



# Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild



Holly Ann Sailors  
Paintings and Drawings

Holly Ann Sailors creates paintings and drawings that use symbolism, metaphor, illustration, and narrative. Sailors' artwork is complicated, intricate, and detailed. She says, "My work is decorative and uses religious imagery to explore the ever-present connection to ritual, tradition, and history. The figurative, the decorative, and the dramatic attract me."

Holly grew up in Cliffside, North Carolina, and attended high school in Rutherford County. Since a child, I have been driven to make art. Western North Carolina has been a place where I have learned to find humor in any situation, and have learned never to take myself too seriously. Life is about change, experimentation, trials, failures, and attempts at proving yourself capable of something. My artwork has flourished from the

time I lived in Western North Carolina. I have constantly drawn from my experiences there as a source of motivation."

Holly Ann Sailors graduated Magna Cum Laude from East Carolina University in 2009. Her artwork has been exhibited nationally and internationally and has been included in the permanent collection of Art at the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University of Georgia. She attended Savannah College of Art and Design for a summer program in 2004, and studied abroad with the University of Georgia in Cortona, Italy in 2008. Holly studied for 10 years at Annette's School of Art, in Forest City NC, before attending college. During college in Eastern North Carolina Sailors taught Fine Art and worked in the hospital providing art as a therapy to cancer patients.

After college, Sailors was awarded a grant to be NC Arts Council's Community Arts Administration Intern for Fall 2009. She recently received a 2010 Regional Artist Project Grant Award from the North Carolina Arts Council.

Holly is currently a self-employed artist who is beginning her Masters of Fine Arts Degree in Painting. She has been accepted to the NY Academy of Art for Fall 2010. Sailors can be contacted for commission such as portraits and custom artwork. Her work can be seen at [www.hollyann-sailors.com](http://www.hollyann-sailors.com).