

artmaine.

2019 Annual Guide



Showcasing 91 of Maine's
most collectible artists

JULIE HOUCK

As a contemporary landscape painter working with oils and encaustics, Julie Houck aspires to convey not only the scene but also the moment and mood—the moment is fleeting, but the painting allows us to live there a bit longer, to linger, to reflect, to contemplate, to enjoy. Houck is inspired by the interplay of light and landscape, which is elusive and ever changing. Painting allows Houck the opportunity to recreate a particularly special moment when land, light, and atmosphere seamlessly fuse.

Reflecting a serendipitous moment in time can be, however, a deceptively slow and deliberate process. The media she prefers, oils and encaustic, involve applying layers upon layers of paint. Every layer spontaneously changes the piece, evolving over time with a life of its own. This is the element of work that she finds most intriguing. Simultaneously, Houck's work in oil is influenced by her early classical training, particularly the study of light on form. Each landscape is painted in transparent layers, sometimes up to 40 of them, in order to recreate the subtle play of light on landscape, as well as to control incremental changes in tonality.

***Cloud Dance*, oil on linen, 40" x 40"**
Maine Art Hill | Kennebunk | maine-art.com
juliehouck.com



NANCY MORGAN BARNES

Painting directly from a source that is continuously in flux is one of Nancy Morgan Barnes's favorite challenges. This particular painting was started at the Blue Hill Fair during the day, but changed as the pace and energy shifted from day to evening. Plein air painting places Barnes in the position of both participant and observer as she records the event. At a certain point, a painting takes on its own existence, becoming the subject matter that guides her.

***Evening Fair*, oil on canvas, 18" x 22"**
Greenhut Galleries | Portland | greenhutgalleries.com
G Watson Gallery | Stonington | gwatsongallery.com