



Putting the last touches on Reflection, Strength of Woman Series, Vol, VI

Good morning Ellen,

I'm writing again this morning because many of you have tried to get on my website the last few days to see my new Strength of Woman Series painting, *Reflection* and find out about prints. Murphy's Law seemed to prevail this week. One of my webmaster's servers went down over the weekend and took my website and many others down with it.

[Ellenrice.com](http://Ellenrice.com) started coming back up yesterday, but as of this writing *Reflection's* information still isn't up. Please check again later today. I was told it was going to be up yesterday evening ... so it should be up soon. Thank you for your patience.

Of course if you're in the area, stop in today during its open house debut! In case you didn't get my email about it the other day and don't know what I'm talking about, it is attached below.

Thank you to all who have stopped in, phoned and written to me about *Reflection*. It is heartwarming when my work touches so many.

Below is the message I sent a few days ago.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ellen Rice".

Good evening,

I'm writing to invite you to my open house this coming Wednesday, July 30th, celebrating the Ellen Rice Gallery's 15th Anniversary and premiering my newest *Strength of Woman Series* painting, *Reflection*.

The fun will kick off at the gallery at noon and go on through 6 p.m. We're serving light summer refreshments, wine and cheese and lively music, surrounded by all kinds of beautiful art. Dress is casual. No purchases necessary (though there will be introductory prices on my debuting prints of *Reflection*\*). Just bring a smile and anyone you want to bring along! I'd love to see you!

I'd love for you to see *Reflection* in person before the original leaves for its new home. When viewing digital images like the one above or on websites, colors are distorted and details are obscured. I was horrified recently when I viewed paintings on my [website](#) on a public computer and they looked florescent! Paintings are best enjoyed in person.

*Reflection* has been in the gallery drying for almost two weeks and it's been drawing an unusually strong response from men and women, young and old alike. They gravitate to it when they come in the door and just stop and stand in front of it and stare, then come back and stare again, even children. Asked what they think, their responses have ranged from lit up faces and the words "Peace" or "Calm" and "I love the ocean!" to tears. The most common responses have been "I feel like I am there, I can hear the seagulls and feel the breeze and taste the salt in the air" and "I want to be there next to her, enjoying my morning coffee!"

A few, the ones who have shed tears, told me that *Reflection* reminds them of a time in their lives when they stood like the woman in the painting on the ocean's edge seeking answers, peace, healing. Their stories uncannily mirrored that of the woman whose snapshot was part of the inspiration for this painting - times when life changed direction and they found the strength to begin again. They asked if they could put their names down for prints saying they needed the feeling of peace the painting gives them. I've been writing more about the story behind this painting and it will be available in writing on Wednesday.

Sometimes it still amazes me that brushstrokes on canvas can convey so much, and this is one of those times. It reminds me of what a beautiful woman once advised me, "Ellen, always pray about what you're thinking while you paint. People will pick up on it." I do.

Bringing healing is the purpose of my women series. In truth, it's behind of all of my work. I hope you enjoy *Reflection*, whether for its calmness and beauty or as reminder that life, like the ebb and flow of the ocean, is ever changing, is so much larger than our limited human concepts, and each moment offers us new beginnings.

Come see it! Come see me! Lift up a glass with me and celebrate!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellen', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Ellen

## \* Reflection's Introductory Prices

There is an introductory price for archival gicle'e prints of *Reflection* starting with their debut on Wednesday, July 30, at noon, and running through the following Wednesday, August 6, at our 5 p.m. closing.

Signed, numbered & embossed archival gicle'e prints on paper will be \$50 off and s/n gicle'es on canvas will be \$75 off during that time, whether purchased in the gallery, online or by phone. I'll also have a small selection of \$90 gicle'e proofs at the beginning the festivities.

Low numbers are sold in consecutive order unless you have a special number you collect and phone in a reservation or get here before it's gone. Custom sizes are available. For any more information, call the gallery at 302-539-3405 or toll-free, 1-888-355-7423, starting Tuesday or [email Ellen](#).

Note: during our anniversary season, each purchase qualifies you for an entry into our 15 Years of Art; 15 Weeks of Prizes competition. At the end of the 15th week, one lucky person will win a small original oil painting by Ellen valued at over \$600. Good luck!

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## No lane closures during event

Ken Cimino, project engineer for the roadwork that is going on at night on Rt. 26, came in the gallery after reading about the event in the newspaper and told us there won't be any flagging operations or lane closures Wednesday until after 7 p.m., so it should be really easy to come and go on Wednesday! Yay! Thank you, Ken. For regular updates on what's happening with the Rt. 26 night time road work, write to [Kenneth.Cimino@aecom.com](mailto:Kenneth.Cimino@aecom.com).