

THE SEASON THROUGH *THE EYES* OF LOCAL ARTISTS

Not many local artists paint specifically winter scenes. Perhaps that's because our rainy winters in the Columbia-Pacific region are not as inspiring as the winters of snow-clad climes. Or, in the gray months, artists may seek out warmth and color as much as anyone else.

Nonetheless there are artists who draw inspiration from this season, perhaps for a reason expressed by Albert Camus: "In the depth of winter I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer."



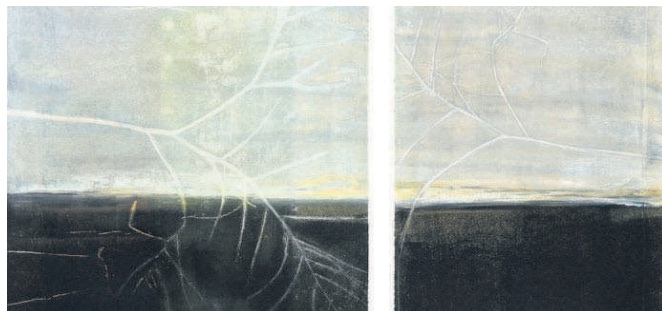
Submitted photo by David Lee Myers

"Golden Grass in Snow" by David Lee Myers *Photograph*

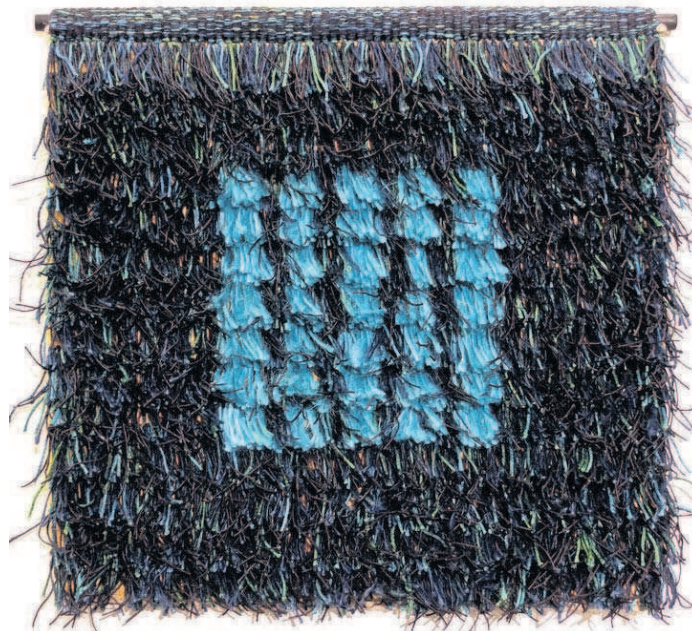
"In a white winter scene, elegant outlines of trees, grasses and mountains offer ready-made designs, as if I can take the world and cut out pictures with scissors. On the coast, the challenge is to catch sunlight before the snow turns to rain. Such moments are thrilling. And rare."

"Winter's Light" by Gin Laughery *Monotype*

"Winter reduces the physical landscape to its bones, a spare, elegant framework. As a printmaker, I find capturing that simplicity both a challenge and an inspiration."



Submitted photo



Submitted photo

"Winter Night" by Leena Riker

Loom woven and hand knotted paper, twine and linen

"The cold darkness of the winter night draws me into the warm indoors with soft lights. This is the time to settle indoors in the studio, to select bright colors, contrast them with the darkness of the night, to create an interlaced piece that expresses my wish for comfort and warmth. Winter feels far away from the cozy studio where the bright colors and soft touch of the yarn warm the heart and the mind."



Submitted photo

"Wreck" by Darren Orange *Oil on canvas*

"Winter, that old nostalgic friend that sneaks up your back with a bright cool kiss. A reminder to indulge your passions, daydream and reflect."



More info on these artists

Leena Riker and Gin Laughery exhibit at Imogen Gallery, 240 11th St., Astoria

Noel Thomas and David Lee Myers exhibit at RiverSea Gallery, 1160 Commercial St., Astoria

Contact Darren Orange at darrenorange.com





Submitted photo

"Nutcracker" by Noel Thomas *Watercolor*

"It's always fun coming up with a new way to look at the Nutcracker for the Little Ballet Theater — this one done with a little Sinatra swagger, and a wink."

the arts

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