



## Artist Spotlight for January 2022 : Loretta Medeiros

Loretta Medeiros grew up in Sturbridge, MA and currently resides in Brimfield, Massachusetts. She is a member of **Academic Artists**, and in 2016 was an award winner in the Academic Artists National Show. Then, in 2017 she won the President's Award at the annual Monson Art Show. She attended the Boston Museum of Fine Arts on a scholarship while still in high school, then went on to study at Southeastern MA University and the Worcester Art Museum. She has taken workshops from Timothy Clark and Arts Pro-Temp, and a workshop in Russian Impressionism from master painter Nancy Seamons-Crookston. Loretta has also designed and painted theatrical sets for a local theater.

Loretta Medeiros is best known for her landscapes, still-lifes and scratchboard paintings. She works in a variety of media, including oil, pastel, watercolor, scratch board and acrylic. As an artist she orchestrates the use of colors to concentrate on light, values and shapes, creating a special vision of the world with each brushstroke as she brings to life the painting on the canvas before her. She has a passion for plein-air painting, producing delicately rendered realistic images; but she also practices an impressionistic style of painting from life, study and memory. Still life paintings are often nostalgic in nature, and thus, her work tends to focus on creating atmosphere and presence.

Of her work, she says:

“I love sharing my passion for noticing the ambience of a place or still life, and then creating the experience of it on canvas. My paintings bring me back to a place and time that most intrigued me -- which I try to communicate to the observer -- speaking not only to myself, but directly to the viewer. Many times while reviewing my work, I can even associate with it the smells and sounds I experienced while finishing a painting in my studio. The creative experience is that strong. My goal is for the observer to be able to stop and take notice of the less obvious things they may encounter in the future. Capturing the moment, seeing with artistic eyes, and being innovative with my scratchboard techniques has been a gratifying pursuit. I am always trying new methods, trying to push my limits, seeking to improve myself, to set higher goals and follow my passion.”

Loretta provides numerous demonstrations and classes at various venues in our area. She also teaches painting classes in her own studio, *Pirmas L'Artiste Studio* in Brimfield, Massachusetts.