

Strokes of Joy:

Christi Bunn, Artist

Christi Bunn's fine art paintings and drawings have now been commissioned by clients all across the United States and the U.K. In 2020, Christi will be featured in a one-woman art show at the Hoover City Hall Gallery.

BY CAROLYN DRINKARD

Henry David Thoreau once pointed out that it's not what you look at that matters; it's what you see. For Christi Phillips Bunn, an outdoor art class opened her eyes to a whole new world, and it changed her life forever.

She majored in Advertising/Graphic Design and Studio Art at the University of Alabama. On one occasion, her professor took the class to Denny Chimes and asked the students to view the University's amazing architecture against the blue sky. It was at that moment the "light bulb" went off in her head, inspiring her to capture perspective and detail in architectural structures. She has been doing that ever since.



After graduation, Christi married Andy Bunn, a Methodist minister, moved to Birmingham and worked in graphic design for an energy company, honing her computer skills along the way. In 1999, she started her own web-design company and freelanced from home. Today, she serves as principal web and graphic designer for Bunn Media.

Technology opened a whole new world for Bunn. "In college, we did not use computers," she explained. "We did everything by hand. But, I had learned enough about the computer while working that I taught myself to build websites."

With her three children growing older, Bunn found time to dabble more in her beloved art. In 2006, two gifts would unexpectedly change her life forever! Looking for something special for both her mother and mother-in-law for Christmas, she prepared two graphite drawings of their homes, along with matching notecards. Both were delighted and shared their special gifts with others. Suddenly, friends and family were requesting her artwork and telling their friends about her amazing talent. When she put a few art samples on her website, the response was incredible.

Bunn's fine art paintings and drawings have now been commissioned by clients all across the United States and the U.K. She is sought out for her architectural pieces, from homes to churches to commercial buildings and more.



When not working on commissioned pieces, Bunn enjoys painting everything from florals to landscapes to scenes of everyday life. She has also done portraits of people and animals, paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolor and pastel, along with drawing in graphite, charcoal and Prismacolor pencil.

Her special attention to detail and faithful representation of perspective enhance each piece.

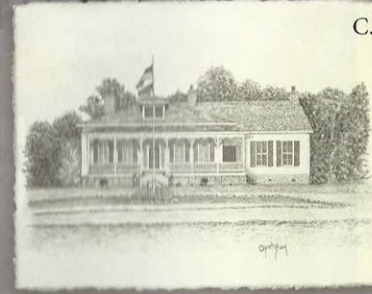
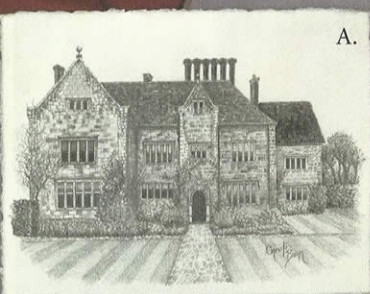
"I have done treasured homes for families who wanted to remember each place they had lived," she stated. "I have done vacation homes and lake houses where special memories have been made. I have done churches where special events such as weddings or baptisms have happened. I've done treasured pets that are loved or fondly remembered by their owners. I have even done baby animals for a nursery."

Evoking fond memories is Bunn's desire.

"Whether the piece is of a home, a lake house, a vacation home, a

GRAPHITE PENCIL RENDERINGS:

- A. 9-by-12 graphite of "Bateman's - Home of Rudyard Kipling"
- B. 11-by-14 commissioned graphite of "The Welch Group Building"
- C. 14-by-18 graphite commissioned historical piece of "Rotch Antebellum Home"
- D. 11-by-14 graphite of "The Big Oak at Augusta National"
- E. 11-by-14 graphite commissioned piece of "Beach House"
- F. 9-by-12 graphite commissioned piece of Hillside Christian Church - Amarillo



church, a business or some other place near and dear to someone's heart, each piece is done with tender care and an emphasis on excellence," she said.

Bunn's "Bama Art" is some of her most requested work. From the President's Mansion to Denny Chimes or Bryant Denny Stadium on game day, her fine drawings of

the University of Alabama architecture capture the grandeur and tradition of each iconic structure.

When not working on commissioned pieces, Bunn enjoys painting everything from florals to landscapes to scenes of everyday life. She has also done portraits of people and animals. She paints in oil, acrylic, watercolor and pastel, along with drawing in graphite, charcoal and Prismacolor pencil; however, her most requested commissions are still her pencil works with fine detailing.

Bunn has also used the internet as an amazing tool, creating digital artwork for wedding invitations, stationery, Christmas cards and much more. Many brides, who want unique, one-of-a-kind designs for that special day, seek her custom monograms, which are in high demand.

Bunn not only enjoys the process that each unique piece brings but she also loves the challenge.

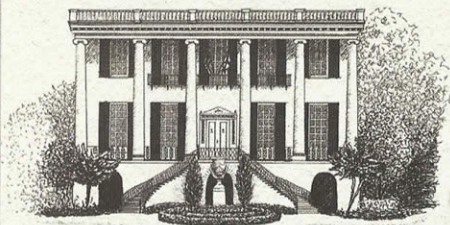
"Finding just the right composition, tone, color and values, and then putting it all together to create a treasured heirloom is amazing," she declared. "And then there is nothing more delightful than receiving a note from a customer, telling me what the 'reveal' was like. Many times I have been told of great celebrations and tears of joy!"

For years, Bunn has been a part of the local art community in the Birmingham area. Since 2012, she has been a board member of the Mountain Brook Art Association, serving as its president in 2016. She is also on the board of Hoover's Arts Alliance. In 2020, she will be honored with a one-woman art show at the Hoover City Hall Gallery.

Andy pastors Emmanuel Methodist Church in Bessemer. As she has pursued her dream of doing fine art, her biggest fans have been her husband and three children: Jacob, Benjamin and Mary Katherine.

BAMA ART

All prints are available for purchase on Christi's website store at bunnmedia.com.



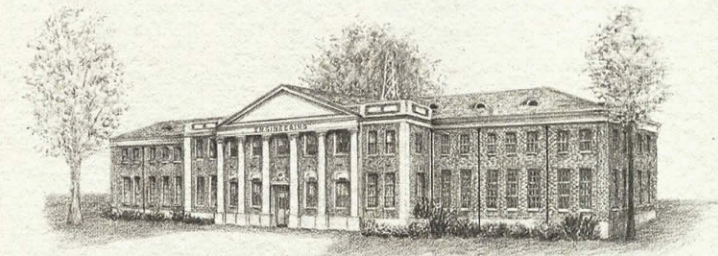
Christi Bunn

9-by-12 UA President's Mansion in pen and ink



Christi Bunn

9-by-12 graphite of Denny Chimes



Christi Bunn

9-by-12 graphite of Hardaway Hall, the former Engineering building



Christi Bunn

9-by-12 graphite of Shelby Hall, the new School of Engineering



14-by-18 acrylic (original available) Cable Mill, Cades Cove

Jackson Pollock once said that every good painter paints what he is. Bunn's passion and purpose radiate with each stroke.

"I am inspired by the beauty I find around me every day and by the Creator whose hand is in every part of that beauty," she sighed. "I desire to create a work that is both visually stunning and true to the wishes of my client. I believe that God is the

giver of all good gifts, and I am incredibly thankful to Him for allowing me to have the privilege of doing art that can bring joy to those who receive it."

Check out Christi Bunn's incredible work on Facebook at art@christibunn.com. Contact her at christi@bunnmedia.com. She can also be reached at Bunn Media at 205-616-3545. 🌱



The entire Bunn family have been Christi's biggest fans as she has pursued her dream of doing fine art. (L to r) Christi, Jacob, Mary Katherine, Benjamin and Andy Bunn.



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