

The Center for
Circumpolar Studies
WREAF Program



Artists' Showcase &
Auction Catalog
2014

Opening for bidding online November 23rd.

www.circumpolarstudies.org

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Artists' Showcase & Auction Catalog

Opening Sunday, November 23rd

The Wilderness River Expedition Art Fellowship (CCS/WREAF) Program, under the inspired leadership of Rob Mullen, encourages nature artists to live their art on extended, self-supported river expeditions in some of the most rugged and remote regions of the world. The arduous rigors and sublime joys of wilderness canoe travel provide intense experiences that inform the artists, ensuring that the artwork remains grounded in the realities of the natural world.

The resulting artwork, however varied, is connected by a thread of shared adventure and experience. By exhibiting these individual visions together, usually within a natural history context, we work to raise awareness of the areas in which these rivers run. A principal focus of WREAF expeditions has been the North American portion of the Circumpolar Boreal Forest - the largest terrestrial ecosystem on Earth, critical for global climate, fresh water, indigenous cultures, wildlife and birds.

We are delighted to present this showcase for CCS/WREAF artists, featuring 41 pieces of artwork from 9 exceptional artists. In addition to supporting the work of these artists, your purchases will help support CCS/WREAF programming. Thank you for participating!

WATERFALL ABOVE THE NOATAK

UNFRAMED/UNMATTED EDITION 25

BILL BRODY

24" x 36" • Woodcut on okawara, 2012

About Bill Brody

I have been going into the wilderness for the past quarter century to witness the landscape by painting and drawing what it is like to be there in mind and body. I commit to this venture so long as I am able. This is my beacon, the measure against which all the rest of my art must stand. When I'm out in the landscape I wait until the land seems to move; to come alive. I start to see geological processes and personalize them. I feel how the land folds back onto itself, touching one part to another like a blow; like a caress; like hands rubbing against the cold... And then there's the light, and the clouds blowing and dancing in the sky. I paint all day, most every day. It is enormously satisfying to finish a large canvas in the field; the more difficult the subject matter, and the more challenging the terrain the better. Sometimes I force myself to break away and explore. Then I sketch and take panoramic photographs. The photographs are not source material for my paintings, but rather material for another kind of art, one of immersion in virtual reality, or for web presentation, or as very large photographic prints. The sketches, journals, and panoramas are source material for other paintings, prints and very large-scale works on forged and carved copper and bronze. I was honored by the Governor's Individual Artist Award by the state of Alaska in October of 2011.



WATERFALL ABOVE TUPIK CREEK

UNFRAMED/UNMATTED EDITION 25

BILL BRODY

24" x 32" • Woodcut carved on maple and printed on okawara, 2013



DÉGEL (EARLY THAW)
JEAN-LOUIS CORTEAU

30" x 48" • Original oil on canvas, unframed

About Jean-Louis Courteau

I have been a painter, and still am. I say "painter" instead of "artist", because I make paintings, more than art pieces. Because like the old masters, I think that painting is a craft, a job, a school, and that you are a student all your life. I also think that painting, like any art form, is more the vision than the object, a vision that you have on the surrounding world. And that this vision changes all the time, along with your humors, your preoccupations, your state of mind...

So I claim the right to have that changing vision, when and where I please, on whatever I choose. The notion of style serves the art market more than it serves art itself. It is the antonym of Creativity. I refuse to be the painter of this or that. I will be the painter of all, or nothing.

I also write. And sculpt, And draw, and take photographs. I'm a diver, I like history, geology, fantasy, literature and cinema, travels. I like lots of things, because they give me the impression of living intensely. And THAT is my main interest. To live, as passionately as possible, here, now.



BOREAL EXPERIENCE

JULIA HARGREAVES

16" x 24" • Original acrylic painting on board, unframed

About Julia Hargreaves

A leap of faith. That's what I'd call my decision to leave a successful career in England for a new start in a Canadian town unlike any I'd lived in before.

We were on holidays in Vancouver, gazing upon Grouse Mountain's glorious peaks, when it suddenly became clear that I needed to "burn my boats" and make a radical change. I felt like my soul was telling me what to do, and for once I listened.

I won the Ducks Unlimited National Art Portfolio competition – twice – and with encouragement from Fred became a full time artist.

In 2007, I was asked to illustrate Birdscapes, a pop-up birding guide pairing the landscapes I painted with bird songs from habitats throughout North America.

Since then my work has been included in the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum's prestigious "Birds in Art" exhibition, the Artists for Conservation Exhibit, and the Artists for Conservation exhibition at the Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum in New York.

I was also honoured to have taken part in the Wilderness River Expedition Art Foundation trip up the Bloodvein River and to have the chance to raise awareness about the importance of the Boreal Forest.



DALL RAM STUDY

COLE JOHNSON

15" x 25" • Original graphite on paper, framed



About Cole Johnson

Cole Johnson has lived in upstate New York his entire life and now resides in Deposit, New York, a small town in the Catskill Mountain region. Hunting, fishing, and spending time in "the woods" have been the preferred activities most of his life. Favorite subjects include the species he is intimately acquainted with in the field - the white-tailed deer, trout, turkeys, hunting dogs and waterfowl.

SNIPE MARSH
COLE JOHNSON

12" x 16" • Original graphite on paper, framed



INTO THE LIGHT

COLE JOHNSON

14" x 20" • Original graphite on paper, framed

Whitetail Deer



SPRING

COLE JOHNSON

14" x 20" • Original graphite on paper, framed

Redwing Blackbirds



TUNDRA TAIL CHASE
COLE JOHNSON

7" x 11" • Original graphite on paper, framed

Peregrin Falcon



****COMING HOME**

ROB MULLEN

17" x 28" • Original acrylic, framed

Timber wolves on the Harricana River, Northern Quebec



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

About Rob Mullen

A freelance advertising artist in Manhattan until 1994, Rob has won over 30 awards in more than 70 shows from coast to coast, including "Birds in Art", "Art and the Animal", "Art of the Animal Kingdom", and the Arts for the Parks Top 100 Show and National Tour. Combining his art career with his degree in biology, interest in natural history, and 25 years of wilderness canoeing experience, Rob founded WREAF, which was recently welcomed as a CCS Program, with Rob taking on the role of Program Director. Working with the Smithsonian's Arctic Studies Center and the Canadian Boreal Initiative, among others, WREAF strives to expand environmental education and awareness.

****WING LIGHT**

ROB MULLEN

11" x 16" • Original acrylic, framed

Willow Ptarmigan in the valley of the Kogaluk, Labrador



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****CONFLUENCE CORNUCOPIA**

ROB MULLEN

24" x 48" • Original acrylic, framed

Great Blue Whale at Tadoussac, Quebec



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****TURBULENT CURRENTS**

ROB MULLEN

9" x 18" • Original acrylic, framed

Harlequin Ducks on the Kamestastin River, Labrador



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****CONDO ON THE WATER**

ROB MULLEN

7" x 12" • Original acrylic, unframed
Beaver Dam & Lodge, Long Trail, Vermont



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****CATAMOUNT POOL**

ROB MULLEN

7" x 12" • Original acrylic, unframed
Long Trail, Vermont



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

*****BIG BRANCH BOULDER GARDEN***

ROB MULLEN

7" x 12" • Original acrylic, unframed
Long Trail, Vermont



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****CURRENT JOURNEY**

ROB MULLEN

7" x 12" • Original acrylic, unframed
Long Trail, Vermont



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****RUN!**

ROB MULLEN

18" x 24" • Original acrylic, framed
Snowy Owl and Snowshoe Hare



**** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.**

SNOW FALL
ROB MULLEN

9" x 12" • Original acrylic, unframed
Snow Geese, Rattlesnake Mountain, Addison, Vermont



RIVER REVEILLE

ROB MULLEN

16" x 20" • Original oil on canvas, framed

Bull Elk



ELEPHANT HEAD LAKE

ROB MULLEN

11" x 14" • Field Drawing in pencil, unframed

2011 WREAF expedition, NW Ontario



ELEPHANT HEAD LAKE UNDERWATER

ROB MULLEN

11" x 14" • Field Drawing in pencil, unframed

2011 WREAF expedition, NW Ontario

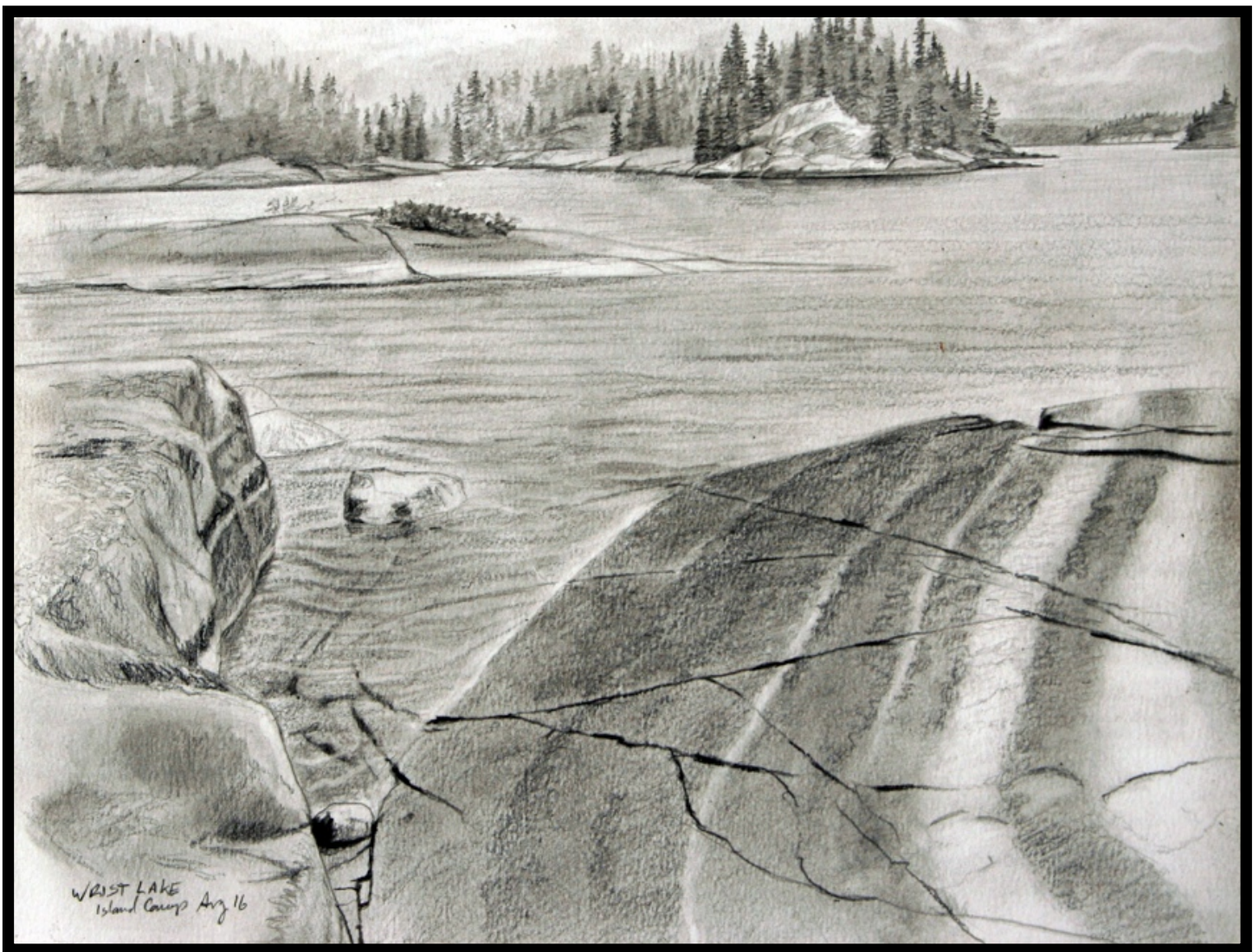


WRIST LAKE, BANDED ROCK

ROB MULLEN

11" x 14" • Field Drawing in pencil, unframed

2011 WREAF expedition, NW Ontario



WRIST LAKE, TRANSITIONS

ROB MULLEN

11" x 14" • Field Drawing in pencil, unframed

2011 WREAF expedition, NW Ontario



****WOLF STUDY**

ROB MULLEN

8" x 10" • **Print** of acrylic painting, unframed

3 prints available



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

****CONJURING HOUSE ROCK**

ROB MULLEN

20"x 30" • **Print** of acrylic painting, unframed

Thunderhouse Gorge on the Missinaibi River, Northern Ontario

(promotional prints by Mad River Canoe Company)

20 prints available



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

MORNING WORKOUT

ROB MULLEN

16" x 20" • **Print** of acrylic painting, unframed

100 prints available



BABY WHITE MOUSE

PATRICIA PÉPIN

4" x 6" • Original oil painting on board, framed
(framed size 9"x11")



About Patricia Pépin

Born in 1964, Patricia Pépin spent her first years in Bromont. As a child she loved to roam in the woods and fields, observing the wilderness and drawing her many findings.

Pépin paints with oil colours and is interested in the traditions and techniques of her medium. While studying the works of old masters, she was attracted by the art of Vermeer and Vélasquez, struck by their mastery of light and colours.

Their influence is well represented in Patricia's paintings, in which the realism born out of these notions can be clearly seen.

Add to this the love of nature, which Patricia Pépin paints and draws with a scrupulous fidelity, and you get a symbiosis of technique and knowledge that gives the paintings of Pépin very high credibility.

She has exhibited in "Birds in Arts" at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, WI, and at the Bennington Center for the Arts, VT. She is a member of the Society of Animal Artists (S.A.A.) and has illustrated a Quebec Wildlife Habitat Conservation stamp. She is published by Mill Pond Press, FL.

WAITING FOR THE BOAT

BIANCA PERREN

8.25" x 11.25" • Original watercolour, framed (16.625" x 20.625")

Qallimiut Farm, SW Greenland



About Bianca Perren

Bianca Perren is a painter/printmaker and a geologist. She has spent the last 15 years working on lakes in the Canadian High Arctic, Greenland and Svalbard investigating the nature of the changing Arctic landscape. Under the microscope and in visual art, her work focuses on exploring the environmental response to climate change, human use and pollution. Bianca currently works at the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge, England studying recent climate change in the subantarctic islands.

Statement: These Arctic paintings and prints brings together two aspects of my life: art and science. As a scientist, my work is in the field of Arctic paleoecology: how Arctic landscapes have evolved over time, as a result of both natural and anthropogenic forces such as climate change, land use, and pollution. The paintings and prints shown here, on the other hand, mark my experience and understanding of the Arctic landscape more immediately, as snapshots of a day during a field season, or waiting for a boat on a fjord, or as a memory of my time out on the land.

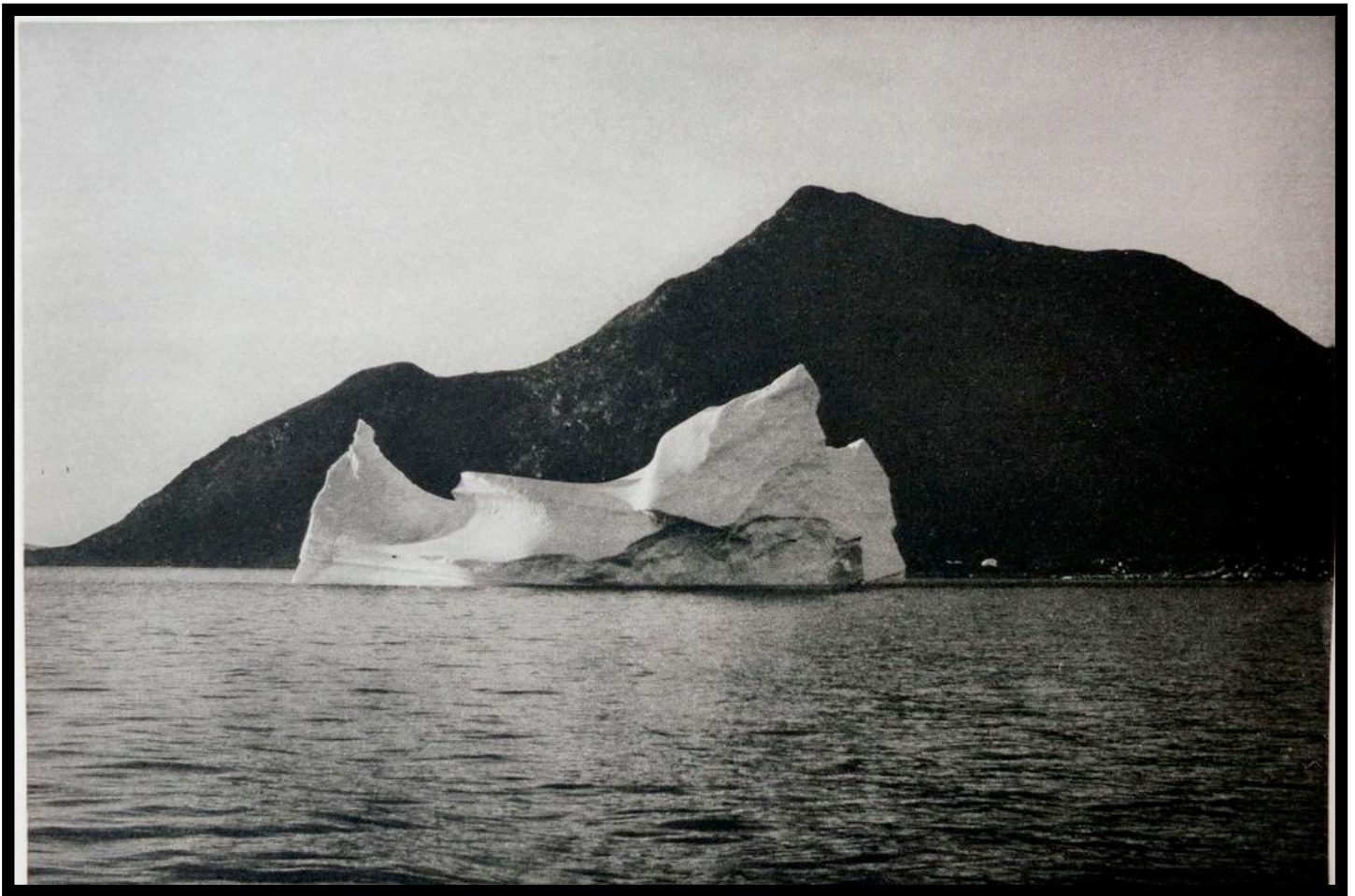
All of the paintings were done in the field, en plein air, during a field season, either on Greenland, or Spitsbergen near lake coring locations, Norse sites, or falcon eyries. The prints were produced later in the studio from either field sketches (aquatints) or photographs (photogravures)

****ICEBERG**

BIANCA PERREN

5.5" x 8.5" • Photogravure 4/10, framed (16.5" x 20.5")

Torsukattak Fjord, Qaqortoq Region, SW Greenland, 2012



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

Photogravure

The photogravure shown here was printed with master printer, Jon Goodman, in Williamsburg, Massachusetts.

Photogravure (héliogravure) uses the Talbot-Klic technique, which was developed in the late 1800's as a way of producing a photograph with continuous and rich tones on plain printing paper. A photogravure is an intaglio print, whereby the range of tones in the image are produced on the surface of the copper plate as a range of depths bitten into its surface. As the inked plate and damp paper are run through the press, the ink is pulled out of the recesses of the plate by the paper, resulting in a three dimensional relief of ink on paper, with the thickest ink rendering the velvety-blacks (black mountain) and the thin veneers, the palest greys (iceberg).

****STUDY LAKES E7 & E8**

BIANCA PERREN

9" x 11.75" • Original drypoint and chine-collé, framed (16.5" x 20.5")

Kangerlussuaq region, SW Greenland



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

Drypoint

Drypoint is a method of printing wherein the plate is scratched with an etching point. This essentially produces a line drawing where the thickness of the line is related to the pressure of the etching point.

Chine collé

Chine collé is a collage printing technique, where Japanese paper is placed on the inked plate and run through the press onto the paper. The effect can be very clean (more like the Wm Baffin 1616 print) or layered and more painterly (Study lakes E7 and E8).

****SHARING THE RIVER**

JOHN C. PITCHER

20" x 30" • Original acrylic, framed



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

About John C. Pitcher

For over thirty-five years John C. Pitcher has expressed his passion for birds and the natural world through his paintings. His success in capturing the sense of a place and likeness of his subjects reveals not only his mastery of technique but also his knowledge as a naturalist.

Pitcher first developed his art skills in Alaska, where he lived and painted birds for twelve years. As an active member of the Anchorage Audubon Society he taught bird identification, co-led birding tours across Alaska and served as a Guest Naturalist on the famous natural history cruise ship the M.S. Lindblad Explorer's maiden voyage to Alaska.

In 2001 Pitcher and artist/adventurer Rob Mullen canoed the wild Missinaibi River of Ontario, Canada. Inspired by that trip, Mullen created the WREAF (Wilderness River Expedition Art Foundation). Now as a WREAF crewmember, Pitcher has explored the wild Canadian northern boreal forest and tundra with expeditions down the George River, Quebec and to the migrating Caribou herds of Lake Kamestastin, Labrador.

Subsequent WREAF art/educational exhibits followed at the Wildling Art Museum in Los Olivos, CA, & The Wildlife Experience in Parker, CO.

Pitcher is an honored member of the Society of Animal Artists, married to nationally recognized wildlife artist Sue Westin and has had dozens of ONE MAN EXHIBITIONS throughout his career.

A NEW DAY'S PROMISE

JOHN C. PITCHER

12" x 16" • Original oil, framed



ALPINE SUMMER

JOHN C. PITCHER

12" x 9" • Original acrylic, framed



****GEORGE RIVER FIELD STUDIES GROUP #1**

JOHN C. PITCHER

16" x 25.5" • Original ink and gouache on paper, framed

Four field journal pages



**** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.**

****GEORGE RIVER FIELD SKETCH GROUP #3**

JOHN C. PITCHER

13.5" x 22" • Original ink and gouache on paper, framed

Black Bear Journal Page and Sketchbook Page



**** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.**

****GEORGE RIVER FIELD SKETCH GROUP #5**

JOHN C. PITCHER

23" x 15.5" • Original ink and gouache on paper,
Caribou and Porcupine Skull



**** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.**

****GEORGE RIVER FIELD SKETCH GROUP #6**

JOHN C. PITCHER

16" x 19" • Original gouache on paper, framed

Raven and landscape of Indian House Lake



**** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.**

GEORGE RIVER FIELD SKETCH GROUP #8

JOHN C. PITCHER

25" x 16" • Original ink on paper, framed

Landscape Studies



ROB MULLEN SKETCHING THE MISSINAIBI
JOHN C. PITCHER

9" x 12" • Original pencil drawing on paper, unframed



****SNOW ON MY NOSE**

BONNIE ROWELL

5" x 7" • Photograph printed on watercolour paper, Framed



*** View this artwork in person at the Pratt Gallery, Goddard College Campus, Plainfield, VT.*

About Bonnie Rowell

Born in Montreal, Quebec, Bonnie is a WREAF expedition member and has been a wildlife photographer for the past 10 years, with images published in the Smithsonian's Arctic Studies Center newsletter and exhibit conference presentation materials.

Bonnie was recently married and is currently living in Vermont with her new husband (and WREAF Director) Rob Mullen.