



# Janice Kasper

*TREES: Real and Imagined*

October 25 - November 30, 2024

**Opening Reception First Friday**

**November 1, 4-6PM**

## CALDBECK GALLERY

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image: BOLD COAST 2024 oil on canvas 36 x 26 inches

During the summer of 1971, while on college break, I worked in Wyoming. My supervisors were an older husband and wife from Nebraska. I asked them if they ever traveled to New England. They had. I asked what their impression of the region was, and they replied, "Too many trees".

As a New Englander, trees hold a special place in my life and my heart. The Norse, a small part of my DNA, believed that the ash tree, Yggdrasil, was the center of our world. The importance of trees in the world was as apparent to them as it is to us today. Trees absorb carbon and release oxygen, and their acorns, beechnuts, walnuts, pinecones, and chestnuts sustain our wildlife. Who doesn't love to bite into an apple, peach, pear or plum? In their branches birds and insects nest, and below ground, hidden among their roots, is a complex world of fungi, insects, and aquifers. Scientists now know that there is communication between trees in a forest. And when its life has passed, there is dignity in an old tree that has lost its crown of leaves. The heart of its structure is exposed. Even a dead tree is host to many lives.

Personally, I thank every maple, birch, and oak tree that make up the three cords of wood that I burn each winter to keep from freezing. Trees make us aware of the power of nature when they fall on our houses, cars, and driveways during strong storms. I marvel and protect the large white pines at my camp on Swan Lake. The eagles use them to rest and survey the lake for their next meal. It is a wonder to come upon a beech tree in the middle of winter holding on to its fall brown leaves only to release them come spring. In the spring it seems that after a week of rain our world suddenly turns green.

There are no brilliant fall colors in this exhibit. Fall is my least favorite season. It felt like the trees were dying until a wood cutter said to me, "Janice - the trees are only resting - let's let them rest."

Janice Kasper  
October 2024

Photo credits: Bob Brooks except BOLD COAST by Dave Clough



THE ASH, Yggdrasil  
2024  
oil on linen  
28 x 24 inches



PINE NEEDLES  
2024  
oil on canvas  
30 x 24 inches



FEAST  
2024  
oil on canvas  
10 x 8 inches



BAXTER, TREE OVER ROCK  
2024  
oil on linen  
34 x 32 inches



DANCERS, OLD COUNTY ROAD  
2024  
oil on canvas  
36 x 26 inches



ABOVE AND BELOW  
2024  
oil on linen  
34 x 38 inches





LOW WATER, MATAGAMON  
2024  
oil on linen  
26 x 34 inches



DEAD TREE  
2023  
oil on linen  
46 x 26 inches



COMING AND GOING  
2023  
oil on canvas and wood  
9 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches



PINE TOP  
2024  
Oil on canvas  
24 x 12 inches



TREE  
2023  
oil on canvas and wood  
13 1/2 x 11 1/2 inches



FIRE  
2024  
oil on canvas  
25 x 18 inches



WINTER DEER  
2024  
oil on linen  
32 x 24 inches