

Feature For:



The Copper Fox Art Gallery
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Art that Speaks to the Soul

It's been a long two years. Filled to the brim with isolation, most of us have spent the majority of our time within our own homes, surrounded by the same people and the same environment day in and day out. Monotony has become the norm, and produced a population starving for stimulation and craving human interaction.

It is clear that we need an escape. Experiences to break the monotony and remind us that beauty, peace and inspiration still exist in the world.

Close your eyes and picture this with me. You are driving down a long stretch of empty road. Winding up and down, back and forth through the most beautiful rolling hills. Fields of lush green grass stretch out for what seems like miles on either side of you. Everything is quiet, everything is at rest. Every once in a while you notice herds of cattle dotting the green plain in front of timeless homes, guarded by stretches of picketed white fence. The clear blue sky races to the horizon above you, hurtling over masses of cloud along the way as if it were stepping over cotton balls. The expanse of the beauty is breathtaking, and the further you drive the further behind you leave your worries and concerns.

Soon you approach a quaint length of town. A single road with rustic, historic buildings on either side. You struggle to date the town, wondering if it has been centuries or

days since its creation. You notice a place to park and decide to stop for a while. Opening your door you plant your feet on the soft green grass and feel a slight breeze blow across your face. Taking in a deep breath of fresh air you are filled with a sense of belonging and new beginnings. Holding it in for just a second, you then empty out your lungs with a long soothing exhale. Releasing your worries and responsibilities in the process. You feel lighter, hopeful and adventurous, excited to explore the hidden gem that you happened upon.

A glitter of copper catches your eye. You turn to see a beautiful white house with a joyous yellow door and a shining copper roof. You lower your gaze to read the sign displayed above the door: “The Copper Fox”. Curious, you walk up the front steps, through the black porch and open that heavy yellow door to find the most wonderfully warm and welcoming art gallery you have ever seen.

The Copper Fox Art Gallery is, in fact, a real place, though it may seem right out of a fairytale. It is located in Leipers Fork, one of Tennessee’s most beloved historic towns. Established in 1785, it has become both a frequent location for travelers of the Natchez Trace and a haven for artists, locals and antiquers alike. Anyone and everyone is welcome to feel at home in this historic homestead. No matter who you are, or where you come from, you are sure to be treated like family and welcomed with open arms.

The real gem of Leipers Fork is The Copper Fox Art Gallery, which is located at the very front stretch of the street. Impossible to miss, The Copper Fox resides in a gorgeous historic home built in 1888. Carefully renovated in 2012, it is now the perfect environment for shopping, allowing guests to feel right at home as they browse the gorgeous selection of artwork. Along with the interior updates, a shining copper roof was added to the house during the renovation. This roof, along with the name of the original owners: Fox, soon became the gallery’s namesake.

The Copper Fox has built a notable reputation for itself, known across the country for its welcoming atmosphere and gorgeous, ever-changing selection of local hand-crafted artwork. The location first opened its doors in 2012 under the ownership of David and Lisa Fox. The couple have also owned the Leiper's Creek Gallery since 2001, just doors down from The Copper Fox. As experienced gallery owners, the Foxes knew exactly what to do in order to get everything running smoothly. Soon the task of running two successful galleries became overwhelming and they sold The Copper Fox to its manager, Talbot Grimm and her husband John in 2016.

The Grimms built upon the foundation that the Foxes established for The Copper Fox Art Gallery. "Since day one, we have worked to breathe our own vibrance into this beloved space, instilling our love for quality artwork and genuine service into every aspect of the business," said Talbot Grimm. Their passion for people and hand-crafted art is clearly displayed in the way that the Grimms operate the gallery. From the genuine connections they make with customers to the deep care and intentionality they display in their selection of artwork, the Grimms have made The Copper Fox a piece of their home and their customers a part of their family.

A staple feature of The Copper Fox is the diversity of work available at the gallery. "From ceramics, textiles, wood, glass and metal, to sculpture, furniture, jewelry and leatherwork, we're proud to showcase traditional and modern craftsmanship, as interpreted by today's best talent," said Grimm. Anyone can find something to love in the gallery, no matter their age, gender or artistic taste. "The variety is what amazes me," said frequent customer and artist Lisa Jennings, "everything is so different, yet so cohesive and beautiful."

The Grimms work hard to perfectly curate their selection of artwork in the gallery. "Every handmade piece is carefully curated to form a collection of work intended to surprise

and delight those who visit,” said Grimm. And with over 90 artists represented in their gallery, the Grimms have plenty of work to choose from.

Wanting each trip to The Copper Fox to be unique and special, the Grimms constantly change and add to their art displays and selection. “We want to keep things fresh,” said John Grimm as he was swapping out pieces of pottery, “nothing stays the same for very long here.” Their constant updates make The Copper Fox a frequent shop for local customers, some visiting as often as every weekend to see the new work. “I always find something new here,” said regular customer James Cromwell, “it’s great for my wife and I, but dangerous for my wallet.”

The Grimms take care to learn the stories of their customers and their artists alike. “With a passion for working closely with our artists and our customers, we are always pleased to help you find artwork that stirs you,” said Grimm, “sharing stories and details behind every sculpture, vase or candlestick.” Determined to help each and every customer find the perfect addition to their home, the staff at The Copper Fox is eager to share the stories behind the pieces they sell and artists they represent.

Fostering personal relationships with every artist they represent is extremely important to the Grimms, adding to the personal, family-like environment of The Copper Fox. “The sincere representation of our artists is our top priority, and as such, we aim to work with each and every artist on both a professional and personal level,” said John Grimm. This includes frequent visits to their artist’s studios, working with each artist to determine the best form of payment and delivery, and taking the time to hear each artist’s life story, artistic process, inspiration and training. “We strive to act as honorable stewards for our talented artists while providing a comfortable and refreshing place to find high-quality, original artwork,” said Grimm.

The Copper Fox is home to over 90 artists, the majority of which are from Tennessee and the remainder from 11 surrounding states. The Grimms are advocates for their artists, and take the responsibility of stewarding their work very seriously. Each piece of art is thoughtfully and intentionally displayed in the gallery to best show off its beauty and is labeled with the artist's name. Not only is the story of each artist shared with customers when browsing, but every single piece purchased from The Copper Fox is accompanied with the biography of the artist who created the piece. "We think it makes a difference when we share about the artists," said Talbot Grimm, "it further connects the customer with not only us and the gallery, but the creator of the work that they love."

If there is one word to describe The Copper Fox it would be connection. Every single person who walks into the historic copper-crowned home becomes a part of The Copper Fox family. Whether you are an artist, local or visiting Nashville for the very first time you will feel welcomed, loved and right at home. Come to browse, come to buy, come to leave your worries behind. The Copper Fox is the perfect escape from the monotony of your routine life. The perfect place to remember that inspiration, creativity, peace and artistry still exist, and that they can become a part of your daily life.