

THE ORIGINAL

Lake Martin

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priceless

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rose bowl trip

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painting the world

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If Bob Moody thinks he's talented, you can't tell by talking to him. But he will be glad to tell you he is "skilled."

Bob, who lives in Mountain Brook with his wife Rebecca, has been painting in transparent watercolor for over 40 years, so yes, he's indeed skilled in the art of watercolor. But most artists will tell you, it also takes a great deal of talent and creativity to pull off the grand works that Bob produces.

The couple recently began spending more time at their Parker Creek cabin, coming to Lake Martin from Birmingham at least once a week. Early last spring, Bob gave our community a glimpse of his watercolors when he entered the *Lake Martin Living Art* Contest in which he won first and second place in the Lake Scenes category.

Bob has painted scenes from all over the world, and so many worth mentioning here, notably the two books of churches. In 2001, Bob published a book of historical Alabama churches, located in both the country and the city. Two years later, after sketching numerous historical churches in England, he published a second book of churches. *The Church Triumphant*, commissioned by The Historic Churches Preservation Trust of England, enabled Bob and his family to meet Queen Elizabeth and members of her court when Bob presented

painting the world



Story by Gwen Bishop



the book to her on the occasion of the preservation trust's 50th anniversary.

But BEFORE all that, Bob began his painting career commercially as a graphic designer in Dallas, Texas, and then as an artist for NASA in Huntsville. His work for NASA as head of future projects in the commercial art department was published in such major publications as Time, Life, Contract Magazine and Paris Match. He recently retired after spending over 30 years specializing in historic restoration at his own design firm.

Besides having many of his projects published, he has received numerous awards including "Southeast Designer of the Year 1998", Silver Medal/Auburn University, annual historic preservation awards 1986-1999 from the Birmingham Historical Society, and an IIDA 1999 Merit Award.

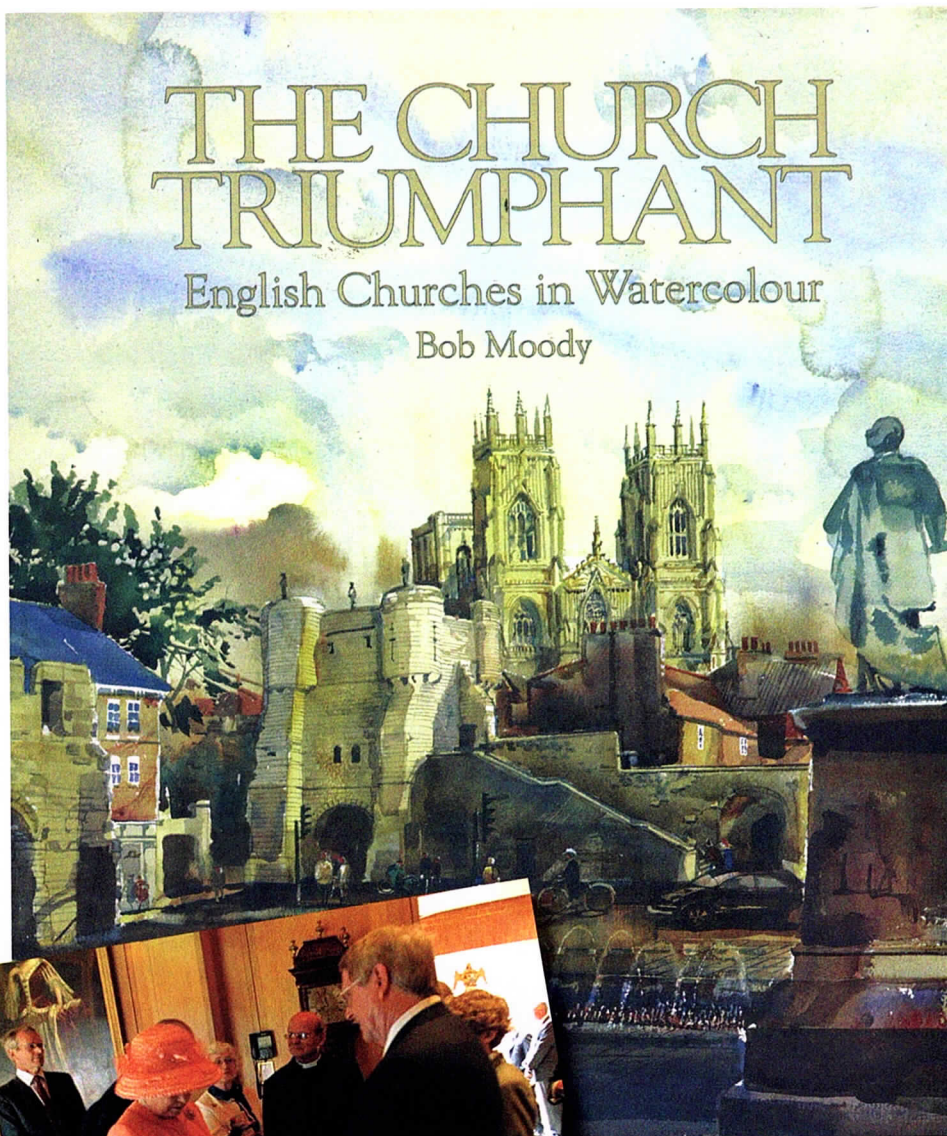
His watercolors are in many private and public collections and he has been featured many magazines including Southern Accents and Watercolor Magazine, a subsidiary of American Artist Magazine.

His work has been featured in the Judith Proctor Gallery in Seaside, Florida and Abstein Gallery in Atlanta, Georgia, and most recently at the Maralyn Wilson Gallery in Birmingham. With the couple's future move to Lake Martin, they are looking forward to displaying his works here for their new lake family. Bob has already begun painting Lake Martin

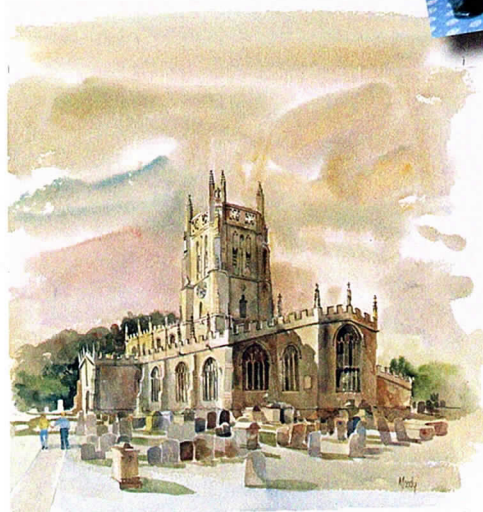
THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

English Churches in Watercolour

Bob Moody



Left, Bob presented the first copy of *The Church Triumphant* to Queen Elizabeth because she was the patron of the Historic Preservation Trust and it was their 50th anniversary.



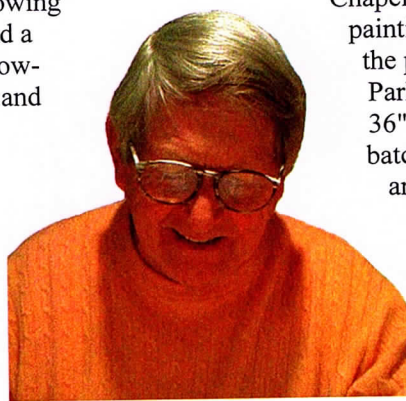


and recently painted several scenes from downtown Alexander City.

Other works include Provence, France following a trip in the summer of 1999, an Italian series of the Tuscany area following a summer in 1993, and a series in England following summers in 2002 and 2003.

Although this list of long, relaxing trips to Europe sounds fun and romantic, Rebecca will be glad to tell anyone who listens that those artistic ventures weren't nearly as fun for her. Especially when she recalls stories of hand washing all of the family's clothes, then hanging them out to dry. Never mind the freshly slaughtered chicken that Bob expected her to prepare for dinner that one time ...

Another series featuring angels was inspired by a photograph from a friend. This angel series includes



Bob at work on another masterpiece.

some of his largest work painted on full sheets of watercolor paper making the images approximately 40" x 40". That is very impressive when you consider that the Children's Chapel and Lighthouse painting on page 14 and the painting above of Parker Creek are about 36"x24". And his new batch of Alexander City art shown at right are about 15"x15".

Bob and Rebecca are looking forward to spending more time in their Parker Creek home this spring and summer so he can continue to paint his watercolors of our lake community.

And how lucky Lake Martin and Alexander City is have someone as talented as Bob in our community painting the things around us that we find beautiful and give us a special sense of "home." LML

