

Maureen Mitchell is artist of the month at MaJe Gallery

BY BEACON STAFF

EDMONDSEditor@YOURBEACON.NET

Multiple-award-winning artist, Maureen Mitchell is the featured artist at MaJe Gallery for May.

"Magic, mystery, the undiscovered, the simple truth - all that resides just beyond the stagefront that we call reality," she said. "That's what inspires and motivates me and drives my work."

Her current method involves acrylic paint and mixed media, with the give and take of process, experimentation, accident and intention. Some of her works in this show are a series of three small works within a single frame attached with velcro, so you can rearrange them according to your mood, she said.

Mitchell describes her process: "To convey a sense of the dense, organic atmosphere and strong texture that I am drawn to, I focus on building many layers which involve extensive use of hand painted papers, hand pulled prints, ink, watercolor and colored pencil drawings and paintings.

Additional layering of acrylic skins, paint, collaged papers and other elements continue until the work is complete.

Nature offers an endless source of wonder, mystery, fascination and inspiration, she said. "Any time spent outdoors provides a rush of revelation and sensation...the smell of wet



Maureen Mitchells' "Start Fresh."

Illustration courtesy MaJe Gallery

leaves, the incredible chartreuse of moss, the soft, silken whisper of bird wings in flight, the sparkle and splash of fish at the water's surface, the feel of gnarled bark on a hundred year old tree. All this transports me and I find myself drawing, composing and mod-

eling something new in my studio. The inspiration flows into the process and I am off and running."

Meet Maureen Mitchell in person 5-8 p.m. May 21 during Art Walk Edmonds. MaJe Gallery is at 409 Main St., Edmonds.



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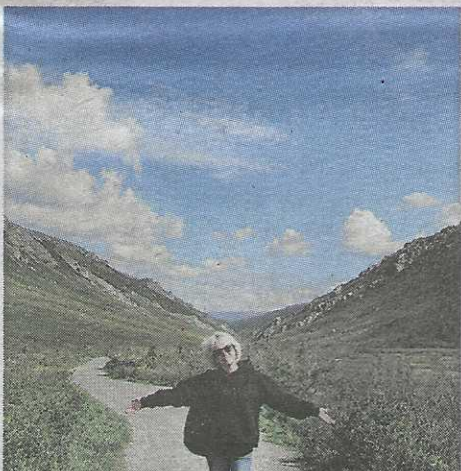
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Abigail Palmer found her love of music at the age of 5 and it has fundamentally shaped her character, given her lifelong friendships, as she intends to continue drumming in her community. When asked who has inspired her continued love for music Abigail replied, "My father inspires me because he taught me to love music and encouraged me to keep practicing piano, even when it was difficult ... the way he shared his time and creativity with my younger cousins reminding me to give back and make meaningful experiences for others too." Abigail is the Showband President and Percussionist.