

Stetson Gallery will feature the watercolor travel sketches of Hope Carpenter throughout the month of October. The opening reception for "Sketches From Life" will be held Sunday, October 2 from noon-2 pm



A former resident of Marblehead and current Salem resident, Hope Carpenter is well known for her impressive array of skills, including former lead singer for her brother's rock band, toy designer, historic reenactor who makes soaps, costumes, and even shoes, home renovator, and, most importantly, talented artist. Her October exhibit will feature watercolor sketches she has made throughout her travels, some using unusual substitutes for water.

Hope Carpenter does not consider herself a fine artist.

"I'm an illustrator interested more in capturing a moment in time" she says. Hope paints watercolor sketches wherever she goes instead of taking photos. For the first time in 20 years she is sharing these sketches with the public. She has painted with beer in a London pub, as well as with pickle juice in an outdoor setting. From New Orleans to Paris, each sketch shows a glimpse of a moment in her life.

Hope grew up on a farm in Pennsylvania and says she "was always the kid lost in thought as she observed her world, always curious about her world." Now in her 50s, she is as curious about the science of what she sees as much as the colors and textures.

Continuing through the end of September in Stetson Gallery will be "Intertidal," a further exploration of Seagrass by Nedret Andre. The Gallery is open weekday mornings, during me&thee coffeehouse concerts, and during UUCM events. For information about Stetson Gallery, visit uumarblehead.org or email stetson@uumarblehead.org.