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trast of rolling hills draw Smith's attention. She also works in black and white to amplify the work.

Smith, now retired, worked in public health and child welfare. She considers photography to be a release from the demanding profession.

"I still think like a child health care worker," she said.

Smith is known for sharing photos of the view of Saddle Mountain from her house early in the morning. Another one of her favorite places to photograph is Ecola State Park.

Edward Peterson

Edward Peterson is known for his acrylic paintings depicting vibrantly colored bison, moose, elk and landscapes. Peterson began painting nine years ago.

Peterson's depiction of large animals in unnatural hues is a display of how he appreciates their natural beauty.

"When I paint animals' color I want them to be honest, flattering," he said.

He describes bears as beautiful and tender.

"I want you to be able to walk by my painting every day and see something new every day," he said.

Before spending 10 hours a day painting, Peterson was a band director at Snohomish High School near Everett, Washington. He led the band to perform in several countries.

Peterson landed a solo show in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, last year. His inspiration to begin painting in his style came from a young artist he met in Jackson Hole in 2018.

At 88, Peterson says he has no time to waste. He hopes each piece is better than the last.

Constance Waisanen

As a fiber artist and fabric connoisseur, Constance Waisanen focuses on quilt making that incorporates both commercial fabric and hand-dyed fabric. Colorful patterns within various fabrics are pulled together by intricate stitching designs.

Waisanen also makes concrete bowls, with a natural texture on the outside and a smooth metallic finish on the inside. They



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Edward Peterson, left stands with contemporary artist John Nieto, one of Peterson's biggest inspirations. Tempo Gallery artist Vicki Baker printmaking. Constance Waisanen stands in front of her fiber art piece displayed in Tempo Gallery's front window.



Morgan Grindy



glow with candles that sit on the inside.

She began traditional quilting before creating her own designs and fabrics. She usually works on five to 10 pieces at a time. Waisanen lets her inspiration come to her as she adds elements to each piece.

She often depicts natural elements in her work, like trees or snakes and enjoys experimenting with the human figure in her fabric designs.

Waisanen's works have been incorporated at First Lutheran Church in Astoria. One of her concrete bowls became a new baptismal font for the church. Large banners she created are also displayed.

Working on her art is comforting for Waisanen, especially during the coronavirus pandemic.

"There's a couple things I can do that will put me right back in my right space, and one of them is my art," she said.

Vicki Baker

Vicki Baker began her artistic career as a printmaker making monotypes. She now focuses on acrylic painting.

Her work features bright colors and partially abstracted faces and figures. Women in hats are the main subject in both her acrylic work and her prints.

Baker has been printmaking and painting for close to 20 years. She began making art when she retired from being an elementary school teacher at the Olney School.

Baker often finds inspiration from magazine or newspaper photographs she comes across. Other times her inspiration comes from her imagination.

The important women in Baker's life have also contributed to her focus on women in her art.

Fort Meyers, Florida, is where Baker spends months painting, away from the gallery in Astoria. She says the tight-knit group at Tempo, and a local drawing group, keep her inspired when she's not actively painting.

Baker and her husband have been involved in the Astoria Music Festival as volunteers, hosting visiting musicians in their home each year. She was one of the original artists at Tempo when it formed in 2012.

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