## **Loretta DiSpirito-Loconto**

## **Biography**

Loretta DiSpirito Loconto, Born in Utica, N.Y. and now resides in Sandy Springs, Georgia. Loretta's father, Henry DiSpirito, is a well-known sculptor of direct stone carvings. His work has found its' place among the great artists of his time since his passing in 1995. While witnessing her Father's passion for art throughout her childhood and young adult life, Loretta never once considered that she too would some day be consumed by this love and desire to create.

She began taking classes with Beverly Flanders at the Abernathy Art Center in Sandy Springs Ga. in 1993. Her medium of preference is acrylics, well suited to her desire to quickly capture light and shadows with a loose painterly style. Ms. Flanders retired from the Abernathy Art Center in 2010. Loretta was appointed her successor and joyfully passed on the important lessons Ms. Flanders taught her. After spending a number of years teaching, she decided to focus on spending more time in her studio and painting en plein air. She enjoys painting still life "since it's easy for me to see the shadows and values highlighted by the light directly on the subject" "The greater challenge with equal enjoyment," she says, "is to capture atmosphere on canvas in a landscape painting". She has taken workshops with Charles Sovek, Ted Goeschner, Colley Whisson and more recently on line with David Boyd. She has many art heroes including Richard Schmid, C.W. Mundy, John Singer Sargent, Joaquin Sorolla and many Impressionists both French and Russian.

She is a member of the Atlanta Artist Center, and has been accepted into many of their juried shows. In 2010 she participated in the "Reflections" exhibition celebrating Georgia Women Artists at the Marietta Cobb Museum of Art sponsored by the Atlanta branch of the National League of American Pen Women and had two paintings accepted in their 2019 exhibit at the Quinlan Visual Arts Center in Gainsville, Georgia. She was accepted into the Women Painters of the Southeast Fourth Annual Juried Members Exhibit held in Blue Ridge, Georgia in April, 2015. Her work was accepted in the Southern Appalachian Artist Guild National Juried Show in 2015, 2017 and 2019. In 2011 she was accepted into the prestigious 76th Annual Art Association National Show in Cooperstown, N.Y. ,participated in their 79th Annual Show in 2014, the 2017 show and proudly again in 2020. Loretta is represented by Frameworks Gallery in Marietta, Georgia. Examples of her work can be seen on their web site: frameworksgallery.com under (Gallery Artists).

"I never take my art journey or the joy it brings me for granted. My father taught me to value the beauty of nature and the creative process equally. I believe as he did that we have much to learn from the natural world. We are connected to it in a very spiritual way. We have only to recognize its beauty and healing powers and Art can help us make that connection. My work is a tribute to my very special father, Henry DiSpirito."

Frameworks Gallery, 1205 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta, Georgia, 30068 (770) 973-6701