

Artist Celebrates At White Lotus

GREENWOOD CAPTURES LIVES ON CANVAS

When Alice Lynn Greenwood says she's celebrating, you can be sure there's an exclamation point behind her words.

"Celebrating is the heart of the holiday season," says Greenwood, whose new works are on show through Christmas in the gallery space at White Lotus Salon in Fayetteville. "We celebrate when we treasure a life that touches ours — and I have the good fortune to celebrate many lives by painting their images on canvas."

While Greenwood's portraits of people and horses, dogs and cats are almost always commissioned works, the paintings exhibited in "Celebrate!" are "an indulgence I created for my own pleasure," she says. "I enjoy being surrounded



Becca Bacon Martin

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by my art and having my paintings as my own companions, before they go out to their new homes. Doing commissioned work, I live with the image of a person or animal only until the painting is completed and unveiled for my patron. Then that portrait leaves my studio, and I'm on to the next.

"Anticipating my show at White Lotus Salon inspired me to create a new collection to keep with me for a while, before the exhibit installation.



COURTESY PHOTO

Art by Alice Lynn Greenwood is on show at White Lotus.

Now I'm ready to let these treasures be carried away by others."

Greenwood, who has a degree in art from Hendrix College, admits she'll be a little sad to see them go, but it's all part of her creative process, which she says starts before she ever opens a tube of paint or picks up a brush.

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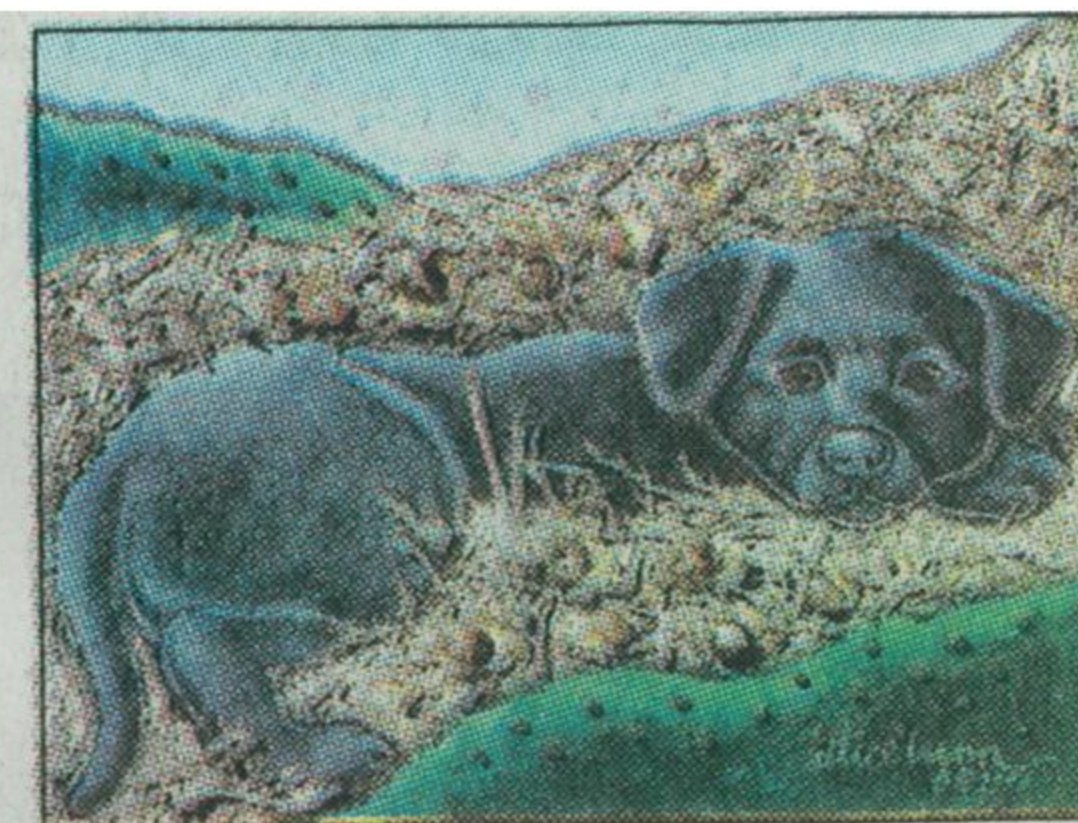
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"In the beginning, I hold very, very still and listen," she says. "First I listen to my patron and the desires and stories that come with the commission. I look and listen while pondering photographs my patron provides. Then I listen for the nuances of transformation the image is suggesting. Listening can take a while, so I wait in the spaciousness and stay open and pay attention. When there's energy around an emerging possibility, I begin to work from that place. As the magic and mystery start to party, I hold on to my easel and hang on for the ride."

Greenwood, who has freelanced as a graphic artist and worked as a clothing designer and window stylist for a boutique in Greenwich Village, says her style has been a lifetime in the making.

"A cradle Arkansan, I was an 'artistic' child in Little Rock, forever drawing and painting," she recalls. "I spent hours running with my dogs and scavenging outdoors, coming home to assemble my found objects to make my creations. Still I am enchanted and drawn to the exquisite elegance and abundance of the natural world — the textures and colors, the lines and shapes, the contrasts of light and dark, the scents and sounds, the boldnesses and subtleties all dancing together. All these influences are stroked into every depiction I make."

Hours at White Lotus Salon are "around 9 a.m. until around 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday." Information: 582-4806.



COURTESY PHOTO

"Treasure" by Alice Lynn Greenwood.



COURTESY PHOTO

"Aussie Waiting" by Alice Lynn Greenwood.