

Margaret Biggs



With passion and skill, Margaret Biggs creates images of the Gulf South that are both representational and imaginative. Her love of the area is evident in these unique depictions of beaches, seashells, majestic pines and the sea.

Raised in Pensacola, Margaret spent her young adult years in the fashion industry. As a professional model she lived and worked in New York City, Paris, Chicago, Milan and other major cities. After her modeling career, Margaret returned to school to study art at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Children and a second career in real estate delayed her full time practice until 2008, when she began showing her paintings in the Chicago area. Commissions quickly came, as did sales to

professionals and the very wealthy.

Her love of Florida's Panhandle remained strong and in 2009, after decades away, she returned to make this once again, her home.

"The natural beauty here overwhelms me. I have always been moved by the sea and her shores, yet it is here on the gulf that I am most in awe."

Starting with a photographic study of one of thousands of seashells she has collected since she was a girl, she takes the viewer further than simply a representation. "I strive to paint the peace and calm that one feels when on a beach. It is so easy to calm the mind when all you can hear are the waves and all you can see is the white sand and our beautiful waters," she says.

Having started the practice of yoga and meditation in the 1980s, Margaret is a firm believer in the benefits of

quieting the mind. "Countless times my paintings have been described as soothing, peaceful and calming. I find this very satisfying as that is what I strive to do," says Margaret. Her work has also been purchased by the State of Florida largely due to the peace and calm her beautiful Florida landscapes portray.

Representation, peace and calm, are only part of the depth that goes into each of her paintings. Strongly influenced by several mid-century American Masters as well as the years spent around the advertising industry, Margaret's work is stylized yet also has a very strong graphic element, "My work has been described as both modern and surrealistic. My mind's eye locks into reflections on the surface of the water, the curves of a seashell or the shapes created in the foliage of the coastal pines. I want to paint the magic I see."

Recently Margaret published a book entitled *Visions: Through Paintings and Poetry*. It is a collection of her paintings and the poetry she has written while painting. "Often a painting will inspire me to write and at times a poem will inspire me to paint. The two are closely related" she says. *Visions* is a book of love, healing, forgiveness and the search for inner strength. 

Margaret's work will be on view during the month of July at Jaco's Bayfront Bar and Grill. 997 S. Palafox St. Pensacola, FL 32502

Her work is also on view at the following locations:

Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach

26389 Canal Rd.
Orange Beach, AL
36561

Arriaga Gallery

10343 E. County Rd. 30-A
Seacrest Beach, FL
32413



Edward Montgomery Fine Art

Dolores St. 4SW Ocean Ave.
Carmel by the Sea, CA 93921



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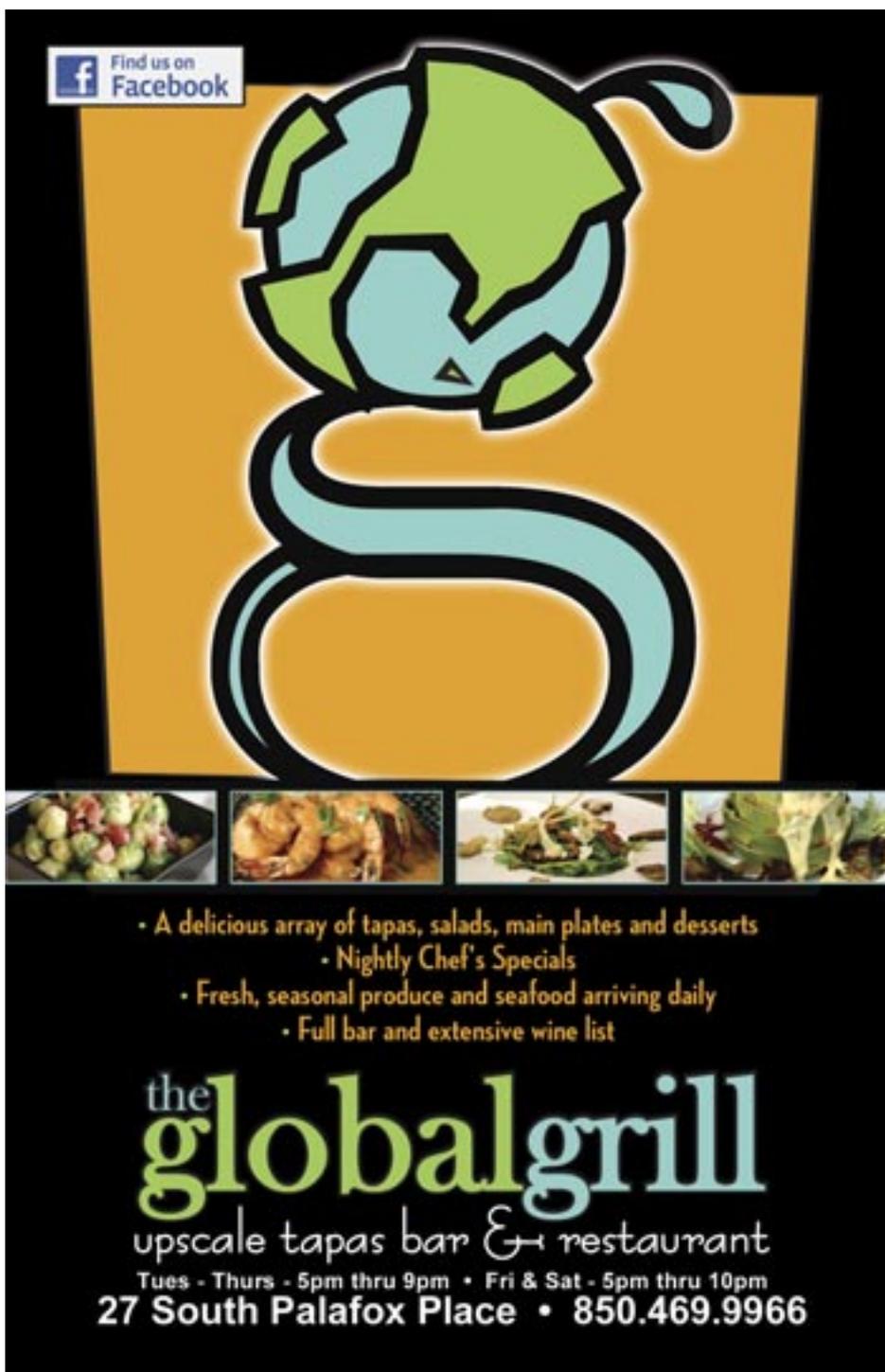
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