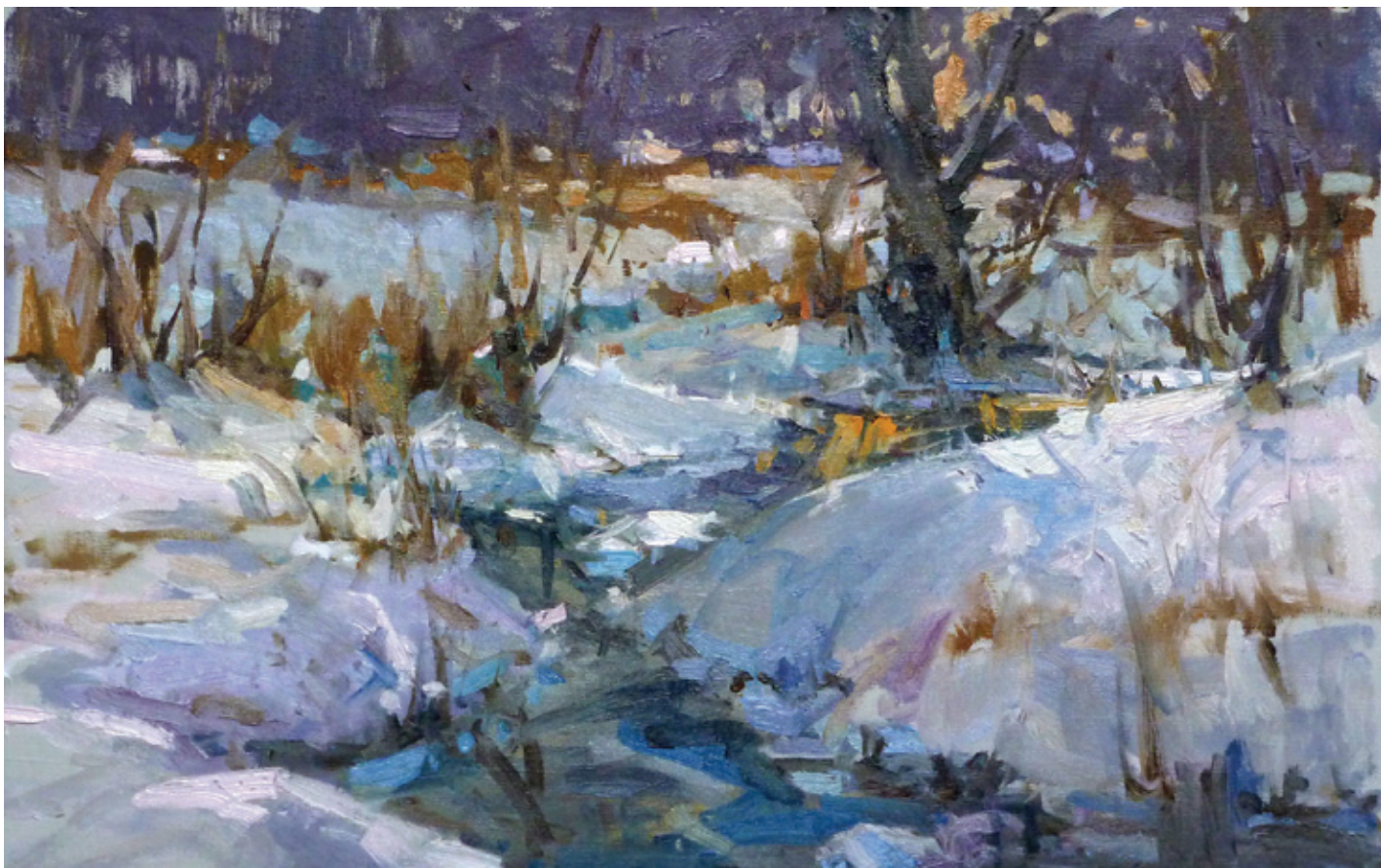


A decorative floral pattern in the top left corner, featuring stylized leaves and branches in a light gold color. The pattern is composed of various leaf shapes, some solid and some outlined, and small circular accents. A thin horizontal line is positioned above the main title.

Natural Wonders

Meet *eleven painters*
who focus on the landscape

A decorative floral pattern in the bottom right corner, featuring stylized leaves and branches in a light gold color, mirroring the pattern in the top left.



Snow Shadows, oil, 14 x 22.

Lori Putnam

TENNESSEE NATIVE Lori Putnam has always been an extremely determined individual. When she decided it was her dream to be a graphic designer, she gave the profession her all, and it wasn't long before she was running her own graphic-design agency. But in 2005, after 13 years in the field, she was burned out. It was around this time, she says, that she "stumbled into a beginning oil class" at a local art-supply store. "I just loved the way painting felt," she says. "I was hooked."

When she decided to become a full-time painter, her drive and tenacity kicked in again. Within the year, she had left the graphic-design business and dedicated herself to her new passion. "I decided to go full time right away because I wanted to learn, and I knew I

wouldn't get very far just painting on Sundays," she says. While Putnam is primarily self-taught, she has had some great teachers along the way—including Scott Christensen, Quang Ho, and Dawn Whitelaw. "I've been very fortunate to have fallen in the right hands on so many occasions," she says, adding, "It's been kind of a whirlwind the way it's all happened."

An avid traveler and passionate plein-air painter, Putnam finds inspiration everywhere. "It's not really about the subject," she says. "What draws me to paint a particular scene has more to do with elements like light, shadow, shapes, and patterns. I feel like I've succeeded if nobody cares what the subject is—they just look at the painting and are taken by it."

—Lindsay Mitchell



REPRESENTATION

Brazier Gallery, Richmond, VA; Deselms Fine Art, Cheyenne, WY; Galerie on Broad, Charleston, SC; Illume Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT; LeQuire Gallery, Nashville, TN; Nicole's Studio & Art Gallery, Raleigh, NC; Richland Fine Art, Nashville, TN.

UPCOMING SHOW

Group show, Richland Fine Art, Nashville, TN, March 27-April 14.