



## Sara Eyestone's dreamy artwork brings florals to life

By Carrie Gibson  
Assistant Editor

Like many starry-eyed young girls, artist Sara Eyestone had grand dreams: she wanted to be Miss America. However, as she grew, her dreams did too, and thoughts of Hollywood filled her head. At one point Lois Lane's journalistic talents suited her fancy. Next, it was actress Doris Day — with her fabulous wardrobe and hunky co-star Rock Hudson — who Eyestone thought she might aspire to become. Perhaps it was Eyestone's ability to daydream that elevated her to her status as an artist.

If you ask her, she'll tell you she attributes her success to sheer perseverance. Eyestone is a self-taught artist; she learned to draw by modeling for artists and then simulating what they did. She studied the masters by pouring through library books until she moved to New York where she frequented museums. As an adult, Eyestone's only creative regret was not going back to school until she earned her master's degree in fine arts. Many years of practice and self-study have made her an authority with the paintbrush, yet she felt the degree might lend additional credibility.



Sara Eyestone was born an artist and has spent a lifetime developing her talent.

### Nature-Oriented Art

Eyestone's masterful creations run the gamut, but it's her nature-oriented art, namely blossoms and bouquets, that really captures the eye. Eyestone's large-scale floral paintings bring to mind artist Georgia O'Keeffe, recognized the world over for her vivid Red Poppy painting and widely regarded as one of the greatest painters of the 20th century.

Out of a stark, white canvas, Eyestone brings flowers to life with a flick of her brush, rendering brilliantly colored poppies, roses and sunflowers like few others. Through her studio, interested buyers can choose from limited-edition still-life posters to matted prints of color-filled bouquets to specially commissioned portraits in acrylics and oils at The Sara Eyestone Studio ([www.saraeyestone.com](http://www.saraeyestone.com)).

In addition to her paintings, Eyestone's work is licensed and published as art posters, note cards, calendars and silk scarves. For more than 20 years, Caspari has taken Eyestone's lively floral paintings and reproduced them as note cards for sale in museums and gift shops the world over. "At one time over 500 museum shops carried my cards," Eyestone said. "Because of this association, my work is familiar to people from South Africa to Japan."

### An Eye Toward Trade Shows

From beginnings in New Mexico, Eyestone's journey took her all the way to the Jersey shore. Yet today, she has chosen to settle in San Antonio on a quiet bend of the famous riverwalk. Aside from spending plenty of quality time with family, she plans to get back into traveling the trade-show circuit. She enjoys working the shows and, in the past, has frequented New York's Jacob K. Javits Convention Center because she likes connecting with people on a more personal level.

This vivacious artist's ability to dream has no doubt helped her achieve her life's goals. Content, at least for now, Eyestone is happily at work on a book of memoirs and simultaneously introducing a new line of silk scarves. For more information on Eyestone and her art, call (800) 663-3838.



## Statue of Liberty Collector's Plates

In the early 1980s, there was a centennial campaign armed with the mission to renovate and preserve the aging Statue of Liberty. When Sara Eyestone learned the campaign was looking for artists to submit pieces to be reproduced as fundraisers, she contacted the campaign office. When she discovered they were looking for a collector's plate design, she set off — camera in tow — to revisit the Statue of Liberty. As she took a few shots at dusk, she noticed the statue seemed to turn colors, "it almost shimmered as the sun went down," Eyestone said, and that was all it took. To the drawing board she went, gold marker and paper in hand, and the official Golden Lady commemorative plate was born.

The Golden Lady was a limited-edition plate with only 3,500 available worldwide. Produced by Villeroy & Bach, the plates sold for \$150 a piece. Since very few people would be able to afford such a memento, Eyestone suggested the creation of a second plate to appeal to the masses. Eyestone also designed Celebration, a colorful rendition of the statue, which also was produced by Villeroy & Bach and packaged in a collectible box. Celebration sold for a more feasible \$30. Both of these plates still are available in limited quantities through The Sara Eyestone Studio at [www.saraeyestone.com](http://www.saraeyestone.com).

Sara Eyestone's Statue of Liberty centennial celebration plates are Golden Lady, on left in photo, in 24k gold on porcelain and Celebration, both by Villeroy & Bach.

