

Sojourner Cafe: Colorful Impressions by Jennifer Boswell

By Andria Watson / CASA

DEPICTING WARM SUMMER FIELDS, FRESH BOUQUETS OF LUSH FLOWERS, and other picturesque scenes from Santa Barbara, Jennifer Boswell paints her way through the world. Some of the images she has engaged during that journey are on display at Sojourner Cafe through January 30th.

“My paintings reflect phases I’m going through. My expressions and emotions are



Jennifer Boswell

hopefully transmitted to the painting I’m working on,” Boswell shared.

Boswell is inspired by the post impressionism movement, which turned out well known artists such as Cezanne, Monet, Matisse, and Van Gogh. She gravitates toward that particular style because to her, an exact replica of a scene or a face is impressive, but it doesn’t have the personal interpretation or mood that

she strives to convey.

“I try to get in what I call a ‘personal flow,’ where my vision and hand come together effortlessly, and the end result of the paintings is tranquility,” Boswell explained. “Every painting is a learning process.”

The Sojourner exhibit offers 29 paintings, including 19 still lifes and ten landscapes. Although Boswell loves to paint plein-air and Alla Prima, she prefers the sanctity of her studio where she listens to music when creating.

“I like being in nature very much; there’s always something different to see,” Boswell explained. “A scene painted on Monday could look totally different on Tuesday, with varying shades of color and light. But I find myself to be more efficient in my studio.”

Born in Orange County, Boswell moved to Anaheim when she was five-years-old. Her father was a Union electrician, but was also an artist in his spare time. He encouraged



San Marcos Foothills 30x40, oil, by Jennifer Boswell

his daughter to explore the arts, supplying her with paints, brushes, books, and pencils. Boswell started out sketching, which evolved into years of exploring watercolors. Since 1999 she has worked primarily with oils.

Boswell received her Associates of Arts at Fortune College, later deciding to

earn an RN degree from Fountain Valley College, and her LBN at Santa Ana College.

In 1985, she moved to Santa Barbara with her husband and started a family. After a hiatus from art, Boswell began taking classes and workshops with local artists such as Rick Stich and Michael Drury.

“I could never give up art, I just *have* to do it,” shared Boswell. “I constantly have paintings piling up around my ears! To me, art is one of the most therapeutic things in the world. And when I go to museums and see what previous masters have done... that they’re still here in artform... it’s inspiring and comforting. I hope to one day make paintings that make people feel that way.”

Sojourner Cafe is located at 34 E. Canon Perdido St. and is open daily from 11-10pm. For information call 965-7922.

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Hydrangeas in Glass Vase 24x24, oil, by Jennifer Boswell