

About the Artist

Candace Lovely

by Alex Levin



Observing her beautiful collection of *Fair Women* in flowing, ankle-length cotton and her Corinthian columned porticos, one might assume that Candace Lovely's sensibilities are mostly rooted in the South. And speaking with the artist, one would still have no reason to think her Vermont-born and Boston-bred, for she possesses that same genteel grace so evident in beguiling lasses tempered by debutant balls and lemonade on the verandah. But then how much difference is there really between a Yankee firebrand and the sassy Southern Belle?

To even an untrained eye it is obvious that Candace Lovely's works are true masterpieces. Her work portrays a fascination with sunlight, a contrast between warm and cool colors, and the distinction in brush strokes. Boston's Copley Center, America's oldest fine art society, claims Candace as one of its few living Copley Masters. She was also acclaimed one of the great American Impressionist Painters



by the *Boston Globe*. Easterners, steeped in the art of Homer and Sargent, will tell you she is the reigning *Grand Dame of American Impressionism*. Her list of awards and accomplishments are pages long, and include an invitation to the White House to paint the official portrait of First Lady Barbara Bush.

Two decades ago, Ms. Lovely chose South Carolina to be her home, and today she continues to teach students and produce breathtaking canvases in her Hilton Head Island studio. Gradually, as with any artist breathing the air of this southern state, her vision has taken a decidedly post-antebellum turn. That vision is evident in her Lowcountry landscapes and coastal portraits, as well as in the energetic paint marker sketches that depict a new way of life and work emerging

in the Palmetto State.

In one of her more recent works, *Good and Plenty Hug*, Lovely portrays a different image of the South. Although many will wince to see their cherished flag colored pink, others may loath to see it at all. Its meaning lies in the vision of an artist who never thinks about politics or choosing sides. "If we can think of these symbols as hugs and kisses, dress them in candy colors, then they become far gentler," stated Lovely, who feels her depiction of *Hugs* and *Kisses* will attract a special collector one day.

To suggest this new vision requires an artist who can see past the anger to love, and is talented and sure enough to put that love out there. A rebel move if ever there was one, by an artist that the new South has embraced as one of its own. For more information on this internationally acclaimed artist, visit her Website at www.candacelovely.com or contact her at 843-681-6632.

