

Cheri Dunnigan

Painting on 3rd Street South at Marissa Collections



Cheri Dunnigan is a Master Goldsmith and nationally recognized landscape painter. Growing up outside of Boston, Massachusetts, she was born with an intense creative drive. Fortunately, she was blessed with parents who recognized and fostered both her artistic interests and her creative ambitions. As a result, she was able to begin to develop her artistic talents from an early age. She made her

first piece of jewelry at the age of 15. This experience lit a passion and set the course of her studies over the next 7 years. This led her to the Cleveland Institute of Art where she studied with John Paul Miller and earned a 5-year Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree specifically in Silversmithing in 1978. Having majored in silversmithing and jewelry design, she worked for many years as a designer craftsman, maintaining a retail studio and showroom in Hopkinton, Massachusetts.

In 1998, Cheri was diagnosed with systemic lupus erythmatosis and having lost the strength and dexterity in her hands, it became clear that she would not be able to resume her career as a metalsmith. At that time, she turned her creative talents towards pastel painting and found a new passion. Almost 7 years to the day of her diagnosis, Cheri received national recognition when she was awarded a Signature Membership with the Pastel Society of America. She has exhibited her work nationally and has won numerous awards. Cheri lives in Naples, Florida with her husband Tim and her son Matthew. She holds memberships in both the Society of North American Goldsmiths and the Florida Society of Goldsmiths.

Cheri is a returning artist who is participating in her second Third on Canvas.