

Artist brings paintings to life with joy, passion and vibrant colors

pix11.com/news/local-news/artist-brings-paintings-to-life-with-joy-passion-and-vibrant-colors

Marvin Scott

March 31, 2026

NEW YORK (PIX11) – Color is what resonates in Jan Dilenschneider’s paintings. It’s what she says brings a blank canvas to life. Her paintings on exhibit at the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture on Bleecker Street reflect her passion to preserve the beauty of nature.

Dilenschneider says, “My mission is to express a point of view, an impression, an emotion with leaves, greenery, and water that has a little tilt to it. It has color changes.” She explains that she is an expressionist who “borrows from impressionists.

Dilenschneider comes from a family of artists. Her work has been exhibited in Paris and Monaco. She describes her work as bold and strong. Color, she claims, defines her work. It’s not which color to use, she says, it’s how it plays off, modifies, and changes the other colors.

According to Dilenschneider, “Color is the excitement. Color is the joy and the passion, but gesture is just as important, if not more important. It’s what makes leaves go down toward the water, that’s the gesture in painting.”

Dilenschneider says the whole world is her visual inspiration. But it was her home in Connecticut that served as the vantage point for her prized painting, the sunrise seen from her bedroom window. “It was inspirational and was aesthetically gorgeous,” she beams. “I decided I have to paint this. Everything was aimed at the sun, and someone suggested we give this to the Cardinal.”

As we walk around the sunshine gallery, Jan singles out. It describes some of her vivid paintings, including one of a scene she saw driving down a road in Provence, in France: She reflects, “There was a tremendous amount of light coming from the left side on the road, there were blue shadows, and it was just magnificent, so we had to get it on canvas.”

Jan Dilenschneider continues to paint and follows her mother's guidance.

"My mother told me I had turpentine in my veins. I do it because I love it."

Jan Dilenschneider says she paints to share her emotions through her art. She wants people to feel the way she does about nature—to stop, look, appreciate, to fall in love with it again.

Jan Dilenschneider's Paintings are on exhibit, and some are for sale at the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture at 18 Bleecker Street.