



**Gallery Name:** Upstairs Gallery

**Location:** USC Sumter, upstairs in the Williams Brice Edwards Administration Building, 200 Miller Road, Sumter, SC 29150

**Dates of exhibit:** September 5, 2011 - November 5, 2011

**Gallery Hours:** M-F, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

**Admission:** Free and open to the public

**Contact:** Gallery Director, Cara-lin Getty at [cgetty@uscsumter.edu](mailto:cgetty@uscsumter.edu) or the Gallery Assistant, Laurel Jordan at [jordalau@uscsumter.edu](mailto:jordalau@uscsumter.edu)

**Description:**

**“Everything is Coming Up Poppies!” by Lisa Puryear**

**The Upstairs Gallery** is showing the work of Lisa Puryear in a show titled: *Everything is Coming Up Poppies!* Puryear has been painting most of her life. She began her studies as a child, painting first under Mildred White at the Sumter Gallery of Art. In High School she worked for famous SC artist Ray Davenport. She was among a select group of young artists to attend the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts at Furman University in the summer of 1985.

Puryear continued her studies in art at the University of South Carolina under Cara-Lin Getty, Phillip Mullen, Roy Drasites and Ann Hubbard, to name a few. Puryear is currently a member of the Trenholm Artists Guild in Columbia, SC and About Face at the Columbia Museum of Art.

Puryear is inspired by many things in nature. Not interested in realism, she takes the object or photo and transforms it into something unique by bringing her paintings to life using a variety of techniques and interesting colors. The artist hopes that looking at her paintings can evoke a sense of peace and tranquility.

Puryear's statement defines her perspective of her work and goals:

**“I paint so that I can express myself and create beauty. I have always gotten lost in my art work - I can paint for hours and forget about eating or sleeping. Most of my paintings are inspired by images I've captured in a photo or just by something in my mind. I like taking an image and making it my own - what we see in a photograph is seldom what we are actually processing in our mind. I remember a shape or a color that may not be apparent to everyone. Sometimes the colors I use in my paintings are dissections of the whole - a**

**brown tree might look like blue, red and yellow to me instead of just brown. As an artist I want to stretch the imagination of the viewer.'**

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