Wilson is a representational painter based in Philadelphia, born towards the end of the baby boom in 1959 and raised in suburban Philadelphia. Her paintings have been described as small gems; luminous and having a quiet energy. Elizabeth has been a working artist since graduating from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) in 1984. At the University of Pennsylvania, she studied art history and anthropology. She has exhibited extensively throughout the United States in juried and curated shows including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Asheville Art Museum and National Academy of Design. Elizabeth’s work is held in numerous private and public collections including the State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Woodmere Art Museum.

These paintings document a spirit of place; be it Maine's rocky summit of Cadillac Mountain at dusk, the coastline of Newport, Rhode Island, the English countryside and architecture of a small village, majestic views from an ancient Italian city, the massive rocks and bluffs along the coast of the Long Island Sound (North Fork) or my own backyard.

- Elizabeth Wilson

ELIZABETH WILSON
SPIRIT OF PLACE
09.02.2022 - 12.04.2022

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art exists to preserve, exhibit, and advance American art and is dedicated to making its programs and activities accessible to the people of the southwestern area of central Pennsylvania. By establishing and maintaining a museum of art and by providing programs and activities of a public, charitable, civic, cultural, literary, and educational nature, the Museum serves the people of the region. Charged with the development, maintenance, and perpetuation of a permanent collection, the Museum mounts exhibitions designed to evoke an interest in and an understanding and appreciation of American art. As well, it serves as a repository for distinctive collections.

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As the pandemic continued, Elizabeth revisited subject matter painted previously, working from older paintings, sketches, photographs, memory and at times, imagination. She re-explored a coveted location from a past preoccupation...the rocky beaches of the Long Island Sound and the Roman Campagna in Italy where she had visited and worked several years earlier. She notes it has been a challenge to make paintings from the logistical distance of memory that possess a freshness, strong sense of place and atmospheric luminosity.