



NATIONAL CAPITAL CAT SHOW

Dulles Expo and Conference Center – Chantilly, Virginia

September 6-7, 2008

www.nationalcapitalcatshow.com

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR
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Internationally-Recognized Artist, Jamie Perry, to Headline National Capital Cat Show

(Chantilly, Va. - August 25, 2008) Jamie Schaffran Perry (J. S. Perry) is travelling cross-country to headline the National Capital Cat Show, Sept. 6-7, 2008, at the Dulles Expo & Conference Center in Chantilly, Va. She and four additional artists will take part in the largest exposition of cat-related items held in conjunction with a cat show east of the Mississippi.

Anyone who has seen the colored pencil cat drawings of J. S. Perry instantly recognizes her distinctive style and witty humor. "Jamie's an Original;" "she captures the essence of cats;" and "her drawings make me smile;" are comments heard over-and-over.

Having dogs as pets for the first 27 years of her life, Jamie professed to be a "dog person." Then, in 1979, she relocated from the Midwest to California and met the man who would become her husband and his Siamese cat, "The Kid." Soon, "The Kid" began making appearances in Jamie's work.

Each one of Jamie's images begins as a scribble which is developed, refined, and designed into a foundation sketch which is lightly transferred on to 100 percent rag paper. She then layers dry, sharp colored pencil, each layer focusing on color, strokework and texture. Some drawings are comprised of as many as 30 layers. Her drawings average 90-300 hours to complete, more if the piece is oversized or extremely complex. Jamie averages only 10-12 new originals a year.

For the past 25 years, the cats have continued to tease Jamie into drawing their antics and moods, helping her to create fanciful felines like the "Cattails," "Pussywillows," and "Cupcats." A drawing very relevant in today's political climate, "Vote for the Best," was created specially for the National Capital Cat Show. It will grace the cover of the show catalog. (Note: a high resolution photo of the image is available by request.)

Her work has been featured in numerous periodicals and magazines. Most recently, she was celebrated in Sweden's *KATTLIV* magazine. Jamie appeared on Darlene Carmen's *The Painting Gourmet*, a syndicated cable series seen on PBS stations nationwide. Her drawings were featured on an episode of NBC's *My Name is Earl*. Most recently, she received First Place for Drawings and Graphics at the Capitol Hill People's Fair in Denver, Colo.

Jamie graduated from the University of Illinois (B.A. in sculpture) and completed post-graduate work at the University of Louisville (M.A. in art and expressive therapies). Jamie's work may be seen online at www.jsperry.com.

Other artists participating in the annual cat show are: Susan Evarts of Meriden, Conn. (folk art painted benches); Margaret Pickett of the Peeling Paint Studio in Raleigh, N.C. (original abstract cat paintings - www.peelingpaintstudio.com); Julie Braucksick of Cincinnati, Ohio (original pencil drawings, artwork, and painted rocks - www.jbroxic.com); and Dorothy DeMatteis of Cherry Hill, N.J. (acrylic paintings of humorous cat situations).

Interviews with Ms. Perry and other artists may be arranged in advance of the show.