

Moving into the Mystery



Kathryn Mapes Turner has spent some time in Jackson Hole. A lifetime in fact. But the valley still captivates her, holds many friends and family, and ultimately remains her reason for painting. Her romance with the majestic mountains and wild scenery plays out poetically. A fourth generation member of a family raised on Triangle X Ranch, Kathryn responded to the valley's scenery by beginning her Teton apprenticeship at a young age from influential plein air painters.

Kathryn then uprooted, trading Wyoming landscapes for time abroad in Rome and later immersed herself in metropolitan Washington, D.C., where she explored other careers. "I am a painter at heart. I knew art was my first love, but I pursued other interests too," Kathryn explains. She taught and worked in museums, as if coloring her own life canvas with different brushstrokes, but all the while still painting and never forsaking her primary passion.

Eventually the siren song of her home was too strong and Kathryn returned to Jackson. But, she was different, energized and ready to embrace her first love again and paint full-time. "I have always been so taken by the landscapes surrounding my home and struck with a sense of awe, that I knew I needed a way to communicate and share my love for them with others; painting is that language for me."

Kathryn's talent has earned her international respect and numerous awards. She partnered with two other local artists, September Vhay and Lee Carlman Riddell, to open Trio Fine Art gallery. "Opening the gallery has been an instrumental experience that continues to teach me. It provides continued motivation and a wonderful community."

Forever ambitious, Kathryn continues to look forward brightly. "Painting forces reflection and vital growth for me. Lately, my work is shifting from more literal to expressionistic. A little more vague, but interestingly enough, more expressive," she adds. More mysterious. "This new direction requires me to draw from my experiences as a painter and then take new risks. There is no road map and I have miles of canvas ahead of me." Kathryn is just getting started.

– Catch Kathryn's work on display at Trio Fine Art, 545 N. Cache in Jackson, Wyoming or online at www.turnerfineart.com. She will also be featured in a solo show at Trio Fine Art in July 2009.



Spring Snow, oil, 14"(h) x 11"(w)



Lone Star, watercolor, 12"(h) x 9"(w)



April Eve, watercolor, 8"(h) x 8"(w)