

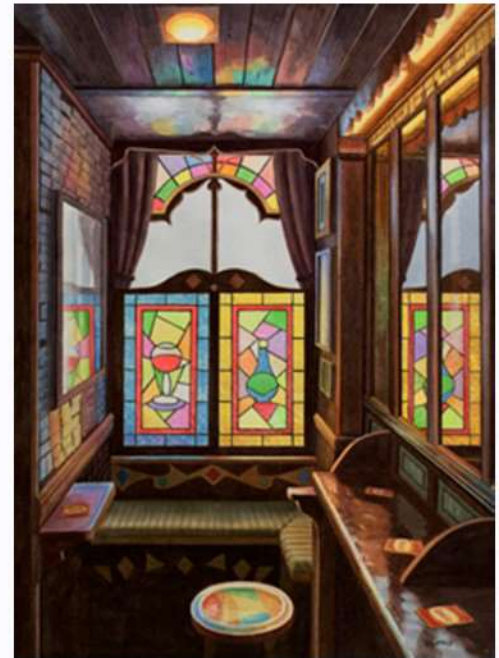
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD WINNER

from the "Windows and Doors" Exhibit - Becky Haletky

How did you discover your talent for your medium? I graduated from MassArt with a BFA in photography, and didn't start painting until about 8 years later. I started with watercolor and used my own photos from my travels as subject matter. I just loved the medium right away. Even though I took one watercolor class in college, I am mostly self taught, which gives my work it's own unique look.

Which artist has influenced you most? I've always been fascinated by roadside architecture from the early 20th century. Edward Hopper's subjects are a huge influence. John Baeder, the photo-realistic painter of diners, and the photographer, Clarence John Laughlin, are big influences as well.

What do you enjoy the most about working in this medium? Mostly the results. Some painters talk about the joy they feel while painting. I get that joy from the initial inspiration and a successful result. In between it's a lot of work.



"Eugene's Pub", By Becky Haletky, Watercolor

How do you describe your artwork? Realistic, but not photo-realistic.

Tell us about your creative process. I get very excited when I find a subject, and try to convey that in the finished work. My goal is a tight drawing and a loose painting, but I don't always succeed.

Is there anything you want people to take away from your work? I've kept records from when I started painting in 1980, but never totaled things up until recently. I have sold over 700 paintings, and I love that they make other people happy. Most of my commissions are given as gifts, and nothing is better than hearing the excited, sometimes tearful, reaction of the recipient.



Becky Haletky

Aside from your creative pursuits, what else do you enjoy? I have played guitar for over 40 years, sometimes in bluegrass bands. In the 1970s my husband and I played six nights a week in Papa Joe's on Bourbon Street in New Orleans. I took up piano about 20 years ago, mostly rag time and waltzes, but only for my own pleasure.

Where can people find more of your work?

www.artbecko.com

Congratulations Becky Haletky!!