

Filipina Artist In Washington D.C.

Washington looks to Joey Manlapaz's paintings
as they breathe life to its old relic buildings.

Washington D.C. - the Federal City. To most Americans, it is the seat of the government, the home of the White House and some of the greatest buildings to ever capture the imagination of the world as symbols of freedom and democracy. To artist Joey P. Manlapaz, Washington D.C. holds other architectural treasures as well. Her artwork, though not quite as old or famous as the gleaming white monuments that stand as the city's hallmark, portrays aging edifices. To her, however, they represent another sort of beauty.

The old 19th century buildings that her paintings depict are located all over Washington: in Shaw, Adams Morgan, Georgetown, Capitol Street, Southwest Washington, and the old downtown area bordering 7th Street. Built around the time of the district's founding, they are periodically razed to provide room for urban revitalization projects. Those handful that remain, along with her colorful storefront works, remind us of a by-gone era. With such titles as "Ben's Chili Bowl", and "Georgetown Cascade", the old-style Federal and Victorian architecture of these treasures on canvas stand in direct contrast to the new and growing Washington, built of concrete and steel.

Joey Paredes Manlapaz was born in Manila, Philippines in 1954. Starting at an early age, she was only eleven when she began

her art following under Filipino master Diosdado Lorenzo. In 1970, her family moved to Washington, D.C. Manlapaz studied at George Washington University where she pursued her artistic endeavors. She was introduced to outdoor landscape painting under the tutelage of William Woodward and Frank Wright. Earning her B.A. in 1977, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in 1980, she has established a name for herself with numerous exhibits and shows, both one-person and juried. She was recently shown in the 1990 exhibit "Scenes of DC" held at the District Building in Washington, and she was nominated for the Mayor's Award for Outstanding Emerging Artist in 1988.

Joey P. Manlapaz originals are worth anywhere from \$125 to \$6000. She has painted over 44 old buildings, including the no longer in existence Central Liquor, Angelo's Carryout, and the Reeves Cafeteria. Her works are in the collections of Senator Daniel Inouye, U.S. Steel, the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, the Ayala Corporation, and back home in the Philippines, in the Ministry of Justice Court of Appeals. Currently, the artist occupies a studio in the former Eckington School. She lectures for the Smithsonian Institution, and holds teaching positions at Northern Virginia Community College and Mt. Vernon College.





"Wine & Dine Me?"
Joey P. Manlapaz



"Georgetown
Cascade"
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