



## DREAM BAR<sup>®</sup>

The Dream Bar series celebrates great saloons and the bartenders, writers, and bon-vivants who inhabit them.

Behind the imagery are tales from both sides of the bar; from romance and adventure to hard lessons learned while working behind the bar. Neighborhood saloons often sprout a community as vital as family and the wisdom, advice and comraderie shared is why bars matter—why we seek our own little Dream Bar refuge.

What follows is a sneak preview of the work in progress. Stories and drinks will be revealed at the exhibit in May. I welcome your stories, commissions and favorite spirits to include in this ongoing project.

Cheers  
Jill DeGroff



MOON OVER DEAD RABBIT  
Acrylic on canvas 30" x 40"



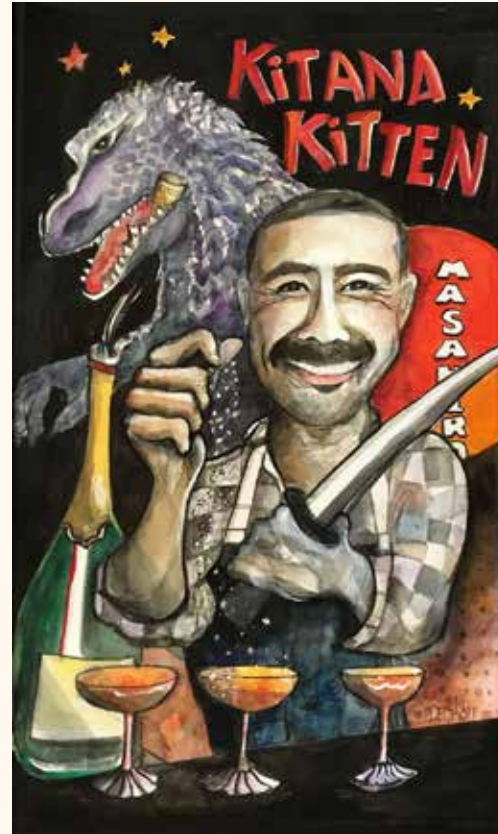
LYNN HOUSE  
Heaven Hill



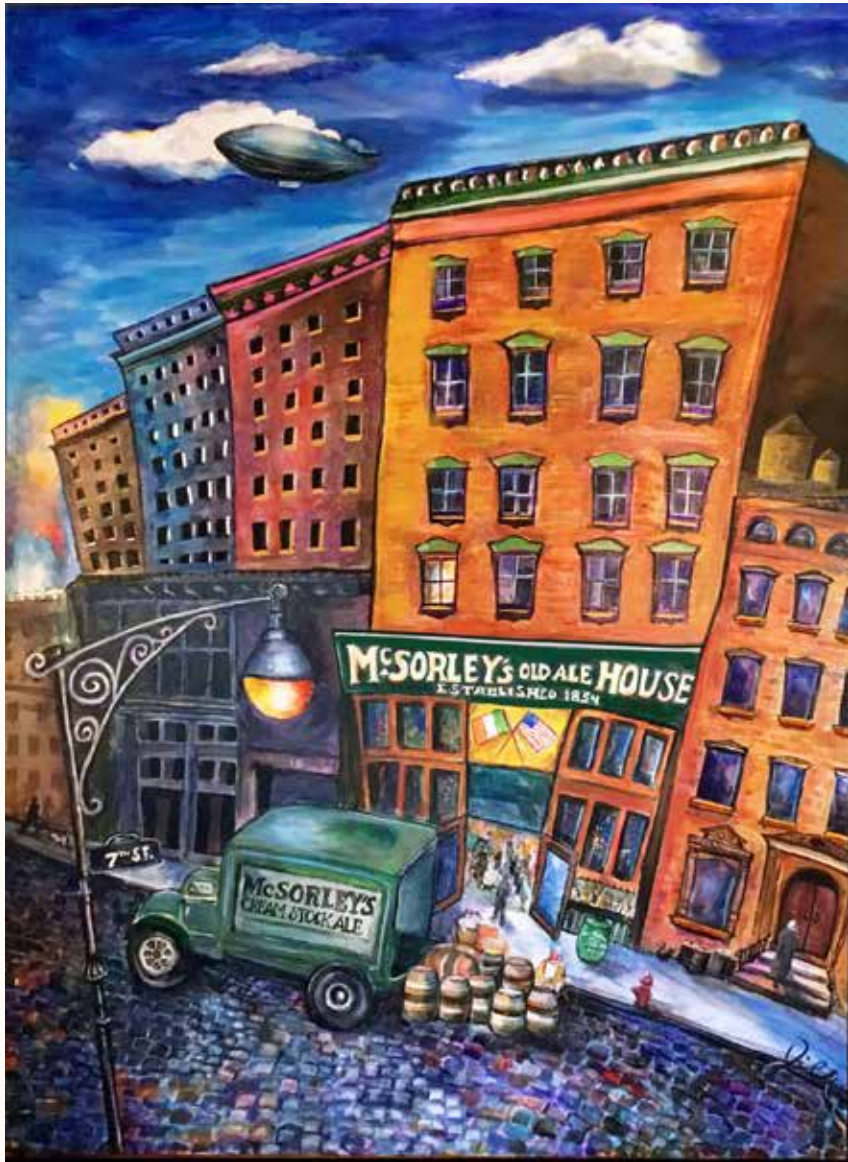
ELAINE'S  
Acrylic on canvas 30 x 40"



LOREN KORAVEC  
Piano player at Elaine's



MASAHIRO URUSHIDO  
Watercolor on paper 20 x 30"



McSORLEY'S OLD ALE HOUSE  
Acrylic on canvas 30 x 40"



SUNNY'S  
Watercolor on Arches 30 x 24"



### La Floridita

Hemingway enjoyed having Daiquiris at La Floridita in Havan with his favorite barman, the legendary Constante Ribalaigua.

Below: The artist presenting a gift in 2018 to Constantino's son, Jorge Ribalaigua.

LA FLORIDITA  
Acrylic on canvas 30 x 24"





ESTEBAN ORDONEZ



ERYN REESE, Death & Co.



SHAWN KELLEY  
Cocktail Kingdom



DAVE WONDRIch  
Author, Hlstorian



DOUG BRICKEL, Cork & Kerry



THE COCKTAIL BANDITS



JULIO CABRERA



# SALOON ARTIST

Jill DeGroff

Interpreter of Urban Cocktailian Culture

Jill DeGroff is a roving artist who plies her craft at saloons around the world. Musicians, writers, gypsies, barflies and all species of cocktailians are her muse. Much of her work pays tribute to luminaries in the bar industry and it is her bartender caricatures for which she has become renowned for, garnering commissions from brands and invitations to cocktail festivals here and abroad.

Jill is a graphic designer by trade and handles the marketing and promotion for the beverage consulting company she runs with her James Beard award-winning husband, Dale DeGroff. In 2005, with seven other colleagues in the industry, they established the first cocktail museum in the world, *The Museum of the American Cocktail*. It is now a part of the *Southern Food & Beverage Museum* in New Orleans: <https://natfab.org/southern-food-and-beverage/>

Jill's exhibits usually include special crafted cocktails, live music, and a fundraiser for a worthwhile cause. When Sunny's Bar in Red Hook, Brooklyn was demolished by Hurricane Sandy, friends and colleagues in the spirits industry raised 24k to rebuild the cherished historical landmark.

Jill's book, **LUSH LIFE; Portraits from the Bar**, (Mud Puddle Books, 2009) is an anthology of the colorful characters she has met in bars over the years and the tales they told. The book received glowing reviews in *Time Out NY*, *Village Voice*, *the New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *Epicurious*, and *Serious Eats*. Jill lives in Long Island with her husband: author and mixologist Dale DeGroff, whom she credits for getting her started on this unusual journey. Portfolio and press can be viewed at: <http://www.saloonartist.com>



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*"Behind those tavern doors lies a world unto itself. For many it's a home away from home, a place to go not just for a good drink but also for comradery and to hear some good stories; stories that help you figure out where you're going. I look for that old timer who makes their home there and strike up a conversation. I love to sketch a great face and discover the soul behind it... The point is to get up close with humanity. As Joe Mitchell said: 'Get in the habit of looking at people, that's the sum of it, really.'"*

*-- Jill DeGroff*