

*Amy Sanders, Joan Brancale, Kim Kettler*

# Women Who Paint show opens in Cape Cod

**T**hough using different painting styles, mediums and techniques, **Amy Sanders, Joan Brancale** and **Kim Kettler** together give a complete glimpse into the lives of Cape Cod residents during the summer months, from vintage cabins lining the shores to oyster shells and isolated ponds celebrating nature.

Working in pastels, **Amy Sanders** is able to create highly realistic images of ocean life, including salt-water ponds and close-ups of rocks and shells.

"Obviously, my work is realistic," says Sanders, "but more than a photograph. I like to think it has a power to draw one intensely into the scene either through the richness of the color, the quality of the light, or perhaps because I found an incredibly beautiful place to paint. Realism excites me in a painting. I love when I see it done well, and hopefully those who collect works in a realistic style would see mine as done well."

While Sanders' subject matter changes from painting to painting, her unique style manages to hold her work together.

"If a work is different from my usual work, it is usually in color or content, not in style," says Sanders. "Many artists search frantically for style. I would say my style found me and hangs on like a

dog with a bone."

With a home on the Cape that has been in her family for generations, Sanders has always felt a certain closeness with the area.

"I feel a power and energy to this land like I have never felt anywhere else," says Sanders. "I was always at my happiest here. It's always been the subject for nearly all of my paintings, even when I was little."

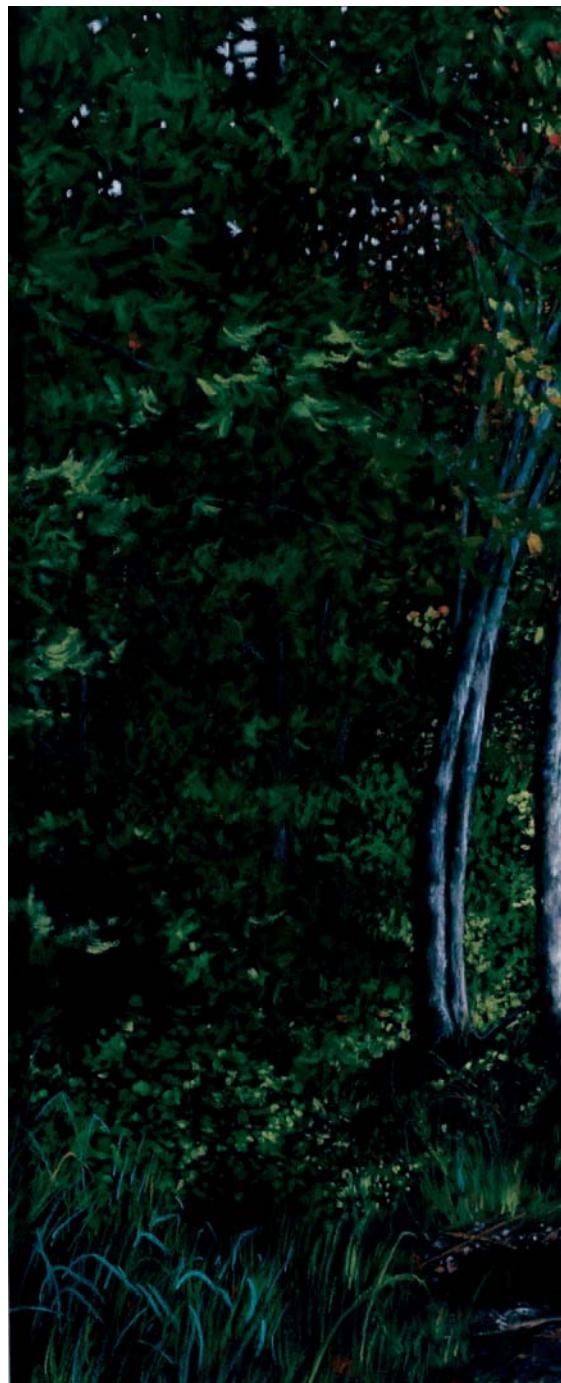
**Kim Kettler** bases her oil paintings and monoprints on local shellfish and the passions and emotions they arouse in people.

"Collectors of my recent paintings are excited specifically by two qualities: color, and my sometimes unorthodox combinations of it within a piece, and form, because oysters and the landscape from which they are borne arouse great passions in people."

"I find oysters and their habitat an endless source of inspiration," says Kettler. "Shellfish, with their hard, impenetrable shell and soft, vulnerable flesh, are abstracts as well as real life objects which bring to mind the fragrant pleasures of a beautiful space."

Collectors are also drawn to Kettler's work through their bright, resonating colors and strong brushwork.

"My paintings are generally bright



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CALM, PASTEL,  
12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> X 18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>", BY AMY SANDERS

*The artist says: This painting represents silent calm, of the kind one sees at the local ponds after the crowds of tourists have left. It's a quiet, still, somewhat foggy morning in the early fall, when no one is stirring and only the slightest hint of a breeze ruffles the surface of the pond.*



"What compelled me to add a painting by Amy Sanders to our collection is the beauty of nature rendered without excessive embellishment. There is a sense of honoring the subject through thoughtful observation. In the piece I bought for my husband, the light filtering through the trees was heightened by a vivid stroke of crimson on the bark, igniting the whole scene with a simple majesty."

— Amy Ford



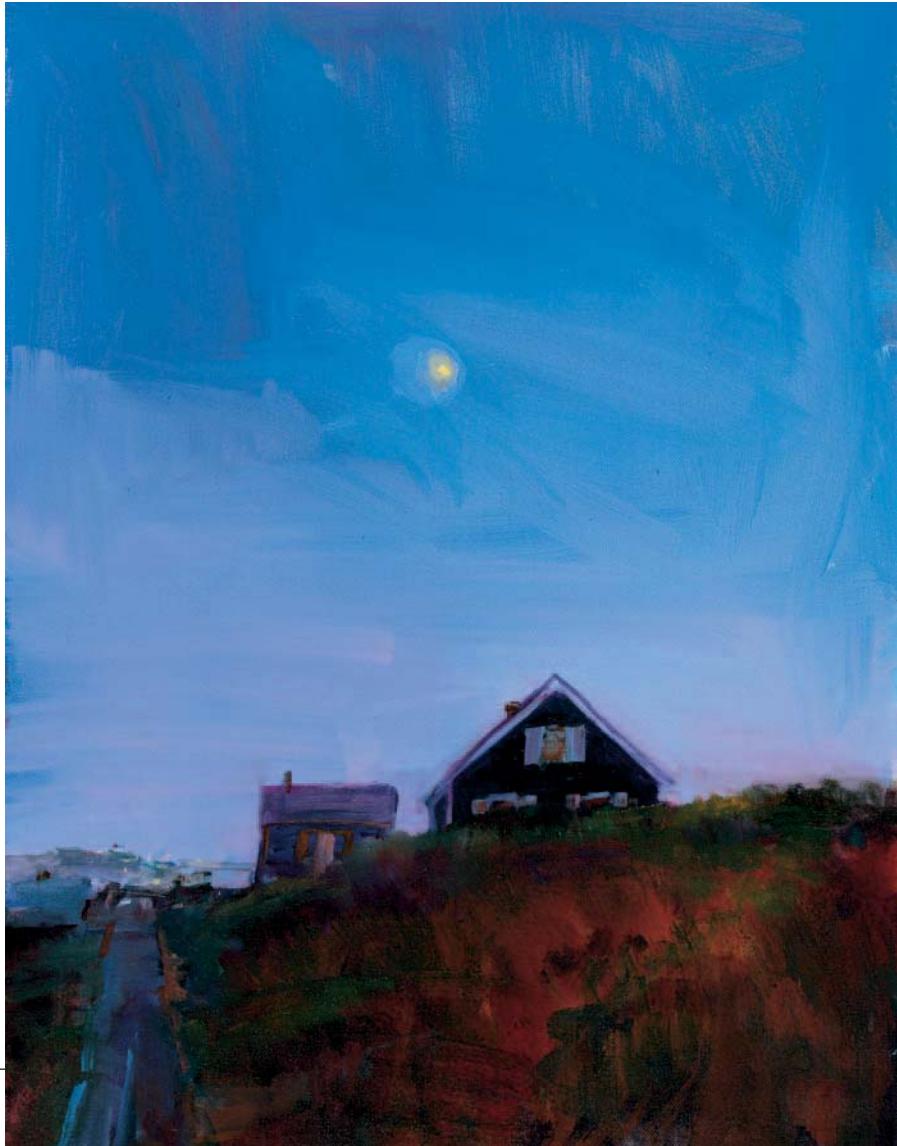
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▲ **BEST VIEW**, OIL ON CANVAS, 24 X 18",  
BY JOAN BRANCALE

*The artist says: I was charmed by the juxtaposition of this fabulous sunset witnessed by a seagull perched along on the roof of a vintage seaside cabin in North Truro.*



► **MOONLIGHT SILHOUETTE**,  
OIL ON CANVAS, 24 X 18",  
BY JOAN BRANCALE

*The artist says: The inspiration for this piece is the high moon and vast sky creating silhouettes along Shore Road in North Truro as well as the drama in the simplicity of composition and rich colors within a limited value range.*



THREE OYSTERS, A BOTTLE OF WINE AND THOU, OIL ON CANVAS, 7 X 27", BY KIN VICTORIA KETTLER



A MIDNIGHT IN SPRING, OIL ON CANVAS, 15 X 17", BY KIM VICTORIA KETTLER

and saturated in hue, energetic and confident in brush/palette stroke, reverential and joyous in form," says Kettler. "I'm a vibrant artist who pays homage to life through metaphorical images, and sees beauty in the vital forces of nature as well as symbolic references to love and loss."

**Joan Brancale** recreates, from memory, long past Cape Cod summers and uses these images to find beauty in rare and special places.

"Often scenes are off the beaten track and have a narrative thread," says

Brancale. "I adapt paint handling, light and color harmonies to best evoke what makes the scene or suggested story particular and special."

"I'm drawn to dramatic scenes as well as the intimate moment, the tender and the eccentric," says Brancale. "Lately, I have been experimenting with larger compositions, bigger shapes, looser handling of detail: a style which is closer to my theater roots as a set designer and scenic artist."

Like the two other artists, Brancale also uses color to draw people into

the paintings.

"People often respond to my expressive use of color and my subject matter," says Brancale. "My work is accessible and empathetic: viewers often comment how they are able to put themselves in the scene and enjoy discovering subtle touches of detail and nuance." ●

For a direct link to the  
exhibiting gallery go to [www.americanartcollector.com](#) 