

Cathy Sue Munson

Cathy Sue Munson paints intricately detailed watercolors and gouache, specializing in wildlife and western subjects. She is known for her commissioned dog portraiture and was featured in article on outstanding canine artists in the April 2008 issue of Southwest Art Magazine highlighting this aspect of her portfolio. Cathy is an Austin, Texas native and still lives and maintains a professional art studio there. She graduated from the University of Texas with a BFA with HONORS in Studio Art. The artist is widely recognized for her commissioned artwork with the University of Texas Athletics and Texas Exes alumni with her paintings of longhorns the last several decades. A favorite and heartfelt honor was to be selected to paint a life-size oil mural of a herd of longhorns in the Mike Myers Track and Soccer Stadium. She has done portraits of the UT longhorn mascots dating from Bevo IX thru the new Bevo XV, which are on display in the Silver Spurs Museum at the football stadium. The 2017 UT football season was the debut of the newest print, "Centennial Champion, Bevo XV", which is a most special collector's edition done in honor of the 100 years of Bevo as mascot, with a portion of proceeds going to the Silver Spurs Bevo Endowment Fund.

Cathy is very active with Ducks Unlimited and serves on the Austin committee. She was selected as the Texas DU Sponsor Artist in 1999 and 2011. A special joy is to do hunting dog artwork for chapters across the state and nation.

She participates in the Phippen Museum Memorial Day Weekend Show in Prescott, Arizona where in 2014 she won 2nd in the overall WATERCOLOR category. This painting "Rodeo Roustabout" is currently the only piece of artwork selected for the prestigious six month Rodeo exhibition at the Bob Bullock Texas State Museum in Austin. Cathy paints in the Plein Air Auction event every June at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Several years she has been in the prestigious Fall Arts Festival Quick Draw in Jackson Hole and annually in the Whodunnit Show in early spring with the Jackson Hole Art Association.

Cathy is a member of the Women Artists of the West, Texas Watercolor Society, Wyoming Watercolor Society, Louisiana Watercolor Society, Arizona Watercolor Association, and the Texas Wild Bunch. Being known for her dog portraits led to Cathy being selected for the extraordinary honor of painting Texas Governor Greg and Cecilia Abbott's first Christmas card while in office in December 2015, depicting their beloved dogs with Christmas tree in the formal living room of the governor's mansion. Cathy Munson strives to capture the inner personality and the realistic outer image of each subject she paints.

Her art is the passion of her life especially since diagnosed with uterine cancer six years ago and last year with malt lymphoma in eyelid. She realizes everyday how blessed she is to be able to still paint and create her distinctive detailed style. Not only was her life saved by her brilliant doctors of M. D. Anderson in Houston, they also "saved her hands" from possible numbness and loss of touch due to chemo by doing all radiation and again doing radiation on her left eye "saving her sight" so she can continue her beloved profession. It has also enabled her to see how much the spirit of the soul is important with one's life and passion, as so beautifully seen in native American Indian beliefs with the animal and human world side by side in the universe. The spirit of the soul plays such a vital part in one being able to heal physically and mentally and live a meaningful life.

The artist has gallery representation in Jackson Hole, Wyoming at West Lives On Gallery, former Wild Hands Gallery in Jackson Hole, the R.S. Hanna Gallery in Fredericksburg, Texas, the Y.O. Ranch Gallery and Store in Kerrville, Texas, Three Rivers Ranch in Warm River, Idaho, and her own C. Munson Studio and Gallery in Austin, Texas.

"The clear realities of Nature seen with the inner eye of the spirit reveal the ultimate echo of God (Great Spirit)."
Ansel Adams

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