

Lake Norman

M A G A Z I N E

Merry and Bright

- The Ultimate Gift Guide
- The Top Local Holiday Happenings
- Four Fantastic Seasonal Getaways

Art Smart: Nathaniel Rogers'
Surreal Success

The Story Behind Davidson's
Historic Barbershop

Italian Import! Authentic
Tuscan Fare in Mooresville

contributors



Karel Bond Lucander

Karel is a freelance writer who crafts stories for magazines and sales material for corporations, nonprofits, and advertising agencies. She is currently writing a book about an automotive heiress and her award-winning horses. Karel lives in Davidson with her husband, teenage twins, and two dogs.



Leah Hughes

Leah is a freelance writer in Charlotte. In addition to *Lake Norman Magazine*, her work has appeared in *Our State*, *Business North Carolina*, *News & Record*, *Winston-Salem Monthly*, and *Epicurean Charlotte*. Leah is a graduate of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. www.leahchughes.com



Jennifer Brulé

Jennifer is a classically trained chef who has been developing recipes and writing about food for more than a decade. Jennifer is a regular contributor to WCNC Charlotte, as well as a freelancer for regional and national magazines, and Food Network.com



Michael J. Solender

Michael J. Solender has written hundreds of feature articles for regional and national publications. He serves as the City Life editor for the online civic and arts publication, *Charlotte Viewpoint*. Read more from him at www.michaeljwrites.com



Elisabeth Arriero

Elisabeth is a Charlotte native who received her degrees in journalism and psychology from UNC Chapel Hill in 2009. After working for a small Union County paper for several months, Elisabeth came to work for *The Charlotte Observer*, where she covers events and news in Charlotte and Lake Norman. In her free time, Elisabeth enjoys boxing at the gym and playing her saxophone in the Lake Norman Symphony Orchestra.

Cosmetic Center of Lake Norman

A division of Vein Center of Lake Norman

Pamper yourself...
It will be our secret!

Botox and Bubbly!

- Every Friday afternoon in December.
- Sip bubbly beverages and anti-age with Botox.
- \$10 per unit (25 units minimum/ reg \$11 per unit)
- And receive a complimentary Laser Facial (reg \$175)



Appointments required



Brilliant
DISTINCTIONS
PROGRAM

GentleMax Pro

CareCrec

(704) 947-7027

www.cosmeticcenteroflakenorman.com

10225 Hickorywood Hill Ave. Suite A
Huntersville, NC 28078

Baby its cold outside,
but I love showing off my legs!

Thank You Vein Center of Lake Norman!

- Varicose Vein Treatment
- Spider Vein Treatment
- Sclerotherapy
- Facial Spider Veins
- Participating with most major insurance companies
- Latest Laser and Radio Frequency Technology
- In-office Procedures
- Minimal Downtime

David L. Walrath,
M.D., F.A.C.S., R.P.V.I.

Dr. Walrath is United States Board Certified in General Surgery and is a Diplomat of the American Board of Venous and Lymphatic Medicine.



Vein Center of Lake Norman



704-947-7027

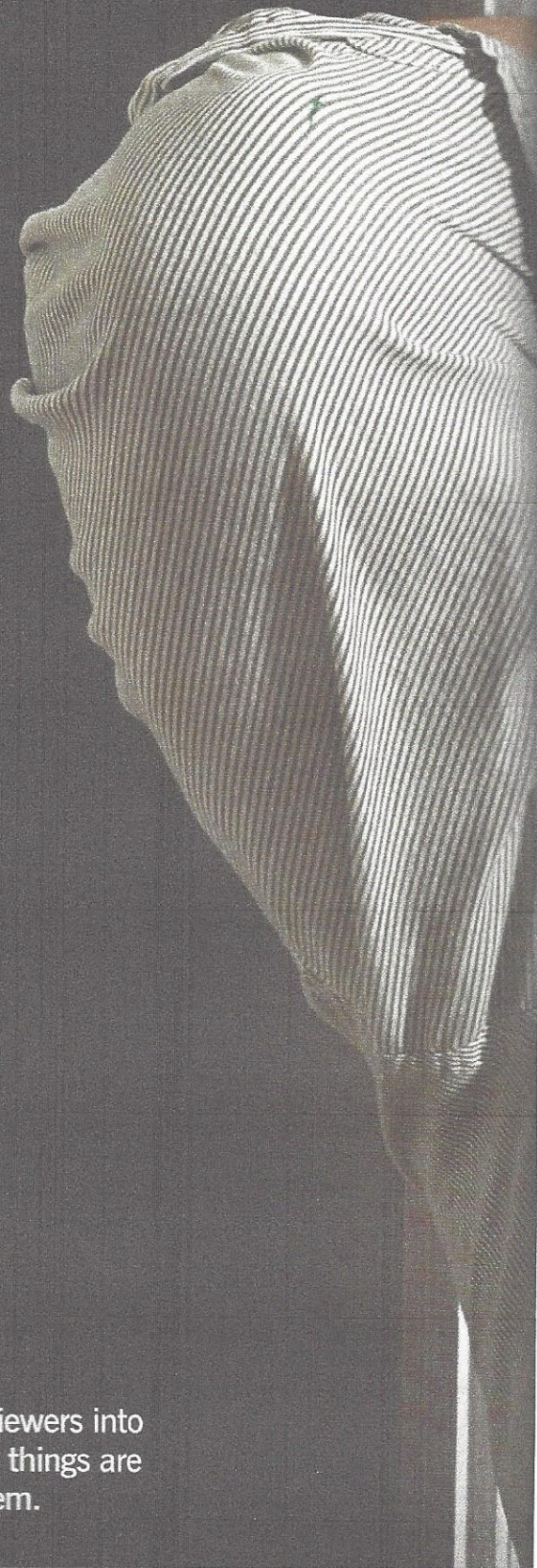
www.veincenteroflakenorman.com

10215 HICKORYWOOD HILL AVE. SUITE B.

STORY MICHAEL J. SOLENDER
PHOTOGRAPHY GAYLE SHOMER

Magical Mystery Lure

A Davidson artist takes viewers into
fascinating realms where things are
not always what they seem.







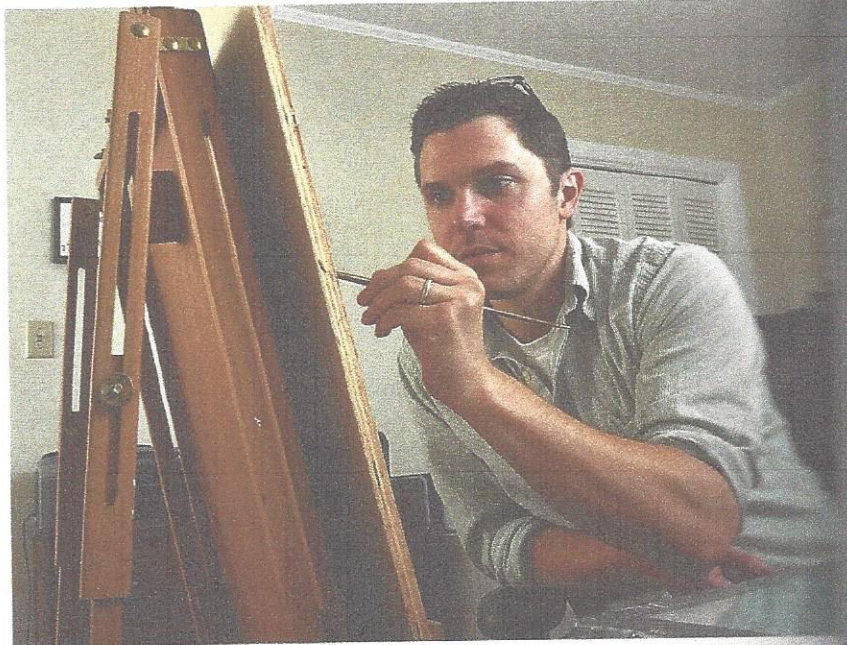
Rogers says in "Little Miss Muffet" he uses nursery rhymes as a narrative backdrop and to show how oral traditions weave their way into people's lives.

It doesn't take long after studying Davidson artist Nathaniel Rogers' paintings to notice that in between their striking detail, especially in the portraiture, the scenes depicted feature situations and actions that are...a little off, and even somewhat unsettling.

"Trapped," for example (on p. 56), depicts a docile baby, sitting in a locked birdcage, gazing at his seemingly exhausted mother, who is hunched over a table, beer in hand, and contemplatively staring into the distance. The viewer can't help but wonder what the woman is thinking about in the off-kilter domestic scene.

Everyday still life portraits and landscapes don't interest Rogers. Intriguing situations between people, emotional tension, and dependent relationships are much more likely to capture his attention and make their way onto his wood panel paintings.

"I want my work to reference real situations," says Rogers, 33, "almost magically real in that they capture a moment or emotion where everything else may seem normal, but one element is out of place or just not right. I'm inviting the





"Trapped" explores the impact dependency and expectation can have on the parent/child relationship, says Rogers.

viewer into the work either through dark humor or something askew and asking them to interpret the situation and bring their own meaning to the work."

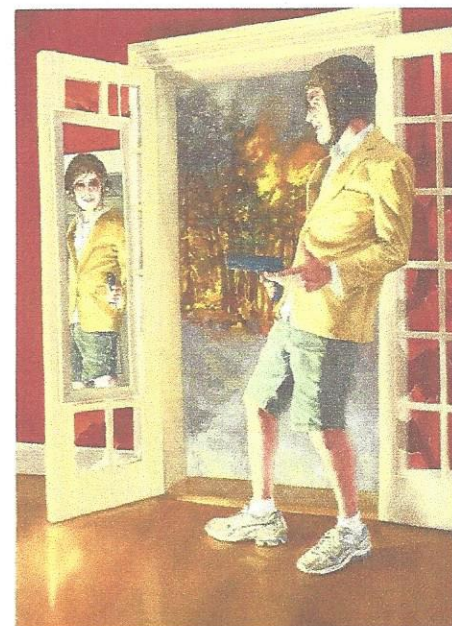
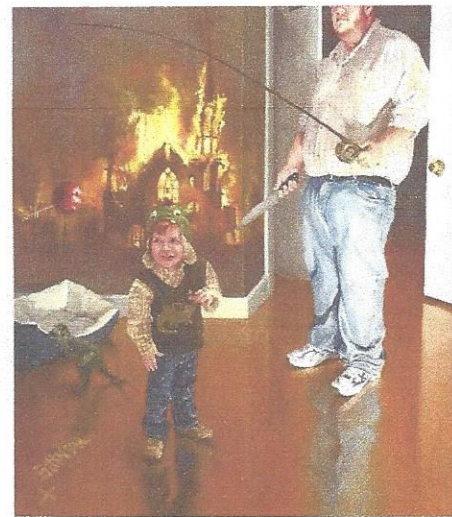
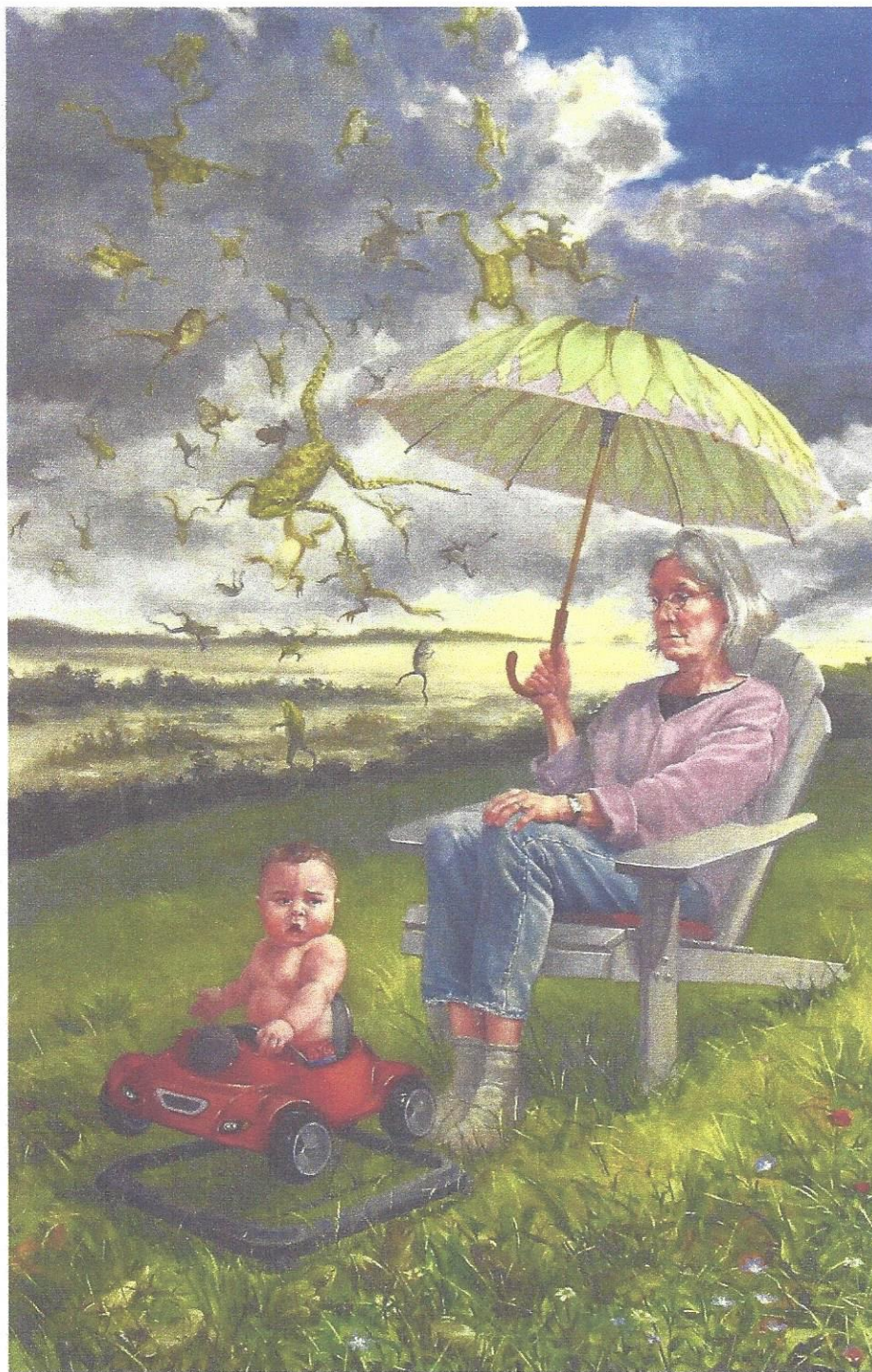
"Father Knows Best," (shown on p. 58), shows a stereotypically schlubby suburban dad and a small boy, presumably his son. The boy has a mischievous look of delight on his face and is wearing a strange animal-like hat. The dad is holding both a fishing pole and a large butcher knife, with a pair of red devil horns on his head. Behind them on the

wall is an image of a Gothic church engulfed in flames. Rogers says he wanted to use the painting to explore a "manufactured crisis" based on the power discrepancy between an adult and child.

As a relatively young artist, Rogers has enjoyed a fair amount of success, showing his work at galleries in D.C., Philadelphia, Miami, and Baltimore. And while he's also had shows at a few places in Charlotte and Davidson College's Van Every Gallery, he says the local market is a challenge.

"There seems to be less of a market here for contemporary and untraditional artists compared to places like New York or D.C., where that kind of work is in greater demand," he says. Not helping matters is the fact that many of the area's smaller art galleries that featured emerging artists closed after the Great Recession, and that void is still being felt, he says.

Rogers is a Charlottesville, Va., native who attended Davidson College initially as a math major. He fell in love with painting



"The Second Plague" (left) deals with how we protect ourselves and set others up to succeed or fail, says Rogers.

With "Father Knows Best," (top) Rogers says he wanted to explore a manufactured crisis based on the adult-child power discrepancy.

"Reach for the Sky" is a study in the preoccupation with self-image, says Rogers.

after taking some elective courses and found he couldn't stay away from the art labs. He ended up switching majors and got his undergraduate fine arts degree in studio art. "I love the process of working with paint and the way it feels against the wood," he says.

Rogers went on to get a master's of fine arts from Maryland Institute College of Art

in Baltimore. He returned to Davidson as a visiting assistant professor at the college in 2010 and taught drawing and painting as well as art theory. Today, when he's not creating his own works of art at his home studio, he teaches art at Cannon School in Concord.

Rogers fills his paintings only with people he knows well. Friends, family, and now his

newborn son are all prominent characters.

"I do that because the feelings and emotions I want to capture and examine are so intimate," he says. "I hope my work says something about the human condition."

Nathaniel Rogers is available to show his work by appointment. For details go to www.nathanielrogers.com **LNM**