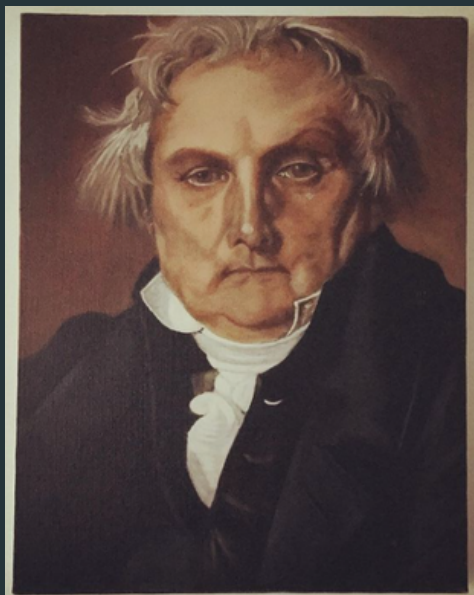


SOUTHBURY MAKERS SPOTLIGHT



M. Osaki, interdisciplinary artist

By Kelly Keenan, SEDC Arts & Culture Subcommittee
Photos courtesy M. Osaki

This month we are thrilled to feature the artwork of multitalented artist M. Osaki, a Southbury resident of 10 years. Often praised for her painting style and technique, Osaki also is a skilled writer, cook, and sommelier.

Q: When did your interest in painting begin?

A: I grew up smelling the oil paint of my father, who is a painter himself, and became his critic at a young age. However, I did not develop an interest in painting until I became an adult, and have been working on it on and off for 20 years. I am now an awarded artist and my work has been exhibited in Japan.

Q: Do you have a favorite subject matter and source of inspiration?

A: My passion is Renaissance art, which I admire for its realism, depth, and beauty. I studied the style in New York City, where I learned to paint with the techniques of traditional oil painting. During the pandemic, I started to raise chickens in my backyard, and found a new inspiration for my art. I began to paint each chicken using watercolor, applying the traditional techniques of oil painting.

Q: What is your favorite part of the process? Least favorite?

A: My favorite part of the painting process is creating the shadows from dark to light, which gives the illusion of three-dimensionality and contrast. My least favorite part is the time it takes to complete a painting, which can be several weeks or months depending on the size and complexity of the work.

Continues on following page...

SOUTHBURY MAKERS SPOTLIGHT



M. Osaki, interdisciplinary artist - cont.

Q: Is there a particular artist whose work you admire?

A: I admire many artists, but my favorite is Rembrandt, the Dutch master of light and shadow. His paintings have a soulful quality that transcends the canvas and touches the viewer's emotions.

Q: Are there any other special talents or creations you'd like to share with the community?

A: I am a certified sommelier and a recipe developer. I have published a book called "Wine Tasting Words - a Quick Guide" for beginners who want to learn how to describe the taste of wines. I have also created the t-shirt line "My Wine Shirt." Right now I am working on a cookbook that features my recipes. I've also collaborated to create a notebook series called "Philosophy Chicken", which are humorous products that feature witty quotes and sayings on the cover.

Q: Do you have any advice for emerging artists who are trying to find their voice / style / genre?

A: My advice for aspiring artists is to see as many artworks as possible to find what they like and to draw every day, even if it is only for five minutes. Practice is the key, that's why I always have a notebook and pencil close by.

For more information about this month's maker, or if you are interested in being featured in an upcoming issue of the Southbury Makers Spotlight, contact us at edcsouthburymakers@gmail.com or visit www.southbury-ct.org/arts.



WHERE TO FIND THEM



mo@maisonte.com



www.instagram.com/maisonte_home/



Wine Book available on Amazon:
www.amazon.com/dp/0615941524



Wine T-Shirt Line available online:
mywineshirt.myspreadshop.com



Baking Recipes
guts-ad.com/gourmet/



Notebook available on Amazon:
www.amazon.com/philosophy-chicken

