

Season Opener

This November, J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art in Vero Beach, Florida, will host its season opening exhibition, *Spotlight on American Women Artists*, featuring five artists from its roster. Each artist—Stephanie Amato, Cathy Ferrel, Mary Garrish, Joy Jackson and Claudia Seymour—will display new paintings that

highlight their individual inspirations and styles.

“I chose an all-female cast because I want viewers to contemplate their unique, exceptional and thoughtful handling of paint as they explore their subjects,” says gallery owner John M. Stringer, who will present the show from November 1 to 24.

“Together, they prompt beautiful questions of how traditional, representational oil painters interpret their surroundings. Individually, they convey how their personal experiences as women affect their interpretation of those same surroundings, subjects and scenes.”

Among the pieces in the show is Garrish’s marsh painting *Diffused Light*. “This was an inspiration from a midday plein air painting where the light was diffused from a cloud bank,” she says. “It filtered down over the water in the marsh and was mesmerizing.”

Amato also focuses on the landscape with works such as *Savannah Glow* and the beach scene *Summer Breeze*, which also has a figurative slant. Of the first painting, she says, “The light and color reflecting in the water became more dramatic as the sun rose along the Vernon River in Savannah. I had to work fast and direct to capture this fleeting moment.” For *Summer Breeze*, Amato set up her easel and sketched in the single figure enjoying “the peacefulness and the glistening shoreline.”

Seymour’s still life paintings also will be on view, including *Tapestry*, which combines fabrics, flowers and fruit. In describing the piece, she says, “I had an Anatolian-inspired tapestry that I wanted to paint, but it was very complicated. I simplified the throw’s design and dulled back the colors, as I wanted the Turkish throw to sit well behind the vibrant poppies and pears.”

The gallery will host a three-day opening reception, with the gallery open November 1 from 4 to 8 p.m., and November 2 and 3 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There also will be artist demonstrations in the gallery on the second two days.

J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art 3465 Ocean Drive • Vero Beach, FL 32963 • (772) 231-3900 • www.jmstringergallery.com



1
Claudia Seymour,
Tapestry, oil on linen
panel, 30 x 24"

2
Mary Garrish,
Diffused Light, oil on
linen, 12 x 12"

3
Stephanie Amato,
Savannah Glow, oil on
linen board, 16 x 12"

4
Stephanie Amato,
Summer Breeze, oil
on linen board, 12 x 16"

