



323 West Sixth Street
Covington, KY 41011
MainStrasse Village
859-655-9571



Stoney's
Gift & Frame Shoppe

Sandi

Stonebraker, watercolor artist

In 1995, while living in Atlanta and working at Emory University, I enrolled in a community watercolor class. Participating in an "artsy" activity like watercolor had been on my "to do" list for several years but I was totally unprepared for the impact that this medium would have on my life. It didn't take long for me to realize that at age 53, I had found my passion!! What I lacked in training as an artist I made up for in determination. I began dragging home armloads of watercolor 'how to books' from the local library. In 1996, I spent a week in a watercolor workshop on St. Simons Island with Tony Couch. One of Tony's statements that resonated with me was "how good of an artist you become is directly related to how much you paint". From that moment on, I coveted every moment I could spend painting.

When I relocated to Covington, Kentucky in 1997, I was fascinated by the historical architecture in this old german town. It seemed there was a painting on every corner. I began painting the buildings of Covington and currently have a line of note cards featuring buildings in the area. Over the past 10 years, I have painted many subject matter and enjoy hanging my art in my coffee café/frame shop/art gallery.. My first love however, is flowers and whether painting them or planting them in my garden, I agree with Emma Goldman "I'd rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck"

My work has been exhibited at Emory University Hospital, Atlanta Georgia (employee exhibit), MSV Art Collaborative, MainStrasse Village, Covington, Kentucky (juried art show). Cathedral Basillica, Covington, Kentucky and of course . . . at
..Stoney's Coffee Café & Card Shoppe

Sandi Stonebraker, artist and owner
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Princesses dance in fields of flowers

Sandi Stonebraker believes in fairytales.

Those fairytales inspired Stonebraker, owner of Stoney's Coffee Café and Card Shoppe, 323 W. Sixth Street, Covington, to create her own line of princess-themed artwork titled, Once Upon a Time Creations. Stonebraker said the project started with an idea to redecorate her granddaughter's bedroom.

As part of the redecoration Stonebraker customized an original 24 x 30 canvas painting, straight from a fairytale. The painting depicted a princess surrounded by a field of flowers, highlighted with the words "Princess Carol's Garden," in honor of her granddaughter. While she was creating it, several customers saw Stonebraker's painting in her MainStrasse shop and encouraged her to paint more.

Stonebraker said that she originally created the painting because she did not want her 7-year-old granddaughter to feel upstaged by the family's new baby, but she had no idea that her art would be such a hit. "It seems like all moms, aunts, grandmothers and friends have a little princess of their own," said Stonebraker.

Stonebraker now takes custom orders to design princess themed artwork. The fairytale figures are painted on 16 x 20 canvases (other sizes available) and dressed in choice of colors. Each princess sports a crown decorated by a birthstone jewel, and a magical princess puff wand. Stonebraker offers "Prince" paintings for little boys.

The canvas paintings are further personalized with the name, hair and eye color of each special "prince" or "princess." Stonebraker said the paintings are perfect for birthdays or Christmas.

Once Upon a Time Creations can be ordered online at stoneyscoffeecafe.com or by calling 859-655-9571 or stop by the shop at 323 West Sixth Street, MainStrasse Village, Covington, KY