

# Avondale Therapy in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Susan Irish

Avondale Therapy, located in the West Ashley area of Charleston, SC, will present *Sotto Voce*, featuring works by Susan Irish, on view from Nov. 1 through Jan. 31, 2019. A reception will be held on Dec. 1, from 5-8pm.

Susan Irish is an artist, educator, and curator. She started Fabulon, A Center for Art and Education with goals of bringing more art opportunities to the West Ashley part of Charleston. Fabulon represented new and emerging artists and offered classes for children and adults. It was gaining recognition and a large fan base when the landlord suddenly sold the building. Climbing real estate prices made it prohibitive to jump into a new space.

This was a devastating loss for the community and the founder. Irish says her method of coping with stress is to keep going forward as if on a tight rope: don't look until you are safely on the other side, then process what just happened. The following is her account and how it has effected her as an artist.

"What was a three year process of a lifelong endeavor ended abruptly with a registered letter stating that our leased space was sold. We had 30 days to vacate. 30 days to dismantle, sort, and purge. No time to process. This was December 2017 in the middle of the ice and snow storm, the irony was not amusing."

"We were granted a brief extension but Fabulon, A Center for Art and Education, would close," adds Irish. "With each box packed, I felt the stripping away of my dream and my identity."

"Despite our best efforts, things were misplaced and haphazardly stuffed into any available container. So much of what I had collected was unidentifiable and irrelevant. What was I to do with all of these remnants? What was I to do with the people for whom I was responsible?"

"Ideals like rest, regroup, sabbatical, and fallow were suggested but all I heard was exile," stated Irish.



Work by Susan Irish

"How can I spend any time on myself when people were counting on me? I wrestled with all these questions but no answers came. I couldn't hear my own voice."

"It was difficult to move, let alone paint, in a studio so crammed with boxes. But I had to resume teaching and slowly sorted out some spaces for students," says Irish.

"I became my own student. I listened to the genuine messages of reassurance, validation, and encouragement I weave into lessons and with my emerging artists. I made space for me and time to paint. It occurred to me that I had reached the other side of the tight rope."

"Something started to resonate".

"And then there it was the last box, my voice hidden inside waiting to be decompressed and made usable," adds Irish.

*Sotto Voce* is Italian for quiet voice and the title of Susan Irish's solo show featuring a collection of paintings that celebrate the return of her voice.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or call 843/870-0278.

# Dog & Horse Fine Art in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Sybil Fix

Dog & Horse Fine Art in Charleston, SC, will present *UNSLICED: Turkeys Off the Plate*, featuring works by Sybil Fix, on view from Nov. 2 through Jan. 5, 2019. A reception will be held on Nov. 2, from 5-8pm.

Fix, a Charleston artist and writer, paints birds in order to free them from the invisibility to which they have been relegated by our insatiable appetites and dulled sense of observation.

Fix's work seeks to highlight and sensitize us to the wonderful presence of birds. With immediacy and color and what she considers a 'connection' to their inner world, she wishes to capture their undying yearning for freedom and their irrepressible charm. Her paintings, which reveal a deep love of her subject, invite the viewer to consider another being in its innate truth rather than through the lens of human use.

In a world of virtual knowledge, Fix uses painting to translate the nature she reveres into a concrete presence in our homes and lives. She works mostly in large scale, adding impact to her bold and colorful work, but her visual language is as piercing as Hemingway's prose.

In addition to art, Fix, who grew up in Italy, has worked in a variety of fields,



Work by Sybil Fix

including reporting, translation, public relations, and the teaching of both Italian and French. She recently published her first book, "The Girl from Borgo". Whether painting or writing, her intellect is apparent.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/577-5500 or visit ([www.dogandhorsefineart.com](http://www.dogandhorsefineart.com)).

ing with and I think suits the work is "Ephemeral", as the paintings are focused on moments in the outdoors that are short-lived. When thinking back to what initially inspired me to become a landscape painter, I would have to say it was these temporary, but astounding moments that made me want to go to work in an attempt to preserve them. Ultimately, I can't help but feel grate-

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ful to live on a planet with billowing clouds at dusk, fragile moments where it seems the season is about to change, the slow rise of the full moon, or the lovely colors that bring us in and out of every day," says Scheifflee.

Scheifflee has perfectly stopped time in each painting and chosen just the right moment to share with the viewer. One of the pieces for the show, "Pink Giants" is a painting of dreamy pink skies filled with clouds; the horizon line fades off into the distance as the moon sits above the waves. The 24-by-30 inch oil on panel piece creates a perfect escape for the viewer. Brett says of the piece, "The painting "Pink Giants" is a depiction of one of those evenings along the southern coast where the storm clouds have broken and are departing, but the sun has shone through again to illuminate the beautifully chaotic break up which hangs suspended under a full moon. It's in these magical instances where I think everyone lucky enough to witness them becomes reverent and the stress of daily life also floats out to sea and you too feel suspended in the moment."

This exhibit is a celebration of the peace and mindfulness that exists in the natural world and the artist's deep appreciation and understanding of nature. Scheifflee says, "Growing up in the rural countryside of western NY, I've always felt connected to the land and especially to the passing seasons. Planting vegetables in late spring, splitting and stacking firewood in early



Work by Brett Scheifflee

autumn and enduring winter/enjoying summer. It's a cool place and often cloudy, the land feels more like an acquaintance with the sunshine, not a close relative and when it breaks through on a grey day to dazzle for a moment or two, it is not taken for granted. Birds, wild life, trees, plants and people, these brief moments are enjoyed for every second that they last. With this background, I guess I never had much choice in what to paint, I've painted what I know and what I love, the land."

Scheifflee has shown work in both New York and Colorado before joining Robert Lange Studios in 2015. He studied painting at the Rochester Institute of Technology where he received a BFA.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/805-8052 or e-mail to ([info@robert-langestudios.com](mailto:info@robert-langestudios.com)).

# Robert Lange Studios in Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Brett Scheifflee

Robert Lange Studios in Charleston, SC, will present *Ephemeral*, featuring the work of the contemporary realist landscape artist Brett Scheifflee, on view from Nov. 2 - 30, 2018. A reception will be held on Nov. 2, from 5-8pm.

*Ephemeral* is a series of paintings that capture fleeting moments in time, specifically focusing on the natural world.

"The show title that I have been work-

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