



Janice

She fusses as she paces back and forth searching for a common thread that will pull her thoughts together for her latest project—painting the strong, determined wisdom in the face of the Irish woman who works for peace but has seen little in her lifetime.

As Janice Frederick moves about her warm, comfortable studio, *Faces 'n Places*, located on the second floor of the Masonic Lodge building (215 Washington Street), she chatters. She giggles, questions, and apologizes all while eyeing the canvas with an inquisitive eye.

Janice is a petite woman made tall by her energy and enthusiasm. Her love of art is obvious in the diversity of her subjects. I met Janice in late 2000 when she found the perfect studio in Havre de Grace. She had a dream of making her art her avocation. But over the last 5 years continued to get sidetracked.

Love of Faces

As a very young toddler, she would ask her mom to draw faces. “Faces fascinated me,” says Janice. And she shyly mentions that possibly her kindergarten teacher recognized her talent when

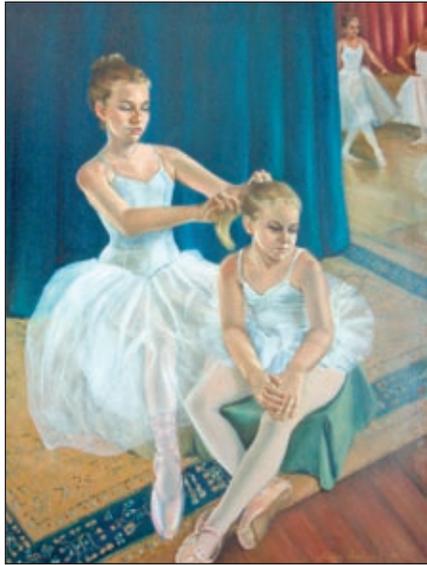
IMAGES BY JANICE: Daughter Erica (charcoal & white on a medium-toned paper).



she wrote, “keep up the artwork” in a note to her mom. As a grade school girl, she loved playing with paper dolls. But even more, Janice loved creating the clothes for the paper dolls.

From the age of 10 through her high school years, Janice went to art class every Saturday in her hometown of Sheffield, Alabama. She so desired to go to a fine arts college. But financially, she had to attend a liberal arts school for two years. Then she was accepted at the University of Cincinnati majoring in Architecture. Throughout her college years, she attended at least one art class and on Saturdays tutored under a water colorist off-campus. She finished her architecture studies at the University of Arizona and went on to have a very successful career in that field.

I asked her about architecture versus art. “Although I had the ability to see in three dimension to design buildings, architecture was frustrating at times. It often took years to have your ideas and



IMAGES BY JANICE: Cincinnati, OH (acrylic), Chieftain woman (watercolor) and Rehearsal.



IMAGES BY JANICE: Key Bridge Industrial (acrylic)



work culminate in a walk-through of a building. Art allows the sense of completion, satisfaction, to happen much more quickly,” Janice shares.

Janice also had several opportunities to travel with her husband, Terry, through his job. One of those trips allowed her to live three years in Africa returning in 1990. The experiences can be felt in many of her favorite works. She loved the people, the colors, the culture.

If you ask her, she’d tell you she paints ‘realism.’ And her love is portraiture, which she captures beautifully. She is unique in that she’ll allow her subjects to peek and critique her work as she paints. Her easy nature makes the most uncomfortable of subjects relax under her eye. She instructs briefly that, although she can paint from photos, it is so much more vibrant to have the subject sit for her. “There is depth to a person’s face that is more difficult to capture from a photograph,” she explains.

Life-Style Paintings

Janice also loves to create abstracts though the opportunity doesn’t come as often. Her architectural background is easily seen in many of her landscapes and buildings. If I were to give her work a category, I would say “Life-Style Paintings.” Her real life experience is reflected in her work. Each piece has a story to be shared.

I’m thrilled to know that Janice has recently taken the oft-scary step to make art her priority. She is no longer ‘on hold.’ She will be a welcome asset to our art community and, no doubt, you’ll be seeing her work at various galleries and shows in the very near future. Possibly she’ll open her studio to visitors during a couple First Fridays. And if you’re looking to have a portrait painted, give her a call.

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Spring/Summer 2006 © **havredegrace** magazine.

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