



Tempo Gallery artist Thron Riggs.

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Thron Riggs

Thron Riggs is an acrylic painter, focused on landscapes, seascapes and florals. Most of his work depicts aspects of the coast.

He likens his style to Claude Monet and admires the work of Rembrandt. Riggs doesn't consider himself an artist, rather a person who likes to draw and paint.

Riggs has been working on a project to paint every headland on the West Coast. So far, he's painted 25 of the West Coast's most significant ones.

Riggs worked as a merchant seaman all his life, which has tremendously influenced his art, he said. Being constantly surrounded by water and headlands, Riggs found his environment both provocative and inspirational.

He finds that creating a piece right in front of his subject is the best way to capture the most vibrant paintings. Riggs takes his portable easel with him to beaches and headlands. Riggs also plays violin, viola and guitar. He works to convey the feeling he gets from an image to the viewer.

Riggs said art and music are things everyone does, starting as a child. The two should always remain a lifelong enjoyment, he said.

Phyllis Taylor

Phyllis Taylor is an acrylic and watercolor painter. She focuses on painting flowers and portraits. Her favorite subjects are people, especially children.

She painted a young man named Ryan



A landscape painting by Thron Riggs.

who stayed in her home while he visited for the Astoria Music Festival. Her love for portraits comes from their difficulty.

"That's the ultimate challenge," she said. "If anyone can recognize them, you've succeeded."

Taylor worked at Indiana University for 40 years as a graphic designer and illustrator.

She became a member of the Bloomington Watercolor Society in Indiana three years before leaving Indiana. Not having to work anymore gave her a lot of time to paint.

Doing things like month-long sketching challenges or other kinds of daily practices with friends helped Taylor develop her skills.

Taylor has played cello for over 60 years. She enjoys being involved with community orchestras, like the Columbia River Symphony, where she mentors children.

She is inspired by the artists at Tempo and agrees with what inspires Peterson.

"We paint what brings us joy," Taylor said.



Tempo Gallery artist Phyllis Taylor and her cello.



Phyllis Taylor's most recent painting, 'Calendula,' an homage to canceled fireworks.

Phyllis Taylor

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