



*“Winter into Spring” detail, painting in process by Joan Kelly*

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**Reston Art Gallery & Studios presents  
Poets & Painters**

**“Springtime in Winter: An Ekphrastic Study in Art, Poetry and Music”**

**Exhibit: January 20 - February 21**

**Reception: Sunday, January 22, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Featuring readings, music, and inspired works of art in collaboration with the Poetry Society of Virginia**

**Reston, VA** – The artists of Reston Art Gallery & Studios are delighted to present their first Poets & Painters collaboration with the Poetry Society of Virginia, “Springtime in Winter: An Ekphrastic Study in Art, Poetry and Music” on exhibit from January 20 through February 21. A special reception on Sunday, January 22 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. will feature readings and music created to complement the works of eight fine artists. Vice versa, the artists’ paintings are inspired by the words of the poets, all following the theme of “Springtime in Winter.” Everyone is welcome to attend the reception and indulge the senses of sight and sound combined with the emotional experience of poetry with “An Ekphrastic Study in Art, Poetry and Music.” The exhibit can also be explored during gallery hours on weekends, or by chance on weekdays, through February 21 at Reston Art Gallery & Studios (RAGS), 11400 Washington Plaza, Reston, Virginia, on the waterfront at Lake Anne Plaza. For information call RAGS at 703-481-8156, find it on [Facebook/RAGSReston](https://www.facebook.com/RAGSReston), and visit [RestonArtGallery.com](http://RestonArtGallery.com).

The concept for this collaboration was created by Mike Maggio, Northern Regional Vice President of the Poetry Society of Virginia, and adjunct professor at the Loudoun Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. “This is the first collaboration between PSV and RAGS,” he says. “We also have Herndon Middle School, Herndon High School, and a music professor from George Mason involved, so this collaboration has grown quite a bit.” In the Merriam-Webster dictionary, ekphrasis is defined as “a literary description of or commentary on a visual work of art.” Maggio explains further, “Ekphrasis also refers to an artist of one genre – painting, for example – responding to another, such as poetry. In this case, we have musicians, poets and artists all collaborating and working together.” (See below for the list of participants.)

“This is an exciting opportunity for us, to respond to the creations of our poets in mutual collaboration as they write about our visual works,” according to artist Pat Macintyre.

To commemorate the exhibit, a CD will be produced featuring the paintings, words, and music of “Springtime in Winter.” The Poets & Painters exhibit will travel next to ArtSpace Herndon for display February 22 - 26 with an evening reception

on February 25, and then on to conclude at the Waddell Gallery at Northern Virginia Community College in Loudoun as a focal point for the Poetry Society of Virginia's conference on Saturday, March 25 from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m.

**Poetry Society of Virginia participants:** Cathy Hailey, Claudia Gary, Don Carlson, Steve Bucher, Susana Notar, Jack Underhill, Stanley Galloway, Bennie Herron.

**Participating artists of Reston Art Gallery & Studios:** Gail Axtell-Erwin, Dorothy Donahey, Ronni Jolles, Joan Kelly, Maggie Stewart, Roberta Thole, Wayne Schiffelbein, Pat Macintyre.

**Music Composers:** Brian Scarbrough, Jesse Guessford.

**Musical Director:** Bette Gawinski

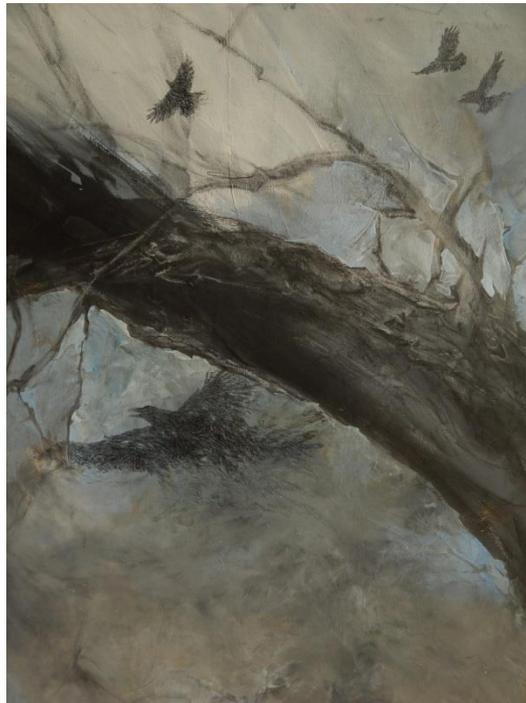
**Participating Herndon High School students:** Karim Maggio, Mary Ogborn, Michelle Tran, Sarah Przybysz.

**At press time, some of the paintings in progress, conceptualized by the artists with inspiration from the poets are:**

Joan Kelly's painting in complement to the poem "Springtime in Winter" by Susana Notar.

Maggie Stewart's painting in complement to the poem, "Sun-eye" by Bennie Herron.

Pat Macintyre's paintings, "Winter Crows," and "Night Pines" with inspiration from the constellation Lyra in the night skies of spring, responding to poems by Steve Bucher.



*"Winter Crows" painting by Pat Macintyre, inspired by the Steve Bucher poem*

**Reston Art Gallery & Studios (RAGS), 11400 Washington Plaza, Reston, Virginia, 20190**

**Hours:** Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; Children's Art Workshops, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Sundays, 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Weekdays, by chance or appointment

For more information call RAGS at 703-481-8156, find it on [Facebook](#), and visit [RestonArtGallery.com](#).

**Poetry Society of Virginia (PSV)**, active since 1923, has helped to advance the cause and appreciation of poetry throughout Virginia through publications, readings, contests, open mics, workshops, in-school programs, poetry festivals, and other special events and activities. Membership in the Poetry Society of Virginia has grown to more than four-hundred, and it is supported by state and national funding through the Virginia Commission for the Arts, [www.arts.virginia.gov](#) and National Endowment for the Arts, [www.arts.gov](#). For more information, find *The Poetry Society of Virginia* on [Facebook](#)/PoetryVA and visit [www.poetrysocietyofvirginia.org](#).

**Reston Art Gallery & Studios (RAGS)**, established in 1986, is a cooperative exhibit space and working studio for nine fine artists whose latest works are featured in special shows each month. Situated on the quayside of Reston's Lake Anne waterfront, the gallery's glass exterior offers the chance to see RAGS artists working in their studio spaces. Comparable

to a mini-version of the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Virginia, the public is invited to admire, peruse, and purchase original art directly from its source.

Furthering the gallery's commitment to instilling a love of art in the community, Children's Art Workshops are offered at no charge at RAGS every Saturday from 10 am until 12 pm.

RAGS is open to the public every weekend, from 10 am until 5 pm on Saturdays, and 12 pm until 5 pm on Sundays at 11400 Washington Plaza, Reston, VA 20190, at historic Lake Anne Plaza. Through the week, RAGS is open by chance or by appointment. Located on the ground floor of the 15-story Heron House, RAGS is a privately-owned cooperative of artists of various media, including: **Pat Macintyre; Roberta Thole; Joan Kelly; Maggie Stewart; Lassie Corbett; Ronni Jolles; Dorothy Donahey; Gail Axtell, Wayne Schiffelbein.**

For more information call RAGS at 703-481-8156, find it on [Facebook](#), and learn more about the gallery and each of the artists at [www.RestonArtGallery.com](http://www.RestonArtGallery.com).

**About the location, Lake Anne Plaza:** Just outside of the entrance to Reston Art Gallery & Studios are two permanent works of public art c. 1965 – the Moon Viewing Platform by James Rossant, designer of Lake Anne Plaza, and the playful Sun Boat by sculptor Gonzalo Fonseca. With its unique modern design as a picturesque, multi-use, public gathering place with retail, restaurants, offices, and residences on the waterfront, Lake Anne Plaza is designated as a historic district in Fairfax County.



*Reston Art Gallery & Studios 11400 Washington Plaza at Lake Anne – sketch by Pat Macintyre*

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**Editors Note:** Publication is authorized for art images provided. Art images by all nine (9) artists are available, and a selection can also be viewed at [www.RestonArtGallery.com](http://www.RestonArtGallery.com). Media are welcome to visit Reston Art Gallery & Studios – for an appointment, contact Pat Macintyre at 703-996-8990, or [pckmacintyre@meda.com](mailto:pckmacintyre@meda.com), or drop by during weekend hours.