

The Blue Duck Gallery June Newsletter

Your gallery needs you



Poppies in Black Vase by Penny Rees

Hi guys, well, what with crazy unpredictable weather (do I wear flip flops or winter boots today – the jury's still out!!), crazy political "Love-ins", crazy volcanic ash all over our cars (apparently! – our car is too dirty for us to tell the difference) and crazy Euro shenanigans, people seem to have lost their pizzazz. Well, we've decided it's our job to restore it. We've got so many wonderful, bright and gorgeous things in the shop just one visit should bring back your mojo in the blink of an eye!!

The world may be a crazy place at the moment but you can rely on us to provide some sanctuary. We still love to see you guys and we very much need your support – even if you just come in for a card or some wrapping paper, every little bit helps. And now I'd like to ask you for a little favour if you don't mind. This year's **Reading Retail Awards** are now on. The awards have been designed to recognize and reward outstanding retailing even in this difficult climate and if you think we deserve an award we would be so grateful if you would spare a moment to vote for us.

You can choose the category you would like to nominate us for, although most people seem to be choosing "Service with a smile", and if you manage to place a vote then you will be entered into a prize draw for £500.



Series of tiny prints by Jo Quinn

To vote you can either go to www.readingretailawards.co.uk/customer-nominations/ or fill in the attached form and post it back to the awards committee in Tokers Green before 2nd July 2010. It would be a fantastic achievement to win an award because we'll be taking on the big boys in Reading. Let's show them that we may be small but we're not insignificant.

Now back to business – I am absolutely delighted by your reaction to our new Penny Rees painting. If you haven't seen it yet it is the absolutely stunning red painting in the window. Penny is one of the few artists out there still using oils which are so vibrant and fabulous. It's always a bit of a gamble when I come to put her pictures up because I never quite know whether they'll actually be dry (oil paint famously takes weeks and weeks to dry).



Apple Tree – print on linen by Gail Kelly

Also new in are some really pretty prints by Gail Kelly. Gail is based in Co. Down and her pictures are hand printed onto Irish Linen. All in black and white, the prints give a new take on such themes as country gardens and trees. Each theme is picked for a reason and on the back of her pictures Gail gives a small write-up on why she has picked a certain subject.

Finally I have a really lovely selection of Jo Quinn prints. Like Gail, Jo hand prints all her pictures. She uses all kinds of different medium to get a different effect on each one so although they are prints they have a very original quality.