

## Artist Portrait: Gayle Krughoff

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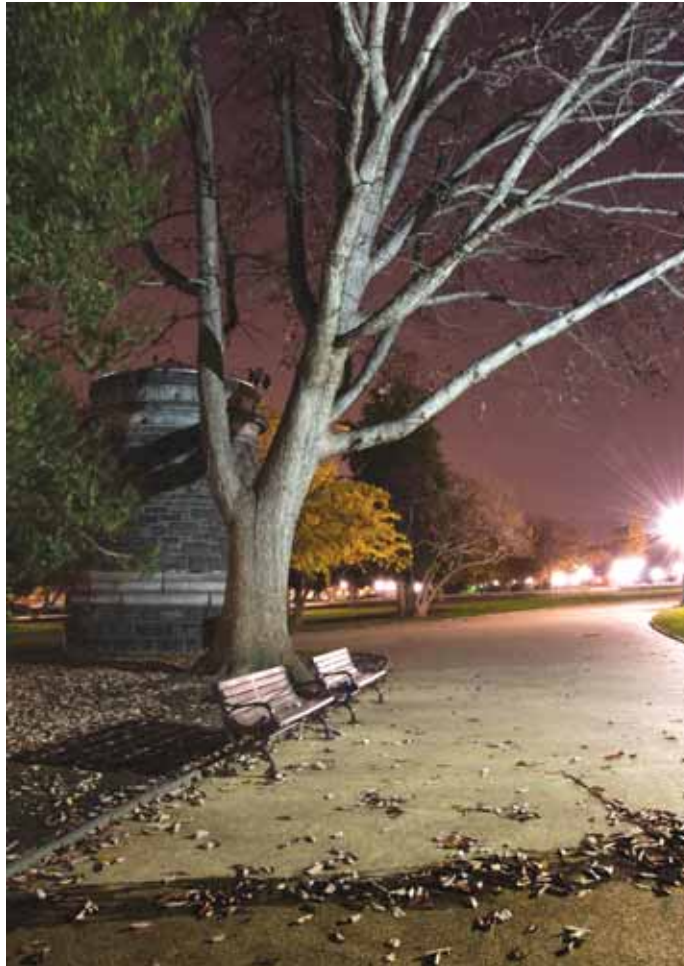
Gayle Krughoff photographs the mystery of light to bring you to a new understanding of the nature of the place. Maybe it's really the ghosts that emanate from the substance of chairs, or trees or things that just happen to be there.

Her latest series, *Out at Night*, captures the spirits that inhabit the quiet darkness and are eager to pass along the message of the timeless – to exalt the significance of the insignificant and whisper the earthly supremacy of the ordinary. It's testimony that simple things are inherently more powerful than the celebrated, vainglorious monuments of man.

Gayle started taking pictures of her infant son 35 years ago and gradually began to freelance. She worked with commercial studios and then started her own business shooting weddings, portraits and other subjects – but taking them to a higher artistic level. She also explored the character of the world around her – not celebrated, familiar images, but the fleeting suggestions of something taken for granted – a special reality that derives from the ever-changing fight to survive and exists only in the moment.

Now mostly retired from the commercial side of photography, Gayle is freeing her imagination to let those ghosts of the ordinary find her lens and connect with you as you glance in that direction. And that's what happens. Her work connects. The light and shadows of the moment reach somewhere into your imagination – the space where the memories of insignificant things and places go, waiting for you to call on them.

[www.gaylekrughoffphotography.com](http://www.gaylekrughoffphotography.com).



### Jim Magner's Thoughts on Art

It struck me on Memorial Day that it was all about cemeteries. Visually, at least. Images of endless rows of simple white military headstones from Normandy to Arlington were on every front page and in every news report. So were the other resting places of soldiers and leaders who get remembered annually. But it doesn't end there. We often show our respect to those who lived before by visiting gravesites. That is more peaceful to me than sad. The good

memories seem to rise from the grass as the unhappy memories are filtered out.

In an era where cremation is common and ashes are spread in places meaningful to the deceased, less urban space is being dedicated to those precious green acres that hold the dead and await the living. That's too bad.

We Tucson kids would hang out in a shady old cemetery beneath the great trees and among the flowering shrubs. There was



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no one to chase us away. The marble headstones with chiseled cherubs and carved portraits were wonderful. But more interesting, this rarely-visited planted-people park had become habitat – a small ecosystem for a mix of native and imported species.

As I get ever closer to being planted myself, I give more thought to making some small contribution when I'm gone. I had settled on a military cemetery because I would get a stirring burial ... and the price is right. But now I'm thinking more of a happy place – like the wildly adorned Mexican church lots of the Southwest. I think cemeteries should be welcoming, cheerful places with art, built to accommodate wildlife and captivate the kids. It would make me feel good to be part of something useful.

Maybe Gayle Krughoff could take a picture of the collective spirits of the night dance – those elusive lights that glow in perpetuity.

## At the Museums

**German Master Drawings 1580-1900**  
**The National Gallery of Art, Fourth Street & Constitution Avenue NW. To Nov. 28**

These are terrific – 120 gorgeous German watercolors and drawings from the Wolfgang Ratjen Collection, embracing 16th-century mannerism, the 17th-century baroque, the 18th-century rococo, early 19th-century romanticism, and late 19th-century realism. And that's not all. A parallel exhibition of 82 National Gallery-owned drawings from the same periods provide an even larger view of German art through these centuries. Don't miss them. [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov).

## 'Beat Memories'

**National Gallery of Art, Fourth Street & Constitution Avenue NW. To Sept. 19**

The '50s Beat Generation lives again in all of its intellectual angst and I don't give a damn brilliance through the black-and-white snapshots of poet Allen Ginsberg (1926–1997). William S. Burroughs, Neal Cassady, Gregory Corso, and Jack Kerouac and Ginsberg himself somehow look special even before their fame and legends grew.

The second part of the exhibit features his later photographs—from the '80s to his death. These are the self-conscious legacy prints with extensive inscriptions beneath each image, describing both his relationship with those and other cultural icons and his memories of their times together. So what? He was in the middle of it all, and it's not only critical American history, it's a celebration of nonconformity, in both ideas and literary form. [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov).

## At the Galleries

**Emma Tapley**  
**Hemphill, 1515 14th St. NW. To Aug. 7**

Emma Tapley uses an abstractionist's perception of nature in her new landscapes. She might take an object out of the natural world, filtered through a window, water or just floating in space. The paintings are constructed from layers of glazes and details are meticulously rendered with imperceptible brushstrokes to emerge as luminous and reflective. [www.hemphillfinearts.com](http://www.hemphillfinearts.com).

**'A Washington DC Vacation'**  
**American Painting Fine Art, 5118 MacArthur Blvd. NW. To Sept. 11**

The Washington Society of Landscape Painters set out to capture the DC of television and travel guides, but don't expect the ordinary. Over 20 of the area's most accomplished landscape and cityscape painters present the familiar in personal and original ways. [www.classicamericanpainting.com](http://www.classicamericanpainting.com).

**Associate Member Show**  
**City Gallery, 804 H St. NE #1. June 27-July 31**

The City Gallery's July show opens July 10 with a reception for all, featuring the associate members of the newly opened gallery. Most of the 12 accomplished artists, who work in a wide range of styles, techniques and materials from painting to sculpture, will be at the reception to discuss their art. [www.citygallerydc.com](http://www.citygallerydc.com).

## 'Reflections'

**Capital Hill Art League. The Fisher Gallery, Northern Virginia Community College. To July 30**

The Capitol Hill Art League presents its season-ending juried show at the Fisher Art Gallery in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center on the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. The show represents a body of work created in the last 12 months by DC area artists. [www.CHAW.org](http://www.CHAW.org).

## 'Transparency'

**Zenith Gallery, 1111 Penn.Ave. NW To Sept. 30**

The glass sculptures of Jackie Braitman, an architectural designer by trade, her works range from the abstract and architectural to highly representational, often using dance and the human figure in motion. You can meet the artist on Wed. July 14, 5:30-8:30 p.m. [www.zenithgallery.com](http://www.zenithgallery.com). ★

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