



JOHN MORTON BARBER
TRADITIONAL ARTWORK SINCE 1978

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CONTACT:

Kate Utley
The Barber Gallery
5812 ½ Grove Ave.
Richmond, VA 23226
Phone: 804-282-2151
www.johnbarberart.com
johnbarberart@rcn.com

Barber Retires after 25 Years of Print Making
New Focus on Original Art

RICHMOND, VA - Since 1978 when he began painting Chesapeake Bay scenes full time, John M. Barber has become one of the most respected and beloved artists in the Eastern region. His success as an artist, no doubt, is due in large part to the widespread popularity of his limited edition prints often portraying the threatened and vanishing beauty of the Chesapeake. These prints as well as many original works of art are prized possessions of thousands in the mid - Atlantic area as well as nationwide. Mr. Barber plans to retire to a quieter life of original painting for himself, commissioned art pieces and travel.

“In the future,” Barber states, “I expect to be more creatively productive than ever before!” This comes from a man who has been incredible prolific, selling over 500 original paintings throughout his career, in addition to directing a publishing and distributing enterprise, and operating a retail gallery since the late 70s. “Without the demands of directing these three different businesses, I should be able to focus more on what I was put on this earth to do, which is simply to paint.” Over the past 25 years he has published more than 110 of his own limited edition prints and distributed them to 120 dealers nationally. Approximately eighty-five thousand prints have sold in total. Barber's original works and limited edition prints are in thousands of homes around the world. His gallery, located at 5812 ½ Grove Avenue in Richmond, Virginia will remain open for an undetermined period of time to support the demand of orders from customers and art dealers. Some “rare prints” will also be offered from the artist’s personal collection as well as a few original paintings. Once the gallery has been closed, which we expect will be in the spring of 2004, Barber can be reached through his web site www.johnbarberart.com.

Highlights of Barber’s career include paintings for both the Reagan and Clinton Presidential Administrations. The artist has also created commissioned paintings of some of the world’s most beautiful motor and sailing yachts, such as *Wyntje* Walter Cronkite’s 60’ English-built sailing ketch. Barber has served as an elected trustee of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and as a Charter Member of the American Society of Marine Artists. Through sales of his artwork more than half a million dollars has been raised for conservation groups involved in helping protect the Chesapeake Bay. His artwork is featured in a book published by the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum titled “John M. Barber’s Chesapeake”, and a new publication, “Bound for Blue Water”, published by The Greenwich Workshop.

The artist concluded with, “It is a bittersweet time in my life to close our Richmond Gallery, where we have offered my artwork to my direct collectors as well as dealers nationally for all these years. But I certainly look forward to fewer demands on me daily. I am anxious to experience the freedom to travel and paint at a more leisurely pace and to get back to some of those things that I put aside a quarter century ago.”

For additional information on John’s retirement please view our website at www.johnbarberart.com, or contact us at johnbarberart@rcn.com/804-282-2151.

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