## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## RENOWNED ARTIST DILENSCHNEIDER TO HOST GALLERY SHOWING AT MYSTIC AQUARIUM

Mystic, Conn. (August 20, 2019): On Thursday, September 5, 2019, renowned artist Jan Dilenschneider will host a gallery showing of 26 specially created oil paintings in support of Mystic Aquarium's mission. Dilenschneider's goal, consistent with that of Mystic Aquarium, is to help people understand the importance of nature.

The collection can be viewed from 5:30pm – 7:30pm in the Marra Family Gallery located at the Milne Ocean Science and Conservation Center at Mystic Aquarium.

"I want people to fall in love with the beauty of nature again," said Dilenschneider, who is fresh off her sixth exhibition in Paris. "I want my work to elicit an emotion in the viewer about the importance of preserving our ecology."

A life-long artist, Jan Dilenschneider is inspired by the sea and landscapes surrounding her Connecticut home.

"I am an expressionist although I love the impressionist palate," added Dilenschneider, whose chosen medium is oil.

"Inspiration comes in all forms and for many that is through the beauty of art," said Mystic Aquarium's President and CEO, Dr. Stephen M. Coan. "We incorporated a gallery space in the Milne Ocean Science and Conservation Center to celebrate nature through art. We believe art is an additional catalyst to accomplish our important mission to inspire others."

Dilenschneider's work has been exhibited world-wide, including multiple solo gallery shows in Paris and a record-breaking exhibition in Fairfield, Connecticut.

This exhibition is particularly impactful as it has a common focus among the 26 specially created pieces toward our environment and what we need to do to protect it.

Exquisite works like "The World Ahead" and "Road to the Future" speak directly to the growing need to protect nature for the generations yet to come. An entire collection of bold beautiful flora inspires a reverence for nature.

Jan Dilenschneider has long been a stalwart supporter of Mystic Aquarium; contributing her talent and philanthropy to support Mystic Aquarium for many years.

Works like "My Favorite Beluga Whale," a 36"x36" oil on canvas which pays homage to Juno, a beloved beluga receiving world-class care at Mystic Aquarium and "Ocean Waves," a 24"x24" oil on canvase embraces Mystic Aquarium's focus on ocean conservation. "Lily Pads and Friends" is reminiscent of Mystic Aquarium's visitor-favorite Marsh Trek.

More than just an artist, philanthropy is an essential part of her life. Jan holds several community volunteer positions, was elected to the Connecticut Arts Council and established a scholarship that helps artists from countries in turmoil.

"We are incredibly proud to host a gallery showing of Jan's internationally renowned work," added Dr. Coan.

Admission to the gallery showing in Milne Ocean Science and Conservation Center is complimentary on the evening of Thursday, September 5. More information on the Jan Dilenschneider gallery showing is available by visiting MysticAquarium.org.