

For Immediate Release

## NANCY FITZ-RAPALJE *A Still Life* OPENS at CSAG

Canal Street Art Gallery presents: NANCY FITZ-RAPALJE *A Still Life* opens May 13th, on view to the public through June 13th. All are invited on Wednesday, May 13th, to visit the Gallery's Online Viewing Room, open all the time on it's website. Go to <http://canalstreetartgallery.com> to experience the upcoming Represented Artist Show in this new interactive format. We will be LIVE Online May 15th at 6pm for our Virtual Gallery Event on Bellows Falls 3rd Friday Gallery Night! Canal Street Art Gallery is also pleased to now offer Private Appointments, Wednesday to Saturday, 11am to 5pm, during our regular scheduled business hours.

Nancy Fitz-Rapalje, based in Bellows Falls, Vermont, shares new oil paintings in her inaugural Solo Show at Canal Street Art Gallery. Nancy presents paintings from some of her familiar floral still lifes, fruits, and vegetables, done with her calculated, geometric style of brushstrokes. These new paintings focus on intimate details from the artist's life, with paintings depicting sticky-notes, origami, book stacks, color chips, and postcards showing reproductions of artworks from the likes of Braque and Duchamp. To reflect this unique view of the artist's life, Fitz-Rapalje includes in the show quotes from other artists of importance, in a selection gleaned from decades of reading and saving in her numerous Commonplace Books.

“I think of my small paintings as 'companions' rather than an artistic 'statement'. I hope they may exist with generations of a family living around them. I imagine my tulips or peaches being quiet observers of different lives performed in their space. I consider it theater in two directions - observer to painting and painting to observer.” - Nancy Fitz-Rapalje.

The intimate view of the solitary life of a dedicated oil painter, observing the everyday objects surrounding her in the studio is revealed in *A Still Life*. Fitz-Rapalje's artwork is driven not by the subjects of her paintings, but by the process itself. The creativity comes from a certainty and grace gained only by experience, practice, and the demands of making the difficult decisions in life. It is in the execution of Fitz-Rapalje's work where we find that we are being presented with more than a depiction of objects in her studio. We are witness to a monologue on the compulsion of an artist to paint, and the freedom found in the everyday when creation flows so intentionally.

This month's Virtual Gallery Event, to replace the Opening Reception typically held in the Gallery, takes place on Canal Street Art Gallery's FaceBook Page. Please take part with us online and celebrate her paintings in this Solo Show with Nancy Fitz-Rapalje! Join us LIVE Online May 15th at 6pm using your mobile device or computer to take part in this month's BF3F by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/canalstreetartgallery> or <http://canalstreetartgallery.com/events.html>.

Canal Street Art Gallery is excited to now offer Private Appointments for groups of no more than two people to be in the Gallery. They are scheduled in two-hour time slots to allow for all common spaces, frequently touched surfaces and doors to be disinfected between Private Appointments. The Gallery staff are available remotely or outside the retail space only. All transactions are conducted electronically via email, or telephone, with curbside pick-up. Please wear face coverings, and observe physical distancing. Contact the Gallery at 802-289-0104 or email [artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com](mailto:artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com) to schedule your private in-Gallery viewing today!

Canal Street Art Gallery is located at 23 Canal Street in the Historic Downtown Village of Bellows Falls, Vermont, and is open by Appointment Wednesday through Saturday from 11:00am to 5:00pm. For more information about Nancy Fitz-Rapalje or Canal Street Art Gallery go to [canalstreetartgallery.com](http://canalstreetartgallery.com) online, call Mike or Emmett by phone at 802-289-0104, or send emails to [artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com](mailto:artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com).

Please help us all to ensure compliance with the mandatory health and safety requirements for all business operations during the Phased Restart to safely reopen certain operations impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak not defined as essential, as directed by Governor Scott to the Agency of Commerce - in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety.