

Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) December 18, 2022

“Magical moment: Island life delivers island art”

Tallahassee Democrat <https://www.tallahasseearts.org/coca-spotlight-roger-leonard/>

Featured Artist: Roger Leonard

The Gallery at Rio Carrabelle - December 2022 thru February 2023



Roger Leonard in his Studio

That magic moment

Leonard’s paintings of nature are truly mesmerizing. With a brush stroke, he can capture both stillness and movement in one image. He takes solace in painting the awe-inspiring, while being one with the nature he paints. “It may begin with a sort of magical moment, a color, light, a scene that jumps into my brain, often lasting only seconds, but I know I must paint it.”



A calling to paint

Roger Leonard does not consider his painting ‘work’ but instead, a calling to capture the moments of intimacy shared between observer and observed, audience and performer, painter and subject. “I am not inspired to paint. It is just there. I have to do it. The need has been with me since my first memories.”

The evolution of an artist

Even after he has stretched and prepared the canvas, Leonard still questions his ability, and he must rely on the confidence gained over years of painting. “I try to grow and not copy myself. Years of experience gives me confidence, but I must always push it, experiment, try something new in every painting.”

*Dr. Christy Rodriguez de Conte, feature writer for the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA).
COCA is the capital area’s umbrella agency for arts and culture (www.tallahasseearts.org).*

Where: *The Gallery at Rio Carrabelle*, 102 St. James Avenue, Carrabelle

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, thru February 2023.

Contact: riocarrabelle@gmail.com; visit riocarrabelle.com & Facebook