

# Carol McArdle

## Art Newsletter

[www.carolmcardle.com](http://www.carolmcardle.com)

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### A Bunch of Specials!

#### A Special Find!

In all the times I have been out to find landscapes, waterscapes and birds to photograph for inspiring painting references I have never found a purple gallinule. I have wanted to for years but the colorful little bird has eluded me, until a few weeks ago.

On my way back from Miami, crossing over Alligator Alley I stopped at the first 'recreation' stop (a parking lot with a boat launch). I did not think I would see much there but in my little amount of photographing experience I am learning that you just never know. When I walked up to the water, there it was. In fact there were three of them, one adult and two juvenile purple gallinules, walking around on the leaves of the yellow pond lily plants and looking like they were

walking on water. Their huge yellow feet made it easy for them as they happy scouted around and nibbled on this and that.

I took many shots, trying to catch them when they appeared from under or behind the large leaves and I could not wait to get home to see if I got any that would inspire a painting.

I certainly had, and from a bunch of the photos I worked out my composition for my first (but not last!) purple gallinule painting.

I decided to made it another first by creating a diptych, that's two paintings that make one, or another way to say it, one painting split onto two canvases. I put a bird in each one, a juvenile in one and the colorful adult in the second. They both are so pretty!

Here is the finished piece...

*"A  
Painting  
is a  
Feeling  
Seen"*  
Carol  
McArdle



“Playing in The Pond Lilies”  
Oil. 28” x 24” each

### **A Special Thanks!**

I want to thank [Naples Backyard History Museum](#) for the solo exhibit that I had there. They are preserving the history of Naples and Collier County that is too easily lost under the rapid development that the area has seen over the last couple of decades.

History and nature is tied together in Collier County, being right on the edge of the Everglades National Park, the Fackahatchee Strand Preserve State Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve. All unique eco-systems that we need to remember and to preserve what is left. Not an easy battle against the development which is the money maker and so the popular choice.

It takes foresight, commitment and sacrifice to preserve the things that are really valuable. Dr. Lois Bolin and her army of helpers at the Museum are working hard to do just that. Thank you!

### **A Special Show!**

I have been invited to hold a solo show as the guest artist at the [Museum of the Everglades](#) in Everglades City for the month of March 2011. I am deeply honored, excited and proud!

I had started my Everglades series a couple of years ago and had a few larger paintings all ready to go---until 4 of them sold in September! That means some newer paintings will have to be done between now and then --- I love having to produce new art!



“Catching The Morning Light” Oil 12” x 9”

## Prints for the Holidays

Order those gifts for friends, family and self *now* to make sure that I can get them ready and shipped to you in plenty of time for the Holidays.

I have prints available on canvas, on paper, and the *special* embellished prints that I hand paint to make each one unique and more like a painting than a print.

These next months are very busy so please don't wait until the last minute. Thank you!

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing some of you again soon.

Have a beautiful day!

*Carol*

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