A COLORADO TRAVEL MAGAZINE

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AS TOLD TO PATRICIA KAOWTHUMRONG

TRT OF THE PAST

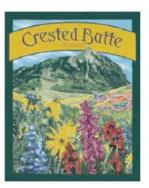
Q&A WITH COLORADO ARTIST JULIE LEIDEL

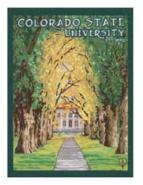
You might say Evergreen artist Julie Leidel is obsessed with the past — but we wouldn't have it any other way. Her fixation has resulted in more than 50 paintings of our state's coolest sights and land-scapes. Here, Leidel chatted with us about her work and the many (many) things she loves about Colorado.

Q.

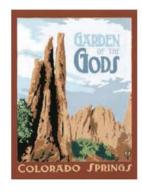
The Arts & Crafts
Movement of the
late 1800s and
early 1900s is the
heart of your work.
How would you
describe it to
those who are less
art savvy?

JL: This social, philosophical and artistic movement started as a stance against the Industrial Revolution with artists in England who believed in getting back to simplicity and integrity in craftsmanship, and bringing high-quality furniture, architecture and decorative arts to every family's living space. To me, the Arts & Crafts Movement grew out of a need to reconnect man with nature. More than 100 years later, this thirst exists on an even larger scale today. I strive to bring my head, heart and hand together to create these artistic connections.









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What's the best thing about living in Evergreen?

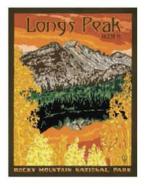
JL: We moved to Evergreen this past summer, and it's heaven on earth. The crisp mountain air, forests teeming with wildlife, and stunning views of Longs Peak and stars at night continue to take our breath away. The work-life balance makes more sense when you just look out every window for inspiration and relaxation.

Q.

From fourteeners (mountains 14,000 feet or higher) and ski resorts to cityscapes, your Colorado Series features so many iconic places around the state. What's your artistic process?

JL: My Colorado Series is hand painted with gouache on cold-press illustration board. I really want my artwork to speak to people as they fall deeply in love with Colorado. With simplistic and flat shapes of color, my work is a representation of how your memory perceives a time or place. When people see my artwork, I enjoy seeing that spark of remembrance, a flood of memories, or a desire to rediscover and explore someplace new.

I work from photos I take around Colorado. Sometimes I'll work from a single photo, other times I'll collage a few viewpoints together. I add my own artistic license and regularly change seasons, move mountains slightly, and take out unwanted buildings as I paint.

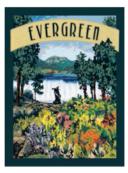


Q.

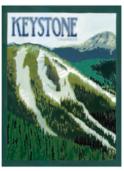
Can you name a few places around the state where visitors can delve into Colorado's art world?

JL: With an Arts & Crafts mindset in the Denver area, my very favorite places to spend time at are Denver's Kirkland Museum (reopening in fall 2017; learn more on p. 69), The Boettcher Mansion in Golden, and Modern Bungalow in Denver. The Denver Art Museum, Mirada Fine Art Gallery in Morrison and Foothills Art Center in Golden are all must-sees as well.

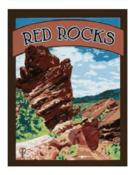
ARTWORK BY



SKI







Q.

How do you like to spend your time outside of the studio?

JL: I love to spend as much time as possible outside hiking as a family and hanging out with our dear friends. We also like climbing Colorado fourteeners, camping and skiing. My kids are better than I am for sure on the slopes! As for Evergreen hangouts, we like hiking Three Sisters and Flying J Ranch and having coffee and lunch at Java **Groove**. We also love the Mediterranean cuisine of Ali Baba in Golden.



View and purchase Julie Leidel's artwork and see her art-show schedule at thebungalowcraft.com.

Or better yet, schedule a home-studio tour by emailing her at julieleidel@thebungalowcraft.com.

Patricia Kaowthumrong is a Colorado native and hungry traveler. She loves to feast at local restaurants with family and friends, marvel at Boulder's Flatirons and root for Colorado sports teams, notably the Denver Broncos and the University of Colorado Buffaloes.

MORE COLORADO CREATIVES

Here's a short list of local artists to keep an eye out for.



Gary Soles, Breckenridge

Photos that capture the raw essence of Colorado's otherworldly nightscapes, whooshing rivers and wildlife breckenridgephotoshop.com

PJ Bergin, Salida

Abstract sculptural pieces created using the "joomchi" technique, where thin handmade Korean papers are overlaid and fused with water pibergin.com

Karol Mack, Fort Morgan

Serene alpine landscapes that will make you want to get back to nature *karolmack.com*

Detour (Thomas Evans), Denver

Soulful portraits that channel social issues and connect music and fine art (some of his paintings even emit music through touch points)

iamdetour.com

JULIE LEIDEL'S DENVER-AREA FAVS

Paul Unks

Photogravure work (the art of transferring photo negatives to metal plates to print or engrave) created from Edward Curtis' pics of American Indians *curtisprints.net*

Lexi Erickson

Earthy and organic jewelry inspired by ancient cultures lexiericksondesians.com

Katie Stewart

Expressive oil paintings of dramatically lit landscapes kstewartfineart.com

Nikki Nienhuis

Pretty (and affordable!) acrylic paintings of the natural world nikkinienhuis.com

Gina Barry Harris

Doodle-like acrylic paintings of whimsical trees and birds ginabarryharris.com

Jenny Goring

Artwork highlighting the calming effects of nature *jennygoring.com*

Carved Canvas

Handcrafted textural wall art you'll be tempted to touch carvedcanvas.com

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