

The Southern Landscape

Volume 2



Paintings by Bart Levy

“Art transcends its limitations only by staying within them.”
– *Flannery O'Connor*

We southerners are pretty proud of where we live—with good reason. The mountains, the rolling hills, the swamps and marshes, and our sugary beaches welcome all comers, the ones who come for visit and go home, those who come for a visit and can't seem to leave, those who were born and raised here.

There's a certain timelessness to be found in the small farmhouses and abandoned fields being reclaimed by cedars and trash pines. People are friendly and polite. Most of us live in towns and cities, abandoning the country for jobs and the amenities of city life, but a certain part of us always wants to be able to go home, to a time and place that is fast becoming as foreign as Oz.

I hope you enjoy these pictures. It was a joy to be able to create them and then to bring them to you.

- Bart Levy

On the cover: The Sun is Going Down, 20" x 24"



Path Through the Wetlands

30" x 24"

Not surprisingly, the James River frequently spills over its banks into the surrounding woods, creating the Wetlands. The path through the Wetlands is part of the James River Park System, a many-mile celebration of the mighty James River.

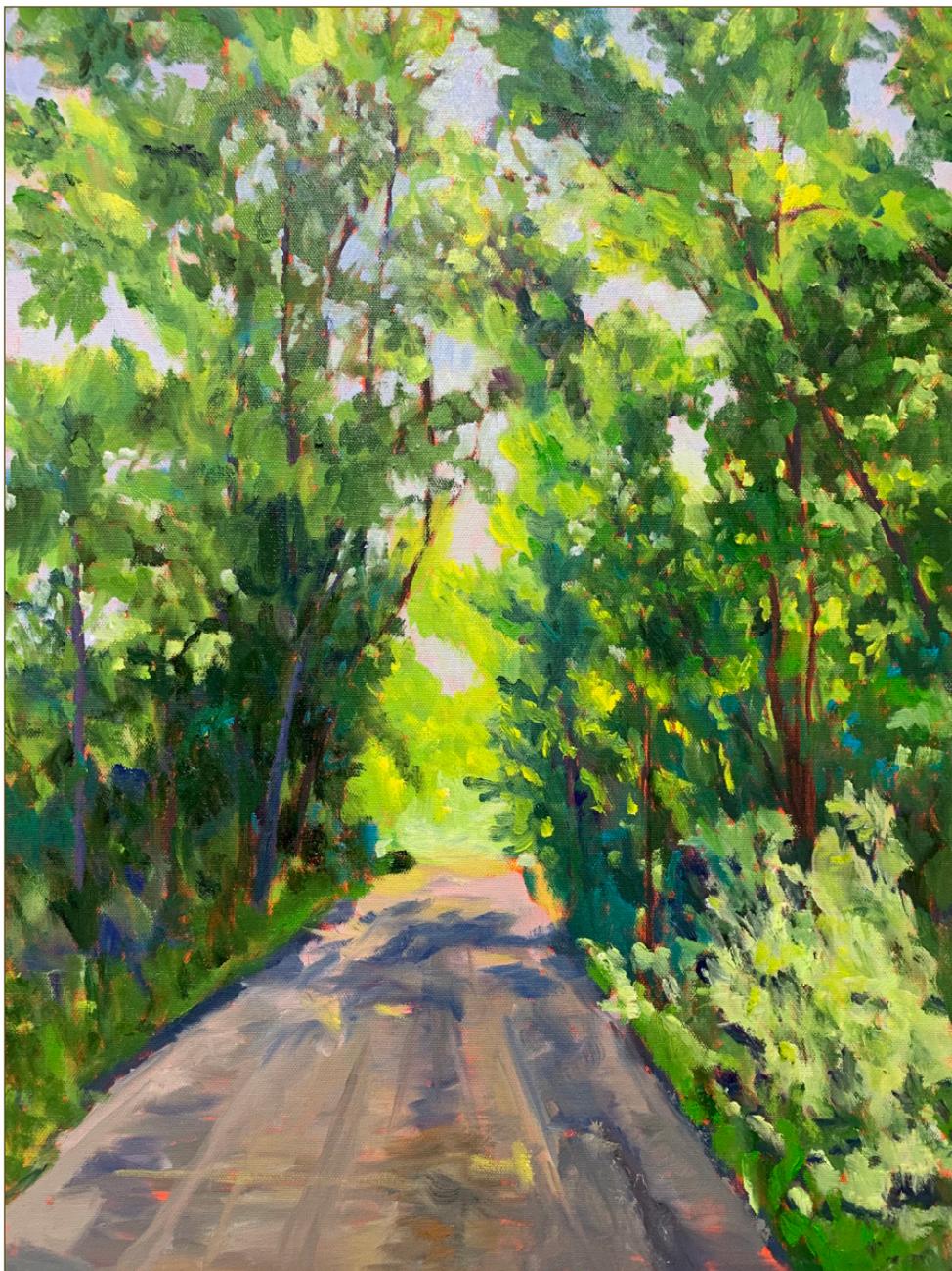


By the River (Wetlands #3)

24" X 36"

Not surprisingly, the path through the Wetlands is sometimes quite close to the James River, but only a few feet above the river. When the river is at flood stage, the path can be perilously close to the rushing river. This could be a wonderful companion to Path Through the Wetlands, on the previous page.

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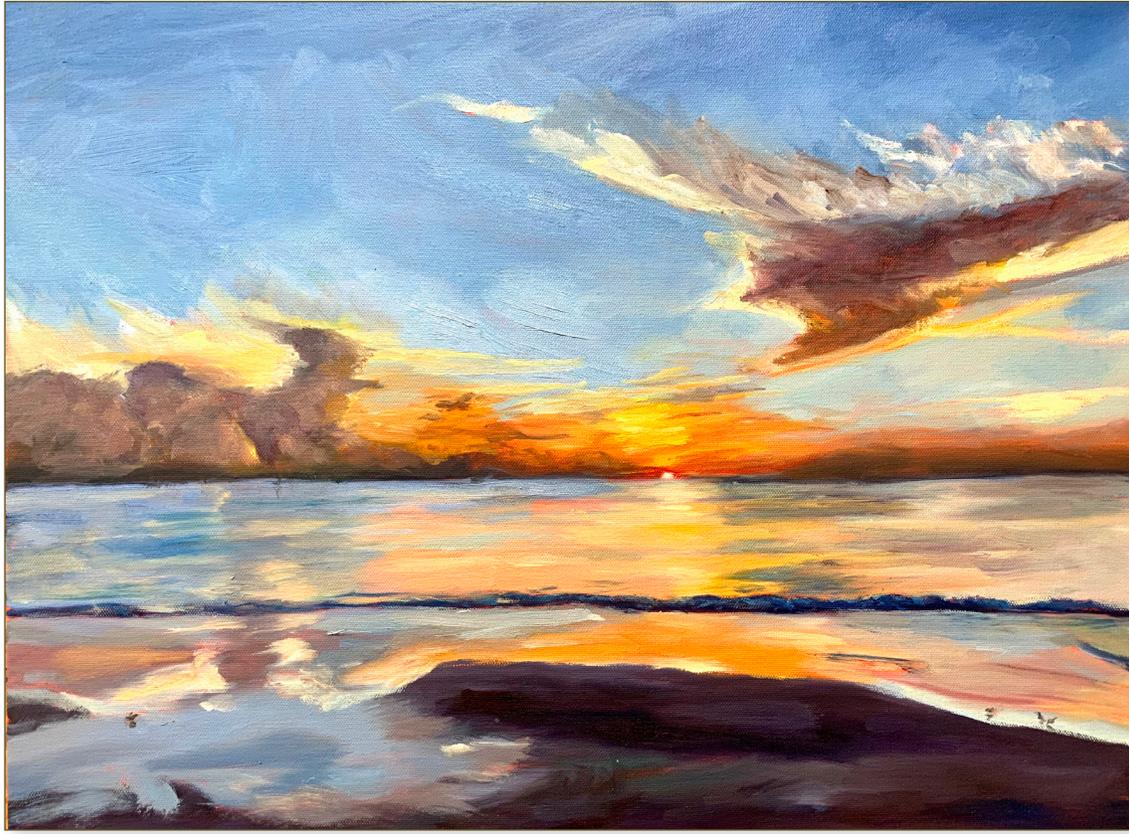
Cathedral

24" x 18"

As any good Southerner knows, not every cathedral is man-made. A country road through arching trees makes many of us grateful to be able to enjoy nature's gifts of beautiful surroundings.

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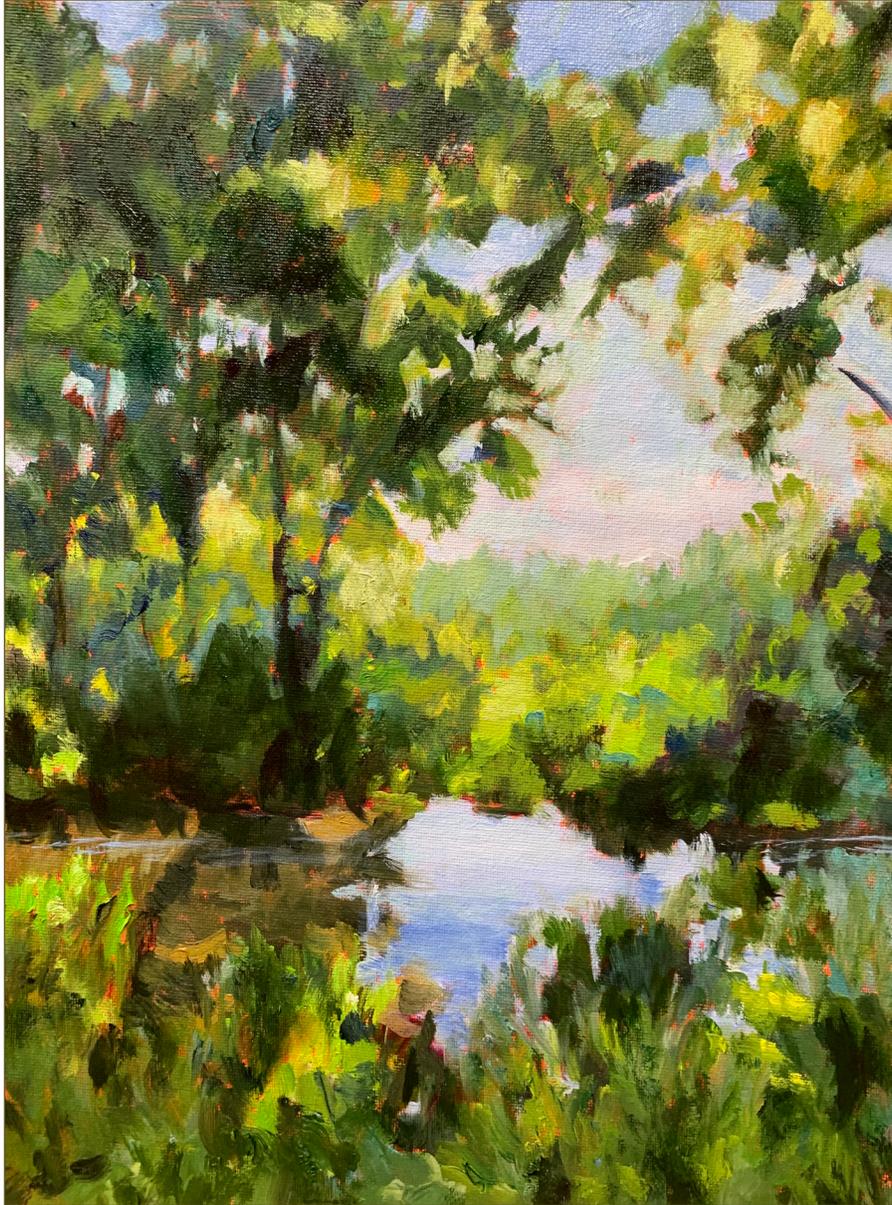
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Four Birds on the Beach at Sunset

18" x 24"

Are you a beach person or a mountain person? The great thing about being in the Southeastern coastal states is that it's easy to change your mind. Hmm, today, I'm going to choose the beach at sunset, with only a few birds to keep me company.



The Light Breaks Through
16" x 12"

This little painting offers a peek of what's behind the line of trees, to what's on the other side of the creek, to a sudden dazzle of light breaking through the woods.



Reflections (Hidden Pond #2)
24" x 36"

Calm waters reflecting a glorious sunset surrounded by quiet marshes. This large painting reveals the secret of what's hidden behind many a line of trees down a dirt road in the south.

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Farm Lane
24" x 36"

Fields have gone fallow in late summer. The lines of trees will help break winter's winds. Where does this lane go, anyway?



Sunrise Snow

24" x 36"

Even in the "upper south" like Virginia, snow is a big deal. Catching it as the rising sun turns the sky gold while the snow is still in cool shadow can be magical.



Hidden Pond
24" x 40" (diptych)

The woods late on a winter's day opens a view that is otherwise hidden. This diptych consists of two framed 24" x 20" canvases that will look stunning over Great Aunt Ida's buffet in your dining room or over the fireplace in your living room.



Crossing the James at Sunset
24" x 36"

I love crossing the James River at sunset, driving into a wide open sky filled with glorious colors and magnificent clouds. Make a statement in your home or office with this painting.



Good Bones (Maymont Tree)

24" x 36"

Magnificent trees make the bones of one of Richmond's most popular parks, the historic Maymont. This is only one of many there, caught when the early spring leaves are nearly the same color as the fall leaves – a golden green.

About Bart Levy

I am a child of the south. Hot, humid summers with frigid air conditioning, iced tea all year around (sweet, if your taste runs that way), and children brought up to be polite to their elders. Born in Virginia, raised in North Carolina, resident of Virginia all of my adult life.



The south definitely influences my painting, as you can see. It's a landscape of lonesome farms, wide rivers and dark creeks. The marshes, the mountains, the rolling hills in-between. Blue skies, ever-changing clouds. It's a beautiful land, settled first by Native Americans, then European immigrants since time immemorial. The peacefulness, the isolation, the sense of home—I work to capture it all with bold brushwork and a sense of home in my heart.

If you are interested in owning any of these paintings, or if you have a favorite that isn't in this collection, please visit my website. Or contact me directly—I'd love to talk to you.

— *Bart*

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