

July 14th 2010

Carol McArdle Art Newsletter

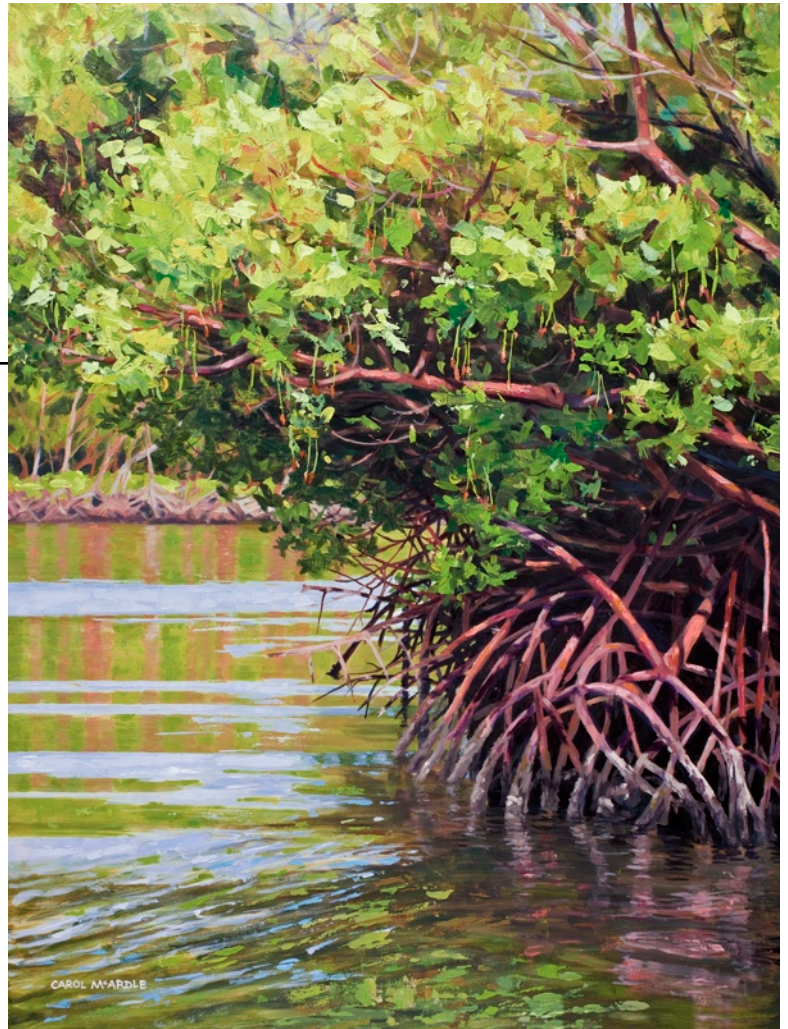
If you no longer wish to receive emails from Carol McArdle please hit reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject box. Thank you.

Why I Love Palette Knife Painting

Painting is not always done with a brush.

Almost anything can be used to apply the paint as long as it can be used to manipulate the paint in the way the artist wants it to. Sometimes what the artist wants is happy, calculated surprises as the painting instrument behaves in unpredictable ways. Sometimes the artist wants to paint with something that has very controllable results. Both of these methods and everything in between are used as a part of the creative process.

I find the palette knife one of those in between methods of applying the paint. If I use it one way I can get some precise 'strokes' but most of the time there is a small amount



of unpredictability. If you look at the painting above "Mangrove Bounty" you will see a lot of texture in the mass of leaves and a little in the water in the bottom 1/4 of the painting.

As I spread and dabbed the paint on with the knife the application had a natural flow and I got a

texture that imitates the natural shapes of a mass of leaves. *If I had applied the paint with a brush it could have looked too flat and been uninteresting.*

This next painting, "Sea Breeze Dancers" was only painted with the knife, no brushes allowed.

"A
Painting
is a
Feeling
Seen"
Carol
McArdle



Because I do some realism paintings with tight detail I occasionally need to ‘loosen up’ and I can do that with the knife. I cannot get lost in the details and *I have to focus on the essence of the subject* and shapes in the piece. My palette knife paintings all have a light, fun and relaxed feel to them. They are

always popular and catching the essence of the scene seems to resonate with people.

So to summarize what I love about the palette knife;

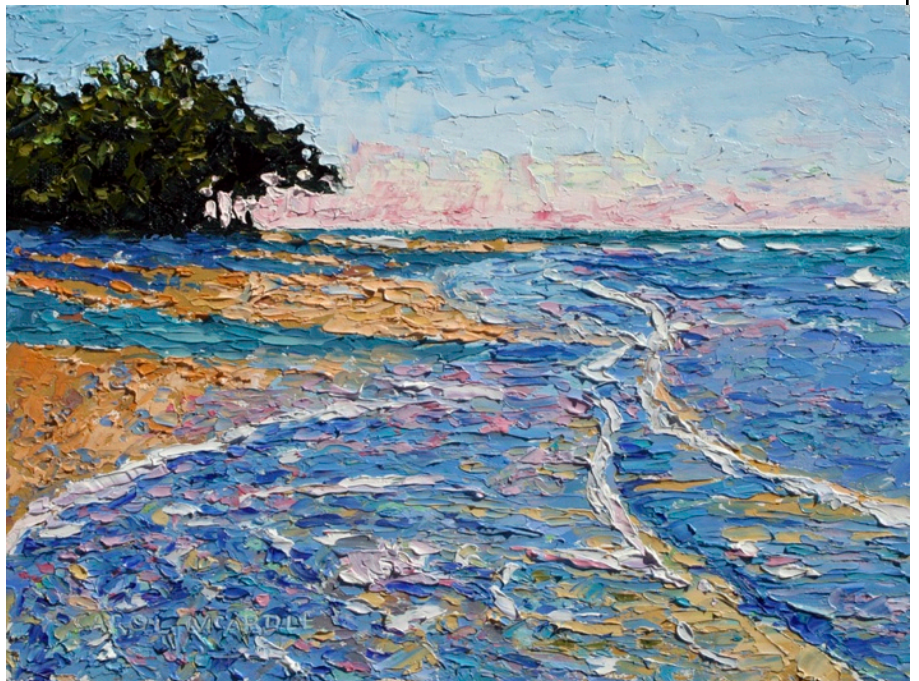
- 1. I add a little unpredictability to my creative process.**
- 2. It creates interesting texture that adds interest to a painting’s surface that a brush does not.**
- 3. It has a flowing quality and makes me loosen up.**
- 4. It helps me catch the essence of the scene.**
- 5. It produces happy paintings!**

Here is another palette knife painting for you to look at,

“Here Comes The Sun”

It is of a sunrise I experienced at Wiggins Pass at Delnor Wiggins State Park in Naples where I was the resident artist for 2008.

The tide was high that particular morning and the blues in the shadows (on the left where the sun is rising) mingled with the blues in the water. Palette knife painting was the perfect way for me to depict all the fabulous color and the mood of Mother Nature starting a new day.



Please feel free to forward this newsletter and share it with your friends! Thank you!

The New Studio/Gallery Moving in....

I have been moving into #110 at the Promenade Shops in Bonita Springs. I share with 4 other artists and everything had to be re-shuffled to turn a space for 4 into a space for 5. All the others have been there for up to a year so I'm the newbie.

There were a couple of walls that were an unsuitable color for displaying art on and I found out that the other's had never liked it either. I have the ladders and floor cloths and experience painting so I suggested we change the color, which we did yesterday.

It is now a much brighter and shows art much better.

Here are some photos of the place , with one taken during the painting. I will send some of the re-painted space when all has been put back in place.

On the right are some photos of the rest of the gallery.

Here you can see the old color and the new one where the cutting in is done.



Art Walk at the Promenade July 29th 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Here is a link to the website of [The Promenade at Bonita Bay](http://www.thepromenadeatbonitabay.com) and here's a link to their page with the [store map](#). I'm in #110 which is at the back next to good parking space. Also here is their page with [directions](#)

Please join me and all the other artists for the fun-filled Art Walk with food, wine, live music and more on the last Thursday of each month. I look forward to seeing you!

Carol McArdle

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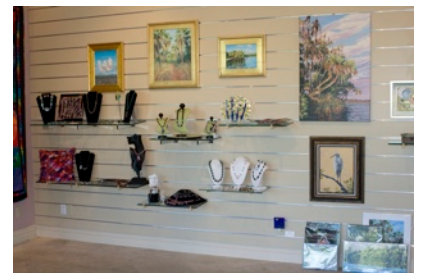
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My paintings in the window.

A table with my small giclee prints and guest book.



There is enough room for me to show some of my abstracts as well as my Natural Florida Series

