

FALL 2013

CAPE ANN

North of Boston Life

ATELIER

adventure

Cape Ann Artisans offers studio tour on 30th anniversary

By GAIL MCCARTHY



ALLEGRA BOVERMAN/Cape Ann

Sinikka Nogelo talks about how she made her piece titled "Victory" in her studio in Cripple Cove Studios in East Gloucester.



ALLEGRA BOVERMAN/Cape Ann



MIKE SPRINGER/Cape Ann

Sculptor Bart Stuyf, left, sits at the entrance to his studio on 16 Mussel Point Way, overlooking the ocean in Gloucester.

Rob Diebboll, below, of Rockport is a new member of Cape Ann Artisans. Tour visitors can view him at work on his beach paintings at 1 Camborne Way in Rockport.





Besides creating wall pieces for recyclable and discarded materials, Sinikka Nogelo works in oil, acrylic and watercolor to create contemporary works of sea and sky in her studio on Gloucester's working waterfront.

ALLEGRA BOVERMAN/Cape Ann



MIKE SPRINGER/Cape Ann

A porcupine, created by sculptor Bart Stuyf, stands outside the artist's home and studio overlooking the ocean in Gloucester.

The Cape Ann Artisans Tour, one of the oldest open studio tours in the country, offers more than just a glimpse into the area's many working studios.

The locales of some studios are hidden gems, taking visitors on the self-guided tour to a boatyard, riverside workshops, and even a spot at the edge of Gloucester Harbor. Other ateliers are tucked away in wooded areas and in downtown Gloucester. But as tourists meander along the path, they'll catch glimpses of endless seascapes and the urban landscape as they travel to Cape Ann's outer edges. They may come across a charming garden or pass by historic architecture on their way to a studio.

In this milestone 30th anniversary year for the tour, there are 23 stops, including six new studios that were juried into the organization. Each year, the Cape Ann Artisans offer two tours, one in June and another in October, which this year runs from Oct. 12 to 14 over the Columbus Day weekend.

The finely crafted works are diverse, ranging from textiles, jewelry, ceramics, woodwork, and mosaics, to sculpture, painting, printing, and photography. Some are serious and some are quite whimsical.

The tour is popular with newcomers

and returning visitors who want to see how an artist's work evolves. New studios this year feature granite sculpture by Mike Foley, joyful oil paintings of the beach by Rob Diebboll, and sea glass jewelry by Jacqueline Ganim DeFalco. The tour is also eager to showcase the work of Julia Garrison, who is keeping the spirit of the Folly Cove Designers' block-printing tradition at the Sarah Elizabeth Shop in Rockport.

Marty Morgan, a founder whose studio sits along Mill River in Gloucester, said the tour gives the artisans an opportunity to talk about their vision and the

artistic process in an intimate setting.

"Being part of a group of professional artists for over 30 years has allowed me to watch those artists grow and evolve to create their own distinctive style of work," she said.

In addition to Morgan, the other founding members still on the tour are David Archibald, Sara Wright and Anni Melancon.

Morgan noted that some of the artisans are not just inspired by the landscape, but actually incorporate elements of it in their work; Cynthia Curtis has integrated beach glass, shells, and coral



MIKE SPRINGER/Cape Ann

Bart Stuyf, at his waterfront studio on Gloucester Harbor, starts with flat sheets of copper and creates intricate fountains for the home and garden, often featuring whimsical frogs, top, and sealife, such as this swordfish.

into her pottery.

There is an array of pottery and ceramic studios on the tour where visitors can find both functional and artistic works, and even ceramic tile wall sculptures, all of which are created using varied techniques and glazes.

The studio of Judith Wright is off the beaten path, with a sweeping view of Ipswich Bay, where she works in pastels and also creates tables, birdbaths, and other items enriched with mosaic

designs.

Rebecca Aliberte of Gloucester, who took the summer tour, described the event as eclectic and fun.

“It was a great way to spend a day,” she said. “The artists were welcoming, informative and professional. I would never have known how many working artists there are on Cape Ann unless I took the tour. It’s very exciting to know that I am surrounded by so many talented people.”

Aliberte said the quality of the artwork

is on par with what is what is available at retail stores or museum shops.

“The tour is an important way to support the Cape Ann artists and encourage them to continue to create their art,” she said.

Earlier this year, the Cape Ann Museum hosted a retrospective exhibit, “Cape Ann Artisans at 30,” and included works by 70 artisans, both past and present members, celebrating the group’s three decades.

“Cape Ann Artisans at 30’ was an amazing community affair. More than 500 people attended the opening reception,” said Ronda Faloon, the museum director. “These artisans are part of the continuum of Cape Ann’s rich cultural heritage.”

The museum also hosted demonstrations in ceramics, weaving, painting, metal work and batik in connection with the exhibition.

“Being able to actually see these men and women at work and talk with them about the creative process and the

challenges they face was a real treat,” said museum curator Martha Oaks.

Oaks said the quality and breadth of their work was awe-inspiring.

Ganim-Defalco, who was part of the tour for the first time in June, said it was exciting to have 100 new visitors come through the doors of her studio, where she has been working with sea glass for the past decade.

“It’s important for people to see you in your environment, and when they see the space, it is inspirational for them,

IF YOU GO

- ▶ **What:** Cape Ann Artisans 30th Anniversary Studio Tour
- ▶ **When:** Oct. 12, 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ **How much:** The self-guided tour is free.
- ▶ **Getting directions:** A detailed description and maps may be found at www.capeannartisans.com, and at many tourist locations throughout Cape Ann, including the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce on Commercial Street in Gloucester, the Rockport Information Booth on Route 127; and at each studio. A bright magenta Studio Tour banner marks each location. For more information, call 978-281-3347.

2013 CAPE ANN ARTISANS

Meredith Anderson	Pia Juhl Nadel
David Archibald	Sinikka Nogelo
Cynthia Curtis	Erin O’Sullivan Place
Rob Diebboll	Scott Place
Terry DelPercio-Piemonte	David Piemonte
Mike Foley	Margaret Rack
Jacqueline Ganim-DeFalco	Mi Robertson
Julia Garrison	Pam Stratton
Elizabeth Hardy	Bart Stuyf
Anni Melancon	Mace Wenniger
David Montgomery	MaryAnn Wenniger
Marty Morgan	Beth Williams
	Judith Wright
	Sara Wright

too. We live in such a beautiful place where everything is inspirational,” she said. “The artisans also have a chance to tell their story.”

She finds that those who have a mindset to buy have the advantage that all the wares are handmade one-of-a-kind pieces.

“We need to give people something to remember their experience here,” she said. “The artisans tour gives them the opportunity to buy something unique and made on Cape Ann.” 

Preliminary study

A sneak peek at what's on the Cape Ann Artisans' 30th Anniversary Tour

When artists and artisans plan a major work, they usually do a preliminary study, working out the kinks in a drawing or small model.

Likewise, we've done a preliminary study of Cape Ann Artisans 30th Anniversary Tour to clear the decks for those who plan to take the tour, which runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 12, 13 and 14.

These items can be found at the 23 ports of call along this arts treasure trek, and tourists who visit these working artists' ateliers will get up close and personal with the artists and artisans who create them. The pottery, ceramics, weaving, photography, collagraph prints, and more that make Cape Ann a major art destination, have for the past two years also landed Gloucester on American Style Magazine's coveted list of Top Ten Art Destinations.

—Joann Mackenzie

MOSAICS, PASTELS & OILS, JEWELRY: Judith Wright enhances much of her work, from jewelry to tables, with mosaics. Granite birdbath, with mosaic robin, \$700.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

HANDMADE GLASS BEADS & JEWELRY: Beth Williams creates glass beads and jewelry in the Venetian tradition. Glass "Sea Anemones" pendants, \$135 a piece. Other sizes and colors at different prices available.



CLARK LINEHAN/Courtesy photo

SEAGLASS WEARABLE ART: Jacqueline Ganim-DeFalco's brooch, \$140, features a ceramic piece and pink fresh water pearl.



STONE SCULPTURE: Mike Foley carves local granite and New England marble for his abstract and symbolic works. "Monkey Fist," granite, 12 inches tall, \$1,400.



ROB DIEBBOLL/Courtesy photo

OIL AND WATERCOLOR PAINTING: "I enjoy finding the essence in what I see and painting it in a simplified way so that it can be experienced directly," said painter Rob Diebboll. "Storm Surfers," oil, 35-by-59 inches, \$5,600.



Courtesy photo

BLOCK PRINTING: Julia Garrison has taken over the historic Acorn press at the Sarah Elizabeth Shop in Rockport. The design "Fish" is used for this table covering, ink on cotton, \$150.



BART STUYF/Courtesy photo

SCULPTURE: Bart Stuyf finds inspiration for his works in the sea outside his door. This 4.5-foot copper octopus, \$2,500, is one of his newer pieces.

SHOPPING GUIDE

Jacqueline Ganim-DeFalco
44 Thurston Road, Gloucester
978-283-8333
www.capeanndesigns.com

Beth Williams
17 Pleasant St., Gloucester
978-283-5566
www.bethwilliams.com

Bart Stuyf
16 Mussel Point Way, Gloucester
978-281-8089
www.bartstuyf.com

Judith Wright
12R Sunset Point Road, Gloucester
978-283-9430

Mike Foley
76 Essex Ave., Gloucester
508-284-5885
www.msfoleystoneworks.com

Julia Garrison
5 Whistle Stop Mall, Rockport
978-491-0090
sarah-elizabeth-shop.com

Sinikka Nogelo
97 E. Main St. Unit 4, Gloucester
978-761-3003
www.sinikkanogelo.com

Rob Diebboll
1 Camborne Way,
646-596-3737
www.robdiebboll.com

PAINTINGS AND WALL PIECES: Sinikka Nogelo used found objects such as cans, foils and other aluminum materials in her art. "Washed Up Cans," \$1,000.



Courtesy photo