

Tales from the brush

Local artist Sally Vaughn lets the paint brush define her 'eclectic' style



Photos courtesy of Sally Vaughn ABOVE: "Solid" by Sally Vaughn is on display at Laser Light Printmaking.

By ERIK CHALHOUB OF THE REGISTER-PAJARONIAN
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APTOS When she was younger, local artist Sally Vaughn would go to restaurants, and if they had butcher paper on the tables with a jar of crayons, she would immediately grab a crayon.

Yet upon grabbing a crayon, she would freeze.

"I'd think, 'But I don't know how to draw,'" Vaughn recalled. "Those voices came from somewhere other than my inner self, probably from comments I heard here and there."

Nowadays, Vaughn said, the urge to paint comes from a need to express something unnamed or unspoken from inside of her.

With her art, Vaughn said she hopes to give art lovers a whimsical look at ordinary

objects as seen through her paint brush.

A specific theme of her work is tricky to nail down. "'Eclectic' comes to mind, as I never know what will come from the brush," Vaughn said. "Flowers, rocks, tools, insects ... words, ideas and objects juxtaposition themselves as they flow onto the blank paper."



MIDDLE: "Stemming From" by Sally Vaughn is on display at Seagreaves Insurance.

Vaughn currently has two solo exhibits of her paintings in Aptos and Capitola. Laser Light Printmaking, located on 7960 Soquel Dr, No. J in Aptos, is host to 19 prints of giclées on canvas or fused onto metal. The exhibit will run through the end of May.

Vaughn chose Laser Light as a venue to display her work because it is her choice for digital imaging of all her paintings.

The second exhibit is at Seagreaves Insurance, located on 830 Bay Ave., Suite A in Capitola, through the end of June. Six 22 1/2-by-28 1/2 inch paintings will be on display.

"Jerry Seagreaves is a longtime business client of mine who offered his space, and I was delighted at the opportunity," Vaughn said.

Vaughn's earliest experience with art began in preschool, when she made a hand print out of a piece of clay. Art followed her throughout her education career thereafter.

In the early 2000s, Vaughn was introduced to a creative process class.

"The idea behind the creative process really jumped out to me," Vaughn said. "These classes completely changed me from the inside out and I became very open to painting whatever came from within me.

"Now, I continue to put up a blank piece of paper, let the brush choose me, let the brush choose the color, and I turn to face it and watch how I move."



BOTTOM: "Line Dance" by Sally Vaughn is on display at Laser Light Printmaking.

Vaughn's work is influenced by late American artist Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings.

"Her paintings are stunning," Vaughn said. "Though her influence is not particularly for her painting style per se, it's more from her reflections on art, painting and other thoughts."

In a town filled with many artists of all different styles, Vaughn said she is trying to get her name out there. She will have an upcoming exhibit at Cafe Ella in Watsonville in July.

"I invite people to come and enjoy my work, feel whatever it is the paintings evoke for them as individuals," Vaughn said.

••• Vaughn is open to displaying her work at other venues. Contact her by email at salvaughn@comcast.net, or visit her website at www.sallysgallery.com.