

Wyoming Artist Set to Give D.C. a Paint Job

Washington D.C. has an image problem. Its chief industry - government - is best known for politics. Today's politicians are shameless, aggressive, and operate according to their own best interests. The Beltway insulates them from constituent concerns.

The city's skyline is nearly as jarring as its professional class. The buildings and metro stations are bulky, concrete and brutalist. D.C. will probably never be mentioned alongside of Paris, Vienna or Florence; world cities of outstanding beauty and charm.

Could anything be done to help D.C.?

To soften its image...make it a little more attractive?

Yes, at least on canvas.

Laurie Lee, a Wyoming-based painter, will be attempting to do just that. She is the featured artist at the Cooley Gallery in Leesburg, VA for the month of November. She will be displaying several oil paintings inspired by the Capital.

So what prompted a Western artist to come to the D.C. area?

"I met Chris Gooley (owner of the Gallery and former Redskin) at my home in Wyoming last year. He liked my work and thought I could offer something special to art lovers in the area," said Mrs. Lee.

"So while I normally paint Western scenes and landscapes, I am doing something new here by focusing on D.C. Some of the scenes will be pretty familiar to everyone but other scenes will be more subtle. It's me "re-making" the City from my own perspective," she laughed.

Re-make Washington D.C.? With a paintbrush? What's not to love?

Laurie Lee is a Wyoming artist specializing in Western Themes. She'll be on hand for an opening night reception at the Cooley Gallery on Friday, November 1st at 6pm. The event is free to the public. The Cooley Gallery is located at 12 S. King St. Leesburg, VA 20175. Her work will continue on display for the month of November. Questions for Laurie? Contact Mike Devaney at 917.405.0755.

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