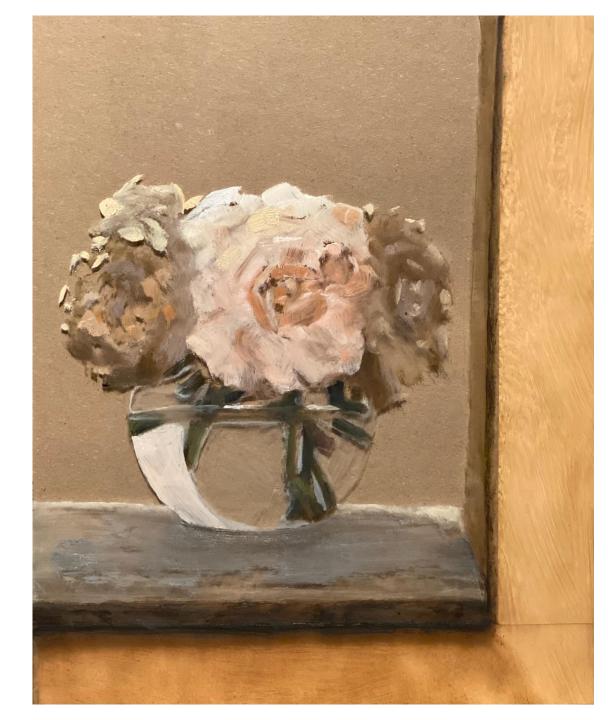


Lilies Against the Sky oil on linen panel 14 x 18 inches \$900.00 Fringed
oil on panel
7 x 5 inches
\$150.00





Higher Ground oil on panel 8 x 10 inches \$350.00 Translucent
oil on acrylic
10 x 8 inches
\$250.00



A Gift
oil on linen mounted on panel
10 x 8 inches
\$400.00



Cubs Win It oil on panel 12 x 6 inches \$450.00



Immortality
oil on panel
12 x 6 inches
\$450.00



Well Situated oil on canvas 30 x 24 inches \$3,000.00



A Note On This Preview

To inquire about works featured within this preview or to receive additional images and information, please email the artist at nanart44@gmail.com. All dimensions listed within this preview are for unframed works. Unless otherwise noted, all works are sold framed, and images of the framed paintings can be provided upon request.

Please note that the prices listed within do not include shipping costs or the 5.5% Maine sales tax, which will be applied upon checkout. All works will be shipped within two weeks of the exhibition closing date and will be fully insured with tracking information.

Because of the brevity of the exhibition, works cannot be held or reserved. To purchase a work, please contact the owners of The Craignair Inn, Lauren and Greg Soutiea, at innkeeper@craignair.com or by calling 207-910-6622. Credit card payments can be made over the phone. Cash and checks are also accepted.