

Thayer Carter

Artist-in Residence 2018

by Judy Goldberg



Intrigued by the notion of walking in the footsteps of his ancestors, Thayer Carter, visual artist, wood-worker and builder, became a Landfall Trust/The Rooms artist-in-residence in 2018. During his residency, Thayer focused on daily drawings and/or watercolors, many of which translated into woodcut blocks, printed from his home studio press in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Thayer produced 17 woodcuts, generating 30-print editions from each block, viewable on his website at Newfoundland Collection.

Residing at Kent Cottage was a magical time for me. My grandparents and family had lived in the cottage between 1914-15 and my mother was born in St. John's. The experience opened the door to a new appreciation for my family heritage and cultivated artwork from a landscape inherently inspiring. The residency at Kent cottage was invaluable.

Over the past three years and during the COVID-19 lockdown, Thayer has continued to produce woodcut prints, watercolors, oil and acrylic paintings. Additionally, Thayer and his son, Forest, started a small building project outside Santa Fe, where the family owns land bordering the National Forest. Over the past three seasons, the father-son

duo have designed a 12 x 18 foot saltbox type building with a two-sided porch facing 180 degree views of wilderness. From captured rainwater they hand-mixed more than 3 tons of cement; constructed an off-grid building from pre-cut parts and assembled recycled materials on location with hand tools. Reminiscent of his grandfather, Rockwell Kent, and his great uncle, Abbot Thayer - both accomplished designers and builders, as well as artists - Thayer and Forest are keeping family traditions alive.

Thayer's artwork will be featured in a new publication, *ART IN THE MAKING, Essays by Artists About What They Do*, published by Fisher Press and planned for release April 2022. Thayer is proposing to publish a book of his own artworks in 2023.

You can see Thayer's Newfoundland Series at <https://thayercarter.com/newfoundland-collection-2019>



both photos of artwork by Thayer Carter