

SAUNDRA

“RENEE”

SMITH

Gullah Folk Artist

PROFILE



Sandra "Renee" Smith **Gullah Art By Renee**

CONTACT

PHONE:
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WEBSITE:
www.gullahartbyrenee.com
Fine Arts of America On-line Store
Esty Gullah Art by Renee On-line Store
Zoom Gallery Appointment On-line
EMAIL:
Gullahartbyrenee@gmail.com

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Board of Directors-Beaufort Art Council
- Member of National Association Women Artist
- member of Art League of Hilton Head SC Chapter 2021
- Vice President (2015 -present) Gullah Church Nurses Association (Secretary 2013-2015)
- Member of Coastal Carolina Art Center, Hilton Head, Sc
- Food Bank Administrator, Minister- New Life Deliverance Temple, St. Helena Island, SC
- School Administrator New Life Deliverance Academy and De Gullah Way Tutorial Programs, St. Helena Island, SC
- Board of Directors- Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic- Beaufort, SC 2015-2019

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Self-Taught Gullah Folk Artist

June 2007 - Present

Owner of Gullah Art By Renee, LLC.

Member of the National Association of Women Artist-2018

Listed in Guide to American Artist "*Self-Taught, Outsider and Folk Art*" by Betty-Carol Sellen

Art on permanent exhibit at Brook Green Gardens, "Gullah Geechee Garden" entrance at Myrtle Beach, SC

ARTIST STATEMENT

My work is inspired by the bright hues born from a culture tempered in isolation. This makes my work authentically Gullah and is a tribute to the people who hold a unique place in American history. The Gullah/Geechee Corridor on southeast coast of the US is where we thrived and are decedents of the Guale Indians and west African slaves. My medium is acrylic and oil on canvas, wood, tin, or glass. I strive to capture the daily lifestyle of the Gullah people through visual art. Baskets, and flowers, water, and sky. Women and families with brightly colored dresses, and colorful head rags and hats to cover unique nappy hair and secrets of the land is what inspires me to paint. My work is spiritual and transformative as I seek to provide a glimpse of Gullah life, and "de luk pon we island".

SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 33rd Annual Artist of The Year Penn Center Museum Heritage Days (solo exhibit)
- Cover of "*PINK*" Magazine, August 2018
- "*ASPIRE HOME AND DESIGN*" MAGAZINE On-line Article pending August 2021
- "*LOCAL LIFE*" MAGAZINE Article "Gullah Women Artist" February 2021
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ARTIST ON-LINE EXHIBITION- JULY 2021, March 2020 (group exhibits)
- EXHIBITING GROUP ART SHOW NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ARTIST, MUSEUM of ART, NEW YORK, NEW YORK- 2019
- PORT ROYAL SOUND FOUNDATION, OKATIE, SC, GROUP GULLAH EXHIBIT 2018
- UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BEAUFORT CAMPUS (GULLAH CHRISTMAS SHOW (2016-2018)
- DISPLAYED AT RED PIANO II GALLERY PRIOR TO CLOSING 2019.

CURRENT ART LOCATIONS

- ❖ PENN CENTER NATIONAL AND HISTORICAL GIFT SHOP, ST. HELENA ISLAND, S. C.
- ❖ GULLAH/GEECHEE TOURS, ST. HELENA ISLAND, SC
- ❖ BROOK GREEN GARDENS KEEPSAKE GIFT SHOP, MYRTLE BEACH,
- ❖ LADYS ISLAND MARINE STORE, HARBOR AND LADYS ISLAND, SC.
- ❖ COSTAL ART LEAGUE, HILTON HEAD, SC

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Cathedral Bible College, Marion SC
- PhD Spiritual Christian Counseling December 2014
- Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Master of Science Degree HealthCare Administration December 2001
- North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing May 1980- Active Licensure
Retired from the US NAVAL HOSPITAL, BEAUFORT, SC 2016

