

Fresh Gallery February Featured Artists

This exhibit will be on display and available for purchase from Jan 2nd-Feb 24th with an artist reception for both artists during FFAW on February 2nd.

2023 Juried Show Winner featured guest Artist

Andrew Batcheller is a Kansas City native who has called Joplin, MO his home for the last decade. His paintings are a part of national and international collections. He was awarded Best in Show during our 2023 Juried Art Show and Fresh Gallery is honored to host his exhibit titled "Flying Lessons". The following is a note from the artist about the origin of this collection:

"I've always classified my work as portraiture, using birds, mammals and insects as analogies for the human condition. Often, the emotional quality of my paintings is on full display, hopefully evoking thoughtful contemplation of our own human drama. However, in this group of small works, I've allowed that to play a secondary role. Beginning as simple studies for a very large painting, these pieces very quickly began to develop their own voice and a clear point of view. They seemed to have something particular to say and I did my best to allow it. In this exercise, I found myself being much more the listener than the storyteller."

2023 photography Show Winner featured guest Artist

Jym Wilson is a veteran photojournalist who has covered a multitude of topics throughout his career. He's a Vermont native who began his career at the Burlington (VT) Free Press. He worked as a photo editor at USA Today for 18 years, specializing in entertainment coverage. His work has appeared in the Springfield Daily Citizen since the day of its launch in 2022.

While producing storytelling photographs for the Daily Citizen fills much of his time, Jym continues to make what he thinks of as "for me" work. Pursuing themes of "the abandonment of beauty" and "the beauty of abandonment" he is also drawn to the natural world, especially a certain oak tree in Albemarle, NC, the yellow crowned night heron that live along Fasnicht Creek, and the human face.

Jym would like to thank Fresh Gallery for the opportunity to show his work and acknowledge Mark Shipley, owner of 417 Photo Works for his excellent printing; the good people at Matboard.com; all of his friends and colleagues at the Springfield Daily Citizen; and especially Donelle for her unending patience and support.

