ARTIST GAIL DESCOEURS

BIOGRAPHY
Artist Gail Descoeurs was born in Montreal in 1962 and was introduced to painting by her father at the age of 17. Gail is predominately self-taught and throughout her early career as an artist she supported herself by pursuing a career in mechanical drafting. Gail derives inspiration from the power of nature and she is moved by the different feelings that nature evokes. Her depiction of the natural world is at once bold and precise, yet serene and contemplative. Utilising realist qualities she reveals the perfect stillness in nature as timeless and ever powerful. Evoking memories, dreams and imagination her paintings create an ambience of profound peace in the magnificent detail of our natural environment. Gail has been painting as a professional since 2006 and is rapidly gaining recognition for her timeless artwork that borders on the mystical. She resides in the countryside to stay close to nature where she feels at peace and inspired every day.

REPRESENTED BY:
Galerie Iris – Charlevoix, QC (www.galerieiris.com)
Westmount Gallery – Toronto, ON (www.westmountgallery.com)

“I feel very grateful and privileged to be an artist, teaching and painting full time. It allows me to pause to delight and appreciate the simple joys of everyday life, which in turn enables me to truly live.”

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Artist Tracy Asbil

Tracy’s first love for the arts began in her days at Cegep when she took creative arts at Champlain Lennox-Ville. She spent all of her spare time in the ceramic studio, she studied technical drawing and dabbled in pencil and charcoal. She stopped creating any type of art after Cegep as life and work somehow took over. At 52 years old she decided to take the time and do something for herself, so she enrolled herself in an oil painting class under the tutelage of Gail Descoeurs. She knew nothing about painting and to the amusement of her class, she actually thought she would be able to paint a picture and bring it home the same day to hang on her wall. Since being in her class, she has come to love everything about the process and enjoys painting landscapes, nature, and animals. Thanks to Gail, she will continue on her journey to learn and enjoy painting for many years to come.

Artist Beatrice Cluney

Born in St. Johns Newfoundland, I come from a family with six sisters and two brothers. I have always loved the ocean, nature and all the colors that come with it. With so much beauty everywhere, in so many things, I feel inspired to paint a whole variety of things. Raising three children, I have been busy, but never too busy to squeeze in a bit of painting, on and off over the years. Now being a grandmother, I have a whole new set of ideas for paintings to come. I have enjoyed classes with Gail Descoeurs and Susan Porter. Both have helped me learn new styles and techniques. Painting takes me into a place where I am constantly challenging myself and striving to transfer images from my mind, through my brush and onto the canvas. Definitely a challenge!! I look forward to starting on the new ideas of paintings to come. Dreaming in color…..always!!
Artist Diane Jobin

As long as she can remember Diane has been an admirer of many art forms and styles. When Diane travelled all over Europe in her teens, she made a point of visiting art museums where she would stand in awe before the work of the masters and was fascinated by how they were able to create those masterpieces by using colour, form, light, and composition. Last year she finally decided to take oil painting lessons with Gail Descoeurs. Diane knew absolutely nothing about this medium but with Gail’s guidance and expertise Diane acquired the necessary technical skills to create her first works. Diane feels she still has so much to learn. Her challenge and goal is to continue experimenting to find her own style and subject preference. She says that her journey to find her own voice has been exciting and rewarding as she continues to draw inspiration from her mentor Gail Descoeurs.

Artist Gigi Andrieux

Gigi Andrieux is an artist in her soul. She has always seen the world as a big colouring book. As a little girl, she wanted to teach Arts and Crafts to children. Each Christmas, her highlight revolved around her favorite gifts: a new set of “Prismacolor” pencils and a new kit of “Spirograph”! After a short stint in industrial drawing and fashion design... administration and accounting got the best of her artistic ambitions. But now, the family is raised, the nest is empty and her artistic passion has reclaimed its rights. Gigi has been studying oil painting with artist Gail Descoeurs since 2013. She particularly enjoys working with oil paint on colourful and vibrant landscapes. She also developed a unique technique of spatula-executed abstract compositions.
Artist Heather Cunliffe

Heathers’ relatively recent interest in painting was triggered by a desire to find an outlet for her creative energy and the ability to create enduring pieces of artwork. Having met Gail Descoeurs through a friend she thought she would try her hand at painting in oils, she found the pastime both relaxing, therapeutic and blended with enough challenge to make the outcome rewarding. Although she has been painting for only a little over a year she has found an inner sense of discovery for which she will be eternally grateful to Gail for as her guide and tutor in this medium.

Artist Isabelle LeBlanc

Isabelle LeBlanc was born and raised in a beautiful coastal town in northern New-Brunswick. It should come as no surprise that it was Gail Descoeurs’ painting of a beach that brought these two together. With Gail’s boundless talent and incredible patience, Isabelle is enjoying discovering her artistic style. For some time now, water, be it in the form of clouds or a simple wave, has proven to be very inspirational. Although, she would primarily describe herself as a mother of two amazing boys and the wife of her wonderful husband she considers painting as a meaningful part of her life.
Artist James McCaig
Jim was born and grew up in Cobourg, Ontario. At 17, Jim joined the Bank of Nova Scotia where he flourished during his 40-year career. During his 30 years of retirement he enjoyed many activities with his wife Penny - beekeeping, skiing, curling travelling, fishing and playing bridge. Jim was always very artistic and in his early years enjoyed pastels but he always preferred oil. During one of the first Hudson and Region Studio Art Tours he met artist Gail Descoeurs while visiting her studio. Discovering she gave art classes Jim felt he met the person who could help him with color. Through his late 70’s and 80’s he attended faithfully Gail’s art classes and he loved every minute of his time there. In those last years of his life he completed about 30 paintings, his last was in his 87th year. He left many wonderful paintings for his family and us to enjoy. He was a gentle, quiet man and loved by all who touched his life.

Artist Karen Hosker
Karen Hosker was interested in art from an early age. One of her first memories was drawing a snowdrop. Having chosen to study Art History at university in the UK, Karen always wondered if there was still an artist within her. After moving to Montreal with her family in 2009 she decided to give it a try and took the first step 6 years ago and started classes with Gail Descoeurs. Inspiration is taken from nature, especially flowers and tulips being a favourite. Using acrylic paint, Karen attempts to recreate the richness of colours and textures that are found only in nature.
Artist Kiefer Claes

Kiefer Claes is a Canadian artist who takes great influence from classical and historical art, particularly the Renaissance and the Neo-Classical. Though his work doesn’t directly belong to either of these categories, it is always a point of influence and inspiration. Kiefer began drawing at a young age, and it came to a point where his hobby turned into a skill. It was at this point where he started painting as a next step in his artistic pursuit. He began taking painting classes under Gail Descoeurs from the spring of 2013 to June 2016, where he first picked up a brush. Because of his rapid development painting in oil, and as a skilled drawer, Kiefer was able to put together a portfolio and get accepted into Concordia University to study Painting and Drawing where he continues to learn and grow as an artist.

Artist Kirsten Stoger

As a child, Kirsten was often engaged in some sort of artistic pursuit but it was only later, as a teenager that she began to realize that some of her pencil drawings showed some promise. However, by adulthood, this was long forgotten and most of her creativity was reflected in her passion for flowers and gardening. It was only when Kirsten’s daughter, Sophia, began to show the same artistic talent that Kirsten decided to pursue her artistic skills.

Inspiration came by spending much time in the galleries around coastal Maine. Through the guidance of her oil painting teacher Gail Descoeurs, Kirsten has rediscovered her talents and has found great satisfaction producing paintings that invoke a sense of peacefulness and calm.
Artist Laura Holland

Artist Lois White
Artist Lucie Thifault

Lucie Thifault, has lived in Hudson all her life. Her appreciation of nature is unparalleled and is reflected in her works. Influenced by her Mother’s love of painting, Lucie started drawing at a very young age, she graduated in Arts at College in 1980. Now a successful realtor, she is taking time to renew her passion for oil painting by taking art classes with Gail Descoeurs since 2014. Lucie’s favorite painters are Vincent VanGogh, Trinidad and Tom Thompson to name a few.

Artist Mireille Youssef

Mireille Youssef was born in Cairo Egypt, raised in Nigeria, annually travelled to various parts of Europe, finally settling in Montreal. This exposure to multiculturalism gave her the appetite for art in various forms. Art was more than a hobby, it was part of her life, as a means to search inside herself, to focus on the moment and finding serenity. Painting, particularly oil painting, became the most interesting form of art for her. Being a student of Gail Descoeurs since 2016, has enhanced her techniques and increased her enjoyment of painting.

Artist Nancy Lucas

I have always been interested in colour and texture and have tried my hand at many different mediums. Living in Asia for ten years (Malaysia, Japan), exposed me to many exotic art forms ie. Sumie, ikebana, sashiko, batik art and many more. I have now landed on painting with oil and loving it! I'm very much a work in progress but with Gail's talent and patience I'm feeling happy, proud, and accomplishing more than I ever imagined.
Artist Patricia Wilding-Elias

Patricia Wilding-Elias has always been fascinated by and attracted to art. Her first inspiration came from a childhood friend, Janice Moorhead, a stain glass artist, who encouraged her at age twelve to try oil painting. Patricia immediately loved it. She went on to study fine arts at Vanier College, but decided to major in English at Concordia University. She did however continue to paint and take classes. Shortly after graduating from University, Patricia stopped painting but continued to be interested in studying and viewing art. During the early 1990's while living in Paris she studied impressionism at the Women's Institute of Continuing Education. It was not until about 10 years ago that Patricia again began to paint. She saw an advertisement in the local newspaper. Gail Descoeurs was offering painting classes out of her home, so she signed on and has been studying under Gail ever since.

Patricia Wilding-Elias enjoys painting still life and landscapes. She likes using color to set the mood of her paintings. It is the mood of a certain moment in time that she strives to recreate and share with her audience.

Artist Rita Vitullo

In my childhood, I enjoyed drawing and I was definitely talented. However, I did not have the support around me nor the confidence to pursue my love of Art.

As an adult, I was working for a company where I did some interior design work. I then was accepted to study Interior Design at Dawson College. This allowed me to dabble in Art history and other forms of Art. My love for Art flourished.

I always wanted to explore different forms of Art such as painting, pottery and stained glass. Through a common friend, I started taking oil painting classes with Gail Descoeurs. It is with Gail that the flood gates of my artistry opened. I surprise myself every time I complete a painting. Painting today brings me great solace. It has a soothing effect on me.