

APRIL 2008

HELLO FROM QUINCY POND -

I SURE HOPE ALL IS FINE BY YOU AND FAMILY - BUT LET ME TELL YA - IT'S BEEN ONE HECK OF A MEAN WINTER HERE - DEEP IN THESE NEW HAMPSHIRE WOODS. QUINCY POND - TODAY APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> - IS STILL COMPLETELY FROZEN OVER AND ONLY NOW ARE THE GIANT BANKS OF SNOW MELTING FROM MY CABINS' LOGS.

IF YOU'VE BEEN RECEIVING THESE 'NEWSLETTER MAILINGS' FOR ANY NUMBER OF YEARS YOU KNOW I'M QUITE CAPABLE OF BRAGGING ABOUT GOOD TIMES AS WELL THE JOYS OF SPRING YET AFTER HAVING A BELOVED WIFE AND MARRIAGE TURN ROTTEN - MY SPIRIT SEEMS STARVED AND CARVED AS BY A SEPERATE - OVERLY - LONG WINTER WITHIN. PARTS OF ME - IMPORTANT PARTS JUST DIDN'T MAKE IT BUT WHAT DID SURVIVE FOUND ITSELF UPON A FAMILIER PATH WITH FAINT YET FAMILIER FOOTPRINTS LEADING ME.

IN THE DARKEST YEARS OF THE VIET-NAM WAR - THE TET-OFFENSIVE MAKING MY PAPER ROUTE HEAVY WITH SMALL FLAGS BEARING TWO STARS - ONE GOLD ONE BLUE. I WATCHED MY MOTHERS WAR BURDEN TURN HER FROM YOUNG TO OLD, WITH MY OLDEST BROTHER - CYRIL SOMEWHERE ALONG THE HO CHIN MINH TRAIL - ONE OTHER BROTHER GOING OFF TO JAIL AND YET ONE OTHER BROTHER SLIPPING TOWARD AN ALCOHOLIC THIRD RAIL. I - MATT SMITH - A BLOND HAired BOY WITH EYES WIDE OPEN TO THE MADNESS A WASH REMEMBER CLEARLY MY MOTHER REACHING OUT TO PAINT WITH OILS AS IF AN ORANGE LIFE RING DROPPED INTO ROUGH SEAS BEFORE HER. MY DEAR MOTHER AT HER LAST WITTS BECAME A PAINTER OF FLOWERS AND THROUGH THE YEARS SHE GOT PRETTY GOOD AT SUCH. ALTHOUGH I WASN'T CLEVER ENOUGH TO GET 'A LESSON' I DID LEARN TO APPRECIATE PAINTING - ART - AND THE FOLKS WHO VALUE ART. A GIFT FOR SURE FROM THE ONE WOMAN WHOSE LOVE FAILED ME NOT AND WHO CARED FOR ME THE MOST.

MY DEAR MOTHER - ANN MARY SMITH HAS BEEN GONE FOR TWENTY YEARS NOW. SHE DIED JUST AS I BEGUN HAVING FORMAL ART SHOWS AND SADLY WAS TOO ILL TO SEE THEM OTHER THAN SOME LUCKY T.V. NEWS FOOTAGE 'FISHIN' BOAT CAPTAIN TURNED ARTIST STORY' ETC. AS SAID I BELIEVE I MUST OF BEEN SEARCHING FOR A WAY BEYOND THE COLD SHADOW MY LIFE HAS BECOME WHEN THE SAME OLD BRUSHES MY MOTHER HELD WOUND UP IN MY HANDS. NOW I WAIT FOR SPRING NO MORE FOR FLOWERS ARE BLOOMING ALL ABOUT ME - FLOWERS ON CANVAS - FLOWERS VERY MUCH WITH ANNE MARY ON MY MIND. IT SEEMS LIVES AND FRIENDS COME AND GO YET WE ALL ONLY GET BUT ONE MOTHER.

ONE MOTHER AND INDEED I MISS MIVE - IN HONOR OF THIS FACT AND IN MEMORY OF HER AND IN SINCERE TRIBUTE TO ALL MOTHERS I AM DEDICATING TO THEM - A MOTHERS' DAY ART SHOW - OPENING MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> ( <sup>THE FRIDAY</sup> BEFORE ).

AFTER TWENTY YEARS I'VE BECOME A VERY GOOD PRINTMAKER AND I'M MIGHTY PROUD OF MY HAND-MADE ETCHINGS AND HOW THEY COMMUNICATE WITH SO MANY FOLKS. AT OIL PAINTING THOUGH - I AM JUST BEGINNING AND NOT EVEN CLOSE TO THE SKILL LEVEL AND COMPETENCE OF DEAR OL' MOM YET NONE THE LESS I'LL BE EXHIBITING AS MANY OF THESE FIRST EFFORTS AS I CAN. THEY ARE WHAT THEY ARE - A SON'S NAIVE BOUQUET TO HIS MOTHER TO OUR MOTHERS - TIMELESS LOVE. WITHIN THIS SCORE OF PRINTMAKING YEARS I HAVE TRAVELED MANY PATHS - SO TO SAY - IN THAT I KIND OF JUST FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF MY WONDERFUL PRINT INVENTION CALLED COPPER BLOCK ETCHING TO SEE WHAT IT IS CAPABLE OF AND EFFECTIVE AT. NOW WITH MY MOST RECENT PRINT APTLY NAMED 'PATH HOME' I HAVE RETURNED TO MY OLD CLASSIC LOOK. WITHIN A 12-15 CHERRY OR WALNUT FRAME THIS IS A QUIET YET RICHLY ROMANTIC POND / LANDSCAPE FILLED WITH SUMMER ATMOSPHERE AND EMOTION. IT'S OF A TOUCH - STONE PLACE MY MOTHER AND I KNEW WELL IN UP-STATE N.Y. - HUNN'S LAKE! IN TRUTH WORKING THIS ETCHING UP FROM DRAWING STUDIES IS WHAT GOT ME TREPPIN' DOWN THIS MEMORY LAKE. TWENTY YEARS...

TEEMIN' THE FIRST BLOCK OF THE NEW YEAR ALSO HAS A CLASSIC - MAYBE JAPANESE LOOK TO IT. A FISH / SEA SCAPE BASED ON DRAWINGS MADE SHORE SIDE WHILE 'LUCKIN' OUT ON A 'FIRST IN YEARS' KAYAK FISHIN' TRIP DOWN BUZZARDS BAY. HUNDREDS OF SMALL TUNA (FALSE ALBACORE) WERE TEEMIN' ALL ABOUT ME FOR HOURS AND HOURS. RIGHT ON THE SURFACE BREACHING AND CARVING THE SURF 3-4-5 A BREAST WITHIN SHOALS OF EXPLODING SILVER BAIT FISH SEEKING SKY AS BRIEF REFUGE. MAGNIFICENT LUCK! A SCENE AND SENSE YESTERYEAR TODAY. FINE ART. BANQ!

BOTH OF THESE EXCITING 2008 ETCHINGS ARE GOING TO BE ON DIS-PAY IN A UNIQUE WAY TO HIGHLIGHT THE VARIATION BETWEEN EACH PRINT WITHIN THEIR EDITION. VERTICAL LINES OF THE SAME EDITION SIDE BY SIDE - SO TO SEE HOW SLIGHT CHANGES OF COLOR AND HUE VASTLY ALTER EMOTIONAL CONTENT - ONE TO ANOTHER.

THIS IS GOOD STUFF AND SHOULD AT LEAST BE VIEWED FOR SELF EDUCATIONAL REASONS IF NOTHIN' ELSE - VIEWING IS STILL FREE SO PLEASE FEEL FREE.



# MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS

AN ART SHOW IN HONOR OF ALL MOTHERS AND IN

MEMORY OF ANNE MARY SMITH

OPENING MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>. FRIDAY 5:30 - 8:30 ★ =

## THE COPPER CANOE GALLERY

A GALLERY OF FINE ART BY MATTHEW SMITH

155 WATER STREET

DOWNTOWN EXETER NH 03833

(603) 463-5889 M.S. Cell - GALLERY (603) 772-3141

WWW-THE COPPER CANOE-COM

- ONE MORE THING - WE SHALL ALSO BE SHOWING OFF FOR THE FIRST TIME A BUNCH OF SMALL COLOR PENCIL COMPOSITIONS OF JUST ABOUT EVERY THING. PRECIOUS ONE OF A KIND - 2007 PICTURES IN SOME VERY FANCY FRAMES...

- WHAT I'M SAYIN' IS THAT THEY'LL BE A TON OF BRAND NEW HAND MADE ARTWORK HERE AT REASONABLE PRICES AND MOTHERS DAY IS COMING UP SOON. PLEASE REALIZE AS WELL THAT THESE OPENINGS ARE ALOT MORE FUN WHEN FOLKS COME AND CHAT SO PLEASE - IT'S FINALLY SPRING ENJOY A FRIDAY EVENING IN EXETER - BRING YOUR MOTHER!

- WINE-CHEESE-BEER
- FREE FLOWERS FOR MOTHERS
- 10 % OFF ALL ETCHINGS
- (6) TURTLE DOOR PRIZES
- (6) OLD BLUE LUBSTERS FOR SALE FOR ONE DAY
- AND WRESTLING

WITH WARM REGARDS

SINCERELY YOURS,

-PS. FOR GREEN REASONS:

\$ EXPENSE ∞ ENVIRONMENTAL

THE FUTURE OF THESE MESSAGES

MY TURN TO QUARTERLY ON-LINE

PUBLICATIONS TO BE READ AS TEXT (HTML)

OR DOWNLOADED IN HAND WRITTEN FORM (PDF).

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO TEMPT FOLKS TO OUR WEB SITE

I'VE WRITTEN A GOOD/HAPPY BIRD STORY. WWW-QUINCY POND PRINT WORKS.COM

MATTHEW SMITH ★ =  
@ QUINCY POND  
SPRING TIME 2008

