

Gallery Happenings

September at Gallery Moab

by Thea Nordling



Serena Supplee

What a relief as summer's blistering heat mellows into fall! After the doldrums of an exceptionally hot summer we relish the return our favorite season and the resurgence of energy it brings. For a sampling of the creative energy in our community, stop by Gallery Moab, an artist-owned and operated cooperative gallery. We offer original fine art and one-of-a-kind artisan crafts created by local artists and inspired by our unique landscape.



Merging Together

We are delighted to feature the rock star of Moab artists, Serena Supplee, as our special Guest Artist in September! Her own words best describe the spirit of her work: "Her passionate palette captures the expansion of rims, the movement of rivers, the dance of clouds, the splendor of starlight, and the lighting on canyon walls, which have long captivated the minds and souls of many a romantic Westerner."

Supplee's lively, joyous images grace many private homes of those who treasure the canyons and rivers of the Colorado Plateau, and her sandstone-inspired sculptures are on display in private and public spaces around Moab. Cards, calendars and prints featuring her art have long been sought by local residents and visitors alike.



Line of Sight

Supplee graduated with a BFA from Northern Arizona University. After moving to Moab, she worked for a decade as a guide on the Colorado, Green and San Juan Rivers and for 40 years has continued to row her boat and follow her heart down rivers that inspire her drawing and painting. She paints with watercolors and oils, working from her drawings rather than photos, trusting her creative process.

Supplee says, "I choose to be a landscape painter. I am moved by the spirit of this land, wanting to engulf myself in it. I want to express that feeling in my paintings to share my vision of living on the Colorado Plateau." She recounts, "Trying to sell paintings as a young artist of Moab in the 80's was tricky. The note card idea came from one of my dad's friends. As the tourist economy started building, so did my note card business, exposing my art to more people." Since 1983 she has published hundreds of her images as note cards, prints and calendars. She will be offering her vintage, out of print cards for purchase at her September exhibit.

**GALLERY
MOAB LCA**



Join us at a special reception for Supplee on Friday, September 6, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Enjoy a lively ambience, inspiring art, and refreshments. Peruse the wide variety of art on display including oil, acrylic, watercolor and pastel paintings, prints, cards, photography, ceramics, wood carvings, metal sculptures, fused glass, fabric creations and jewelry. We offer something to appeal to any taste and budget.

Open Sunday & Monday 12 – 3:00 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday 12 – 6:00 p.m. One of the artists is always on hand to help you find that special gift or memento.

Call 435-220-0891 and we will gladly open by appointment during other hours.

Visit us on Facebook and Instagram.

We look forward to your visit!

Gallery Moab LCA,
59 South Main Street #1, Moab, Utah 84532
435-355-0024 gallerymoab.com

Visit us on Facebook and Instagram.

Clouds a Focus of Moab Artist Julia Buckwalter

By Sharon Sullivan

Julia Buckwalter fell in love with clouds as a child growing up in Orem, Utah, where as an aspiring artist she often made drawings of the Wasatch Mountains.

"It's where I got my taste of the epic western landscapes," Buckwalter said. "We'd watch the storms rolling across the horizon."

You can view Buckwalter's artwork

at Moab Made, a downtown shop at 82 N. Main St. that features the work of local artists and artisans. Buckwalter's work is also available across the street at Artesian, a curated shop spotlighting the work of local artists.

Buckwalter's paintings have also hung at Back of

Beyond Books, 83 N. Main St., where she works as a book buyer. She takes time off from the bookstore as needed to create more paintings.

For example, she took a leave of absence from Back of



Beyond when she was appointed Community Artist in the Park in 2021. She spent a year visiting the National Park Service's Southeast Utah Group of parks – Arches and Canyonlands national parks, and Hovenweep and Natural Bridges national monuments – to create works inspired by nature and to engage with people visiting the parks. Prints of her original oil paintings were for sale in the parks' visitor centers.

She's also taken time off from the bookstore to create a large body of work for a solo show at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum in Green River a couple of years ago.

Buckwalter works in her home studio from sketches she makes, as well as photographs that she takes while exploring the backcountry.

Sales of postcards and prints made from her original large-format pieces increase every year, she said. She said she enjoys making her artwork available in print form for a fraction of the cost of an original oil painting. She sells her



prints to hotels, local residents, and people passing through town. Some buyers contact her through her Instagram account.

"Big prints are typically 3-by-4-feet – the same size of the original canvas," she said.

Buckwalter studied art in Los Angeles, and in Australia, before completing a degree in visual arts painting and drawing at Pennsylvania State University. She returned to Utah in 2012 to settle in Moab.

To view Buckwalter's artwork online visit:
www.juliabuckwalter.com

