

## Susan Sinyai to hold solo exhibit at Black Mountain Center for the Arts in July

From July 3 – 31, the Black Mountain Center for the Arts will present *Lay of the Land: Interpretations of the Landscape in Oil and Pastel* by painter Susan Sinyai of Asheville. The public is invited to an opening reception to meet the artist on Friday, July 3 from 6-8 pm at the Center, located at 225 W. State Street. For more information contact 828/669-0930 or [www.blackmountainarts.org](http://www.blackmountainarts.org).

Sinyai states about her work as a painter, “As a painter, I’ve come to realize that for me, it’s all about the light. It is the enchanting and marvelous effects of light on the subject matter that I seek to explore, interpret, capture: how it describes form, manipulates color, but perhaps more than anything, how the quality of light can evoke mood and memories. The landscape is the richest of tapestries, providing endless material to discover and explore. I am a relative newcomer to the landscape as a source of inspiration, but as I become more comfortable and more deeply connected to this genre of painting, I find myself ever more appreciative and in awe of our physical world, realizing the transcendent beauty in sometimes the simplest and most everyday scenes, often scenes I have driven or walked by many times before. My paintings are not so much a faithful recording of a particular scene, but more an emotional response to how that scene was bathed in a particular light—the cool light of the morning, the golden glow of a late afternoon, the crisp light of an autumn day, the romantic light of an early evening—and then transformed into something quite magical. I invite the viewer to enter my landscapes and linger awhile.” Her work can be seen at Asheville Gallery of Art and Merrimon Galleries, or online at [www.susanmeyersinyai.com](http://www.susanmeyersinyai.com).



Marsh Mellow by Susan Sinyai, oil on canvas

Sinyai’s career as an artist began in 1987, when art beckoned her to return to school for a second college career (her first was a degree in Sociology at UNC-CH). Juggling a family life with young children at home, she entered the Art program at UNC-A. In 1994 she completed the BFA there, graduating with honors. In 2000 the University commissioned her to paint the portrait of former Chancellor Samuel Shuman. She was awarded an Emerging Artist Grant from the Asheville Arts Alliance, also in 2000. As an art teacher, Susan has taught at Asheville Catholic School and also through the Swannanoa Valley Art League.

As a working artist, Sinyai has exhibited in numerous local and regional shows, frequently winning awards. She studied with Daniel Greene and Thomas Nash, along with an intensive portrait course with retired UNC-A Art professor Tucker Cooke. From 2004-2007 she worked closely with Professor Cooke and other artists on the School of Athens mural, unveiled in February 2007 and displayed in the Highsmith Center at UNC-A.

BMCA Executive Director Gale Jackson adds, “ Susan has been a popular local artist for many years. We are excited to finally have a solo show of her works.”