

Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Judy Blahut

The Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present *Below the Surface*, an exhibit of paintings by Judy Blahut, on view at Art League Gallery from Aug. 29 through Sept. 29, 2023. A reception will be held on Aug. 30, from 5-7pm. An artist's demonstration will be offered on Aug. 7 at 11am.

This collection of acrylic and charcoal paintings is Blahut's colorful interpretation of underwater environments, balanced between realism and fractured, playful abstraction. These fantastical "waterscapes" are made of sinuous and lyrical forms bathed in translucent light.



Work by Judy Blahut

Blahut is a lifelong painter inspired by natural forms and environments. This new series is an ode to water's hidden beauty and power. "The weightiness of the water above gives the sense of being submerged, offering us the opportunity to appreciate our breath," says Blahut. "The paintings are a celebration of breath, our life force, and the fragile relationship between life and death."

Art League of Hilton Head is the only 501(c)(3) nonprofit visual arts organiza-



Work by Judy Blahut

tion on Hilton Head Island with a synergistic art gallery and teaching Academy. Art League Academy welcomes artists and students in all media at all skill levels, including true beginners. Taught by professional art educators, students can choose from many art classes and workshops that change monthly.

The Art League Gallery features local artwork in all media created by more than 200 member artists. All artwork on display is for sale and exhibits change every month. Located mid-island inside Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, next to the box office.

"Inspiring visual arts for our community and its visitors through exhibitions, education and partnerships" is the mission of Art League of Hilton Head.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the League at 843/681-5060 or e-mail to (admin@artleaguehhi.org).

Hilton Head Island Recreation Center on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Ellie Hicks

Hilton Head Island Recreation Center on Hilton Head Island, SC, is presenting *Abstract View*, featuring works by local teenage artist, Ellie Hicks, through Sept. 1, 2023.

"The art show is a great opportunity for the young artist to display her talent to the community. Visitors can admire the artwork and learn more about the artist's inspiration and creative process," says Richard Grant, curator for the exhibits at Island Recreation Center. "The show is a testament to the importance of supporting young artists and celebrating the arts in our community. If you're in the area, be sure to check out the exhibit and show your support for this talented teen artist."

Hicks credits her family members, who are artists themselves, for inspiring and encouraging her to become a fine artist. "My mom used to make jewelry, my dad plays guitar and skates, and my older cousin taught me how to paint," says Hicks. "Thanks to her, I discovered my passion for painting in a more abstract manner, which heavily influenced my cur-



Work by Ellie Hicks

rent style. "

The Hilton Head Island Recreation Center is located on Wilburn Road, Hilton Head Island.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Rec Center at 843/681-7273.

Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, Features Works by Haldora

Haldora, a local contemporary artist, will be the featured artist in August at The Society of Bluffton Artists in Old Town Bluffton, SC. *Myriad of Visual Expressions* will be on view from Aug. 7 through Sept. 3, at The Society of Bluffton Artists gallery in Old Town Bluffton. A reception will be held on Aug. 10, from 5-7pm. Haldora is a contemporary artist whose love for nature and old world antiquities inspires her art from a raw, childlike vision to impressionism and abstract art.

"Art is an intuitive part of my life that feeds my soul," Haldora said. "Creating is my passion, it's in my art, my designs, and my vision. It floats in my mind's inner
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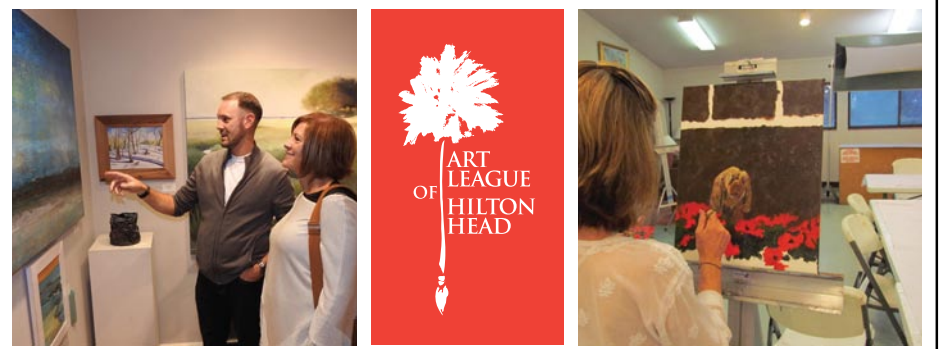
world and dreams as it melts into my daily life."

Haldora's lifetime spent exploring art visually filters into a creative lifestyle. Her visionary sense and passion to create manifests in an eclectic style across different mediums: Self-taught, she has explored various forms of artistic expression including fiber arts, fashion design, ceramics, sculpture, drawing, watercolor, acrylic, mixed media and oils. Her current focus is with oils and occasionally acrylics.

"Colors and textures inspire my visual sensitivities as I allow my intuition to guide me," Haldora said. "I look for beauty in

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www.ArtLeagueHHI.org

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