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JANE JONES

The fragility of nature

Jane Jones' show *Glorious Survivors* at Bonner David Galleries focuses on the conflict between humanity and nature. Going camping in Colorado with her grandparents as a teenager taught her how to appreciate the beauty of nature, and Jones says, "The damage by humans to nature absolutely breaks my heart. But I don't want to paint that negativity, so instead I make paintings as prayers to nature's strength and ability to heal."

All of the paintings on display showcase flowers from Jones' Colorado garden. "Gardening here requires a lot of optimism," she says. "Spring is not a gentle time in Colorado. The irises in *Survivors* managed to bloom despite a hard frost that killed many of last spring's irises, and then they survived two hailstorms."

Jones' environmental message stems from her college days, where she studied biology. A chance encounter with a Georgia O'Keeffe biography made her change her focus to art. "I found myself on those pages," Jones says. "I knew I could either go for it or wish I had." Though she never worked as a biologist, her education enlightened her to the fragility of living forms and continues to inform her artwork.

Her recent work includes two paintings that incorporate tissue paper, surrounding the flowers to protect them in their vases. Of the composition, Jones says, "I want protection for the environment, and the tissue paper is an allusion to how fragile any protections are for it. Compositionally I love the texture difference between the crinkly tissue paper, and the velvety softness of the petals."

Jones' work will be on display at Bonner David Galleries through February 1. ●



1
Tenacity, oil on canvas,
18 x 17"

2
Survivors, oil on canvas,
68 x 43"

3
Hello Again, oil on board,
22 x 12"

4
Handle With Care, oil on
canvas, 21 x 22"

1



2



3

“All that is beautiful about flowers is skillfully wrapped into every Jane Jones painting. She demonstrates the heartiness of the earth, the exquisite detail of every blossom, anchored with perfection in glass vases or on drapes that convey a distinct message about how each work is truly a ‘glorious survivor.’”

— Clark David Olson, co-owner, Bonner David Galleries

