HONORING HABITAT
May 2 - June 27, 2018
DeBerry Gallery, North Carolina Botanical Garden

Nathalie Worthington’s most recent paintings may be viewed at the North Carolina Botanical Gardens in an exhibition called Honoring Habitat.

How do we find and continuously walk in balance with our living habitat, where one moment we’re burning fossil fuels, and the next, we’re tip-toeing around a moss bed? This is an age-old dilemma, and one not properly addressed in our current culture. Perhaps we might recognize that our Habitat offers us the imperative that our lives depend upon mutual health. I have long attempted to bridge the troublesome outcomes of being a human who needs and uses the earth’s resources, with a respectful approach to the wondrous world that gives us life.

On one of my evening walks through the forest where I live, my thoughts were heavy with the the big issues facing us. Feeling too puny to protect the natural world from pipe lines, fracking, contamination of land and water, I relied on my only option at the moment, and sent thoughts of love for the forest and all of nature surrounding me and giving me life. I then had a remarkable experience. I felt the undeniable feeling of love coming back to me from the forest! I’m a rational person and this experience further opened a door of possibility where unconditional reciprocity became palatable. As a result, I understood that perhaps we flounder as humans in a world that waits for us to learn not to harm and mutilate that which surely keeps us alive. The world seems infinitely patient, yet our health is already deteriorating as a result of our objectification of resources. When greedy exploitation of nature gives way to reverence for our Habitat, balance and respectful reciprocity are the result. We will be Honoring Habitat; ours and everyone else’s.

My paintings are two dimensional portraits of landscapes to communicate through painted images, the mystery of our natural surroundings; Habitat. I hope you may relax your eye and open your heart to perceive something of the profound sustenance and grace offered to us from every direction. I have felt the nurturing support from the land, held in a caring, yes, loving embrace. I believe any person, so inclined can open themselves to this profound feeling, and a sacred bond leads to Honoring our Habitat.