



*Madeleine Wood at the Portfolio Gallery*

*A rose fills one canvas in the center of one of the display walls at the Portfolio Gallery, where Maddy is the featured painter. It is a lush trompe d'oeil, the fully bloomed flower owning the canvas, deep reds moving subtly into soft pinks, the edges of petals rim-lit in the lightest shades. The painting is one of a series Maddy has been painting, over several years now. I commissioned it the last time I was in Vancouver, a year-and-a-half before, when I first met this artist who has since become a dear friend.*

*I'm never sure how to react when I am in a position to evaluate the work of a friend. Really, what if it falls flat? Even if I try to be supportive, he or she will read the lack of approval in my voice, my body language. Fortunately, this is not an issue with Maddy's one-woman show. I am literally stunned into sotto voce comments about this latest work: flowers, fruit mostly, all of it tactile, exploding in color even when the coloring is mono- or di-chromatic. I have a different problem with Maddy's work. I am so sincerely engaged, connected, unambiguously impressed with each piece and the sheer totality of the opus, I can feel my praise may seem naïve, insincere. Then again, there is the unmistakable tone of voice, body language. For a sample of her work, visit online at: <http://www.madeleinewood.com>.*

- Tony Tedeschi, editor, Natural Traveler, 2003