

# Emerging Beauty

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As the arts world slowly emerges from the yearlong coronavirus pandemic, major museums have begun to open again. But if you look closely, art is reappearing all around us.

Venues that were little noticed before the shutdown now stand out more clearly, as art and artists previously “under the radar” now shine like beacons against the bleaker landscape of life during the COVID-19 crisis.

French-born painter and pen-and-ink artist Christian Quintin has maintained his studio and gallery in downtown Santa Rosa since 2013 and continues to show and sell his work there by appointment.

Quintin, 63, who was born in Brittany in France, came to the United States in 1981 and settled in 2007 in Santa Rosa, where he opened his own downtown studio and gallery in 2013. It’s open by appointment now, and Quintin hopes to stage an art show soon.

“My life is simple,” he said. “I create art every day. I decide, and I do what I want. Most people envy my lifestyle. It’s fortunate to find meaning in life.”

Quintin’s pictures are bursting with rich colors, and even the isolation of the past year has not changed that.

“My palette is rather bright and colorful. I never use brown,” he said. “The latest pieces I did showed my desire to encourage a sense of hope.”

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