

Art Box Artist of the Month: Gloria Avner

Gloria Avner is an artist and writer whose drawings, prints, and paintings have won acclaim in art shows from south Florida to coastal Maine. In Key Largo, her works can be seen at The Art Box, MM 101, Bayside. In Islamorada they are on display at Bitton's Bistro, MM 82, Oceanside. Gloria has been a member of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles for over 20



years, takes part in their annual show, and frequently donates work to charities for fund-raising events. Gloria has been influenced by her life-long travels, study, and interest in the art of indigenous people, which she showcased in her Arteffects Gallery at Pirate's Cove from 1979 until 2003. She has worked in artist studios in Mexico, explored lost wax bronze casting at Bellas Artes in



Much of Gloria Avner's work reflects people who have made an impression on her in her travels. Below is *Washerwoman at the Aids Orphanage in Wat Opat*.

San Miguel d'Allende, painted in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and India, and studied at the John Campbell Folk School in North Carolina. Ms. Avner teaches painting, including batik technique, to people of all ages. Her work with the Island Christian School children at Morada Way this winter produced some outstanding artwork among first through sixth graders. Her goal is to build self-esteem

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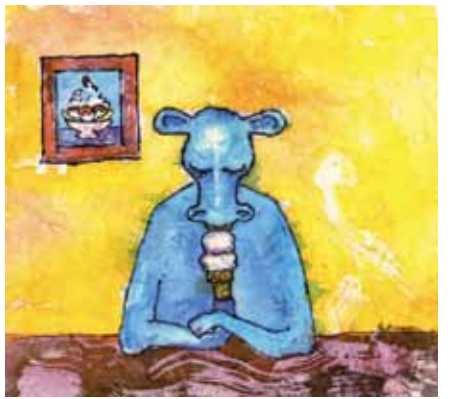
Dancers.



Avner's collage entitled *Roots* was selected to be in the 2016 Women Artists Datebook.



A few from Gloria's lighter side... *Mermaids Take a Break* and *hang their tales to dry*, *Sheep Knitting*, and *Blue Cow*.



These three musician studies show some of the work Gloria has been doing using her iPad to draw!



Gloria and her students show what can be learned in her Batik Class at The Art Box.

Art Box Artist ... continued

among her students while creating artwork -- and to instill a love of the creative process. The ancient technique of batik painting, using wax, ink, and watercolor on delicate rice paper, has been Ms. Avner's specialty for over a decade. The unique effects produced by layers of ever intensifying color, using wax as a resist to preserve light under-layers and then cracking the wax before removing it, are unlike those of any other kind of painting. There are always surprises. She has been teaching this technique successfully for years, most recently at The Art Box. Gloria's portraits hang in several collections and appeared as author portraits on the covers of two

recent books. Most recently, one of her paintings was selected for publication in the Syracuse Cultural Workers' 2016 Women Artists Datebook (pictured at the left). Ms. Avner's whimsical sense of humor comes through in her work. She also loves to paint people who impress her in her travels, like the young woman in the tiny village of Wat Opat. Recently, she has been creating drawings on an iPad, one more way to express her love of experimentation and diversity of creative play. For more information on commissions, classes and prices of originals and prints, call 305 619 0216. See more of her paintings at <http://fineartamerica.com/profiles/gloria-avner.html>

Sounds of the Keys



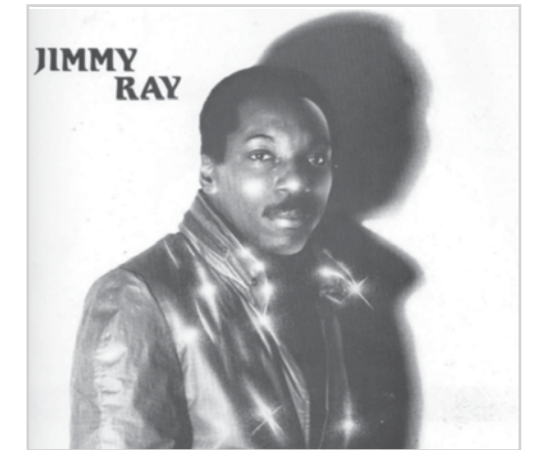
Scotty Migone playing his guitar on a table with a Corona. Photo by Rob LeBrun.



Selwyn Birchwood Band out of Tampa-St. Pete at Bayside.



The Scotty Meyer Band at Bayside on Memorial Day.



Jimmy Ray's at Big Chill on Wednesdays and Pilot House on Thursdays.



Mac Arnold and his Plateful of Blues at Bayside Grille.



The amazing, multi-talented John McKinna at the Pilot House.

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