

# ARTISTS TO WATCH

## KAREN VANCE

At the November *Plein Air Painters of America* show and sale on California's Catalina Island, Karen Vance caused quite a stir. The night of the sale she sold all eight of her paintings in 25 minutes. In fact, when the sales were tallied for the entire show, she had sold the most paintings among 30 participating artists. While the Colorado-based landscape painter relishes discovering new locations to paint around the country, she says her favorite scenes are closest to home. "I live along the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains at 9,500 feet, and I love to paint snow," Vance says. Indeed, she is best known for her snow and mountain scenes, although nature in general ▶



DAY BREAK ON BERTHOUD PASS BY  
KAREN VANCE

## JINEEN GRIFFITH

When she's not playing ice hockey, mountain biking, kayaking, or skiing, Jineen Griffith can often be found scouting locations for her



FOOTHILLS BY JINEEN GRIFFITH

paintings. The Idaho resident spends much of her time outdoors, and her paintings are another way of expressing her love for nature. "I like to be outside, to be in nature," she says. "That's the basis of my painting. Painting is looking at nature in a different way." Working mostly *en plein air*, she captures the many moods of the mountains, meadows, and rivers near her home. "I'm very comfortable being outside—the snow, wind, and other elements don't really bother me," she says. She also takes her paints along with her on her travels; this summer found her in the Grand Canyon and in Canada.

For Griffith, who participated in an expedition to the Himalayas in the 1980s, painting gives her the opportunity to see nature in a way her other hobbies do not. "When you're ▶

## ELIZABETH LOCKE

Texas artist Elizabeth Locke paints landscapes, figures, and still lifes. Of *ALSTROMERIAS* she says, "I really like dramatic light that

starts low and comes from the ground up." What she doesn't like, though, is ordinary still-life compositions in which a bouquet of flowers sticks straight up from a tall vase—hence her decision to paint just one branch of pink flowers laying across the top of a

shallow bowl. "I also like the way the pattern of lights and darks creates a series of abstract shapes," says Locke of this painting. "It works from a distance in a powerful way."

Although she enjoys still-life painting, Locke says she prefers



ALSTROMERIAS BY ELIZABETH LOCKE

painting *en plein air*. "It's fun to be responding to something in real time," she says. "It's a delicious experience to be right there in the landscape. Magical things can ▶