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## Annette Ragone Hall

413 N. Lee St., Salisbury, NC, 28144

704-798-9400

annette@arhall.com

ragone.com (fine art)

annetteragonehall.com (portraits)

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### Artist Statement

The shapes, colors, and textures that abound in nature inspire the colorful abstract and impressionistic images Annette paints. Bold colors are the hallmark of her work. She usually starts a painting with a color idea, building the imagery intuitively as she applies color, shape, texture, and in some cases, multimedia objects. Annette doesn't want her art to look like anyone else's. Her goal in creating a piece of art is to grab and hold the viewer's eye, drawing the person deeper into the painting to discover the myriad treasures there. She wants people to feel compelled to look at her paintings for a long time. She is always fascinated when viewers tell her what they see in her abstract paintings. Her one-sentence artist statement is, "Catch the eye; hold it."

Annette paints primarily in acrylic and watercolor because their fast-drying properties let her work quickly. She is currently painting a series of very large abstract works (up to 5' x 5') in acrylic on canvas.

### Biography

Annette was born in Brooklyn, NY, and grew up in Roanoke, VA. Her desire to create art began very early and was inspired by her mother. When Annette was six, her mother drew her a quick sketch of a woman's face and revealed a side of her that Annette had not seen before. Annette was so inspired by this drawing that she decided she would learn to draw and be an artist when she grew up. Annette is the oldest of nine children and money was tight for the family when she was young. She had to wait to pursue formal art training until she was an adult. As a young wife and mother, she worked her way through college, and with the help of a scholarship, graduated with a B.A. in Art. For ten years afterward, she honed her painting skills primarily using watercolor.

After Annette, her husband, and their young daughter moved from Roanoke to the Puget Sound area in Washington State, the grandeur of the water and rugged mountains helped her creativity and imagination expand even further. It inspired her to create the colorful, bold abstracts and floral paintings that now define her style. She continued her art education, participating in workshops taught by nationally known artists. She began using acrylics in 2003; their versatility took her art to a new level. She started creating imaginative, large-scale works and also experimented with mixed-media works using acrylic, glass, and other elements.

Working full time in a non-fine-art-related career, over the years she was still able to build an impressive body of work. Her work was largely unseen by collectors, but she persevered in creating a substantial inventory of unique works and sold a number of pieces.

In early 2007, Annette and her husband moved to North Carolina to be in the land of warmth and sun, and so she could create art full time. She now works out of her studio at *Rail Walk Studios & Gallery* in Salisbury, NC, in an emerging downtown arts district. Her art is in two galleries in North Carolina and in the museum store at the Waterworks Visual Arts Center in Salisbury, NC. Her piece, *Circle in the Square*, is in the *State of the Art/Art of the State* exhibit at the Cameron Art Museum in Wilmington, NC, which runs through October 2011. She also won the 3<sup>rd</sup> place award for the 2011 Mooresville Artist Guild's *33<sup>rd</sup> Annual ArtFest* for her piece, *A Sip of Tea*.

In addition to her non-representational works, Annette paints commissioned portraits in oil. She is fascinated by the human face and form and finds it very challenging to capture both the spirit and the likeness of her subject. Not long after she moved to North Carolina, two Salisbury firefighters were lost in a fire, in March 2008. She painted their portraits as a gift to the fire department. The 30"x 24" portraits were unveiled in March 2009 as part of the memorial services for the two fallen firefighters.

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## Resume

### Exhibitions, Competitions, & Displays

2011—Cameron Art Museum, *State of the Art/ Art of the State* exhibit of works by North Carolina artists—Wilmington, NC  
2011—Mooresville Artist Guild *33rd Annual ArtFest*. 3rd place award for *A Sip of Tea*—Mooresville, NC  
2011—*It's Hip to be Square Show*, Rail Walk Studios & Gallery, group show—Salisbury, NC  
2011—*The RED Show*, Rail Walk Studios & Gallery, group show—Salisbury, NC  
2010—Green Goat Gallery Miniatures show—Spencer, NC  
2010—*Faces & Figures*, Rail Walk Studios & Gallery, group show—Salisbury, NC  
2010—*Colors of Spring*, Rail Walk Studios & Gallery, group show—Salisbury, NC  
2010 – Manhattan Arts International: *The Healing Power of Art* (online exhibition). Winner in the *Best of Work on Paper* category  
2010—UNC Women's Hospital Information Center Gallery: January Solo Show—Chapel, Hill, NC  
2009 - Fine Frame Gallery Miniatures show—Salisbury, NC  
2009 - The Artist's Magazine 26th Annual Art Competition, Finalist (see December issue)  
2009—Salisbury-Rowan County Visitor Center: November Solo Show—Salisbury, NC  
2009 - Stanly Art Guild “Summer Art Explosion” Exhibit. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award—Albemarle, NC  
2009 - The Artist's Magazine Online Competition. Honorable mention  
2009 - DIMENSIONS 2009, a National Juried Fine Art Competition & Exhibition—Winston-Salem, NC  
2009—Salisbury-Rowan County Visitor Center: March Solo Show—Salisbury, NC  
2008 - Ugly Bug Ball –Resident artist for fundraiser for the Center for the Environment at Catawba College—Salisbury, NC  
2008 - Arts United Gallery, Invitational exhibition of plein air artists—Lexington, NC  
2008 - Carolina Artists Art Expo. 1st place award in watercolor category—Salisbury, NC  
2008 - Fine Frame Gallery Miniatures show—Salisbury, NC  
2007 - Rail Walk Studios & Gallery, Solo Exhibition—Salisbury, NC  
2003 - Hilton Head Art League Juried Exhibition. 3<sup>rd</sup> place award—Hilton Head, SC  
2003 - Eastside Fine Arts Association Juried Exhibition—Bellevue, WA

### Galleries, Museum Shops, & Other Locations

Green Goat Gallery – Spencer, NC  
National Tropical Garden Gift Shop – Koloa, HI  
Rail Walk Studios & Gallery – Salisbury, NC  
Waterworks Visual Arts Center Museum Shop - Salisbury, NC

### Corporate Collections

King TV – Seattle, WA

### Education

B.A. in Art. Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia  
A.A.S. in Commercial Art. Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke, Virginia (Continued next page)

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### **Continuing Education** (workshops)

- Rudy Coffing, Painting in Acrylic
- Cecilia Cooney-Wickett, Figure Studies
- Linda Demetre, Painting with Oil Bars
- Pongson Espada, Portraits in Pastel
- Betty Jo Fitzgerald, Painting with Gouache
- Miriam Lansdon, Drawing and Painting
- Katherine Chang Liu, Painting in Watercolor
- Carla O'Connor, Painting with Gouache
- Sueellen Ross, Mixed-Media Painting
- Bart Rulon, Painting Birds in Watercolor
- Chuck Webster, Painting in Watercolor
- Arne Westerman, Figure Painting in Watercolor
- Bob Burrige, Loose and Juicy Landscapes and Abstract Florals from Colorful, Loose Splatters
- Paul McCormack, Painting the Portrait from Life in Watercolor