

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lorrie Saunders ArtGallery is Pleased to Present the Paintings of Dana Ellyn

STORYTELLING

Norfolk, VA – Lorrie Saunders ArtGallery is pleased to present the paintings of Dana Ellyn in the new exhibition, STORYTELLING, opening Saturday, November 19, 7:00 – 9:30 pm and showing through January 13, 2012.

Upon seeing the works of Washington, DC based artist Dana Ellyn, one is immediately struck by the fact that there is more to her figurative paintings than bright colors and a unique artistic style. Straddling the fence between social realism and expressionism, Ellyn’s spirited paintings have stories to tell, opinions to express, and according to the artist, the ability to “deliver hard slaps to myths of all kinds – from religion to politics.”

As an intellectual artist, Ellyn’s feelings and emotions about a subject or situation always give way to thought, and according to the artist – a whole lot of it. Ellyn shares that the works she creates represent much “plodding and planning” and that her process consists of “a lot of study, a lot of quiet... door closed.” It is fair to say that the paintings for her exhibition, STORYTELLING, are certainly no exception.

This latest body of work, notes Ellyn, was inspired by her “well-read focus” on literary classics, progressive views on current events, and an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. Her recent works continue to demonstrate the artist’s ability to not only tell the story but to skillfully boil it down to its raw essence. This is perfectly exemplified in Ellyn’s painting, *Bombs and Oil Everywhere and not a Drop to Drink*. Employing a more graphic style reminiscent of a Soviet-era propaganda poster, children, looking skyward with mouths wide open, have raining down upon them oil and bombs. Regardless of a viewer’s position on America’s involvement in two wars or its dependence on foreign oil, the painting is most definitely a catalyst for contemplation and conversation.

Love it or hate it, Ellyn’s work is stimulating, provocative, and down right smart. Her ability to cleverly combine humor with social / political commentary, and then throw in a literary classic or two is an incredible gift to be sure. We can only hope that she continues to tell her stories and to challenge our sensibilities with her sharp wit and keen intellect.

[Dana Ellyn](#) is a full-time artist who lives and paints in her studio in a subsidized artist housing unit in downtown Washington DC. A graduate of George Washington University, Ellyn committed herself to full-time status in 2002 when she decided to leave her corporate job and pursue painting.

A prolific artist and exhibitor, Ellyn’s work was recently shown in a solo exhibition at Galeria Artevistas in Barcelona, Spain. In late fall, Ellyn’s work will be featured in the annual Transformer Auction and Benefit Gala to be held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. And in December, her paintings will be exhibited in a two person show at The Dunes Gallery, also located in the nation’s capital.

The artist will be present at the opening reception scheduled for Saturday, November 19, from 7:00 – 9:30 PM at Lorrie Saunders ArtGallery, 424 W 21st Street, Norfolk, VA.

ART GALLERY

LORRIE SAUNDERS
424 W 21ST ST STE 101 NORFOLK, VA 23517

Gallery hours are Wednesday through Friday, 1:00 to 5:30 PM, Saturday, 1:00 to 4:30 PM, and by appointment.

About ArtGallery

Located on 21st Street in Norfolk's historic Ghent district, Lorrie Saunders ArtGallery specializes in the promotion and exhibition of contemporary art by both emerging and established artists. Focusing on solo and small group exhibitions, ArtGallery provides a place for artists to explore a diverse array of cultural and social issues that encourage thought provoking discourse. Through diverse media, including drawing, painting, sculpture, photography and installations, our artists bring to the community contemporary work that is not only progressive and forward-thinking, but enduring. At ArtGallery, our ultimate mission is to pass on the belief that everyone deserves great art.

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For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Lorrie Saunders at 757-627-9808 or 757-635-1162 or lsaunders@artgalleryls.net. Please visit our website at www.artgalleryls.net and connect with us on [facebook](#).