

Celebrate mom with artist

SEA CAOST ECHO

With Mother's Day right around the corner, Gallery 220 in Bay St. Louis is celebrating the Second Saturday Artwalk by featuring the work of Michelle Allee. Allee specializes in soulful portraits of archetypal women who personify the strength of the female spirit. What better way to honor our mothers than by presenting them with a beautiful piece of art that acknowledges their importance in our lives.

While Allee often paints queens as symbols of strength and perseverance, she also focuses on houses and hearts, both referencing the ideas of home and personal relationships as vital in human life. Her paintings are influenced by her travels around the world, and her experiences with people of different cultures. Allee affirms that her interest in yoga as a centering activity has also influenced her work.

Allee's paintings have an unmistakable style that is instantly recognizable. She begins by texturing her canvas and staining it to give the appearance of age, or of an old plaster wall that one might see gracing a centuries-old building in Europe. The stylized figures, houses and hearts that she creates on the surface seem to beckon one to come closer and discover their secrets-and then they ask to be taken home with the viewer.

The other two dozen artists who share the historic art deco building on the corner of



Girl with the Pearls by Michelle Allee.

Toulme and Main Street in Old Town Bay St. Louis will be joining Michelle in serving up a buffet of food and drink. Featured dishes will be those beloved by, or originally created by the artists' mothers. Join Michelle Allee and some of the Bay's finest artists for an evening of celebration and please, bring your "mama" so we can wish her a Happy Mother's Day, too.

Gallery 220 is located at

220 Main Street, perfectly situated halfway between lower Old Town and the Depot District. Festivities start at 5 PM on Saturday, May 12 and there is no charge for the event. For more information please call 228.466.6347.

**Jewelry Repair
We Buy Gold**

Bay Jewelers
315 K Hwy 90 Waveland, MS
466-0425

'Mothers rule' at May Second Saturday in BSL