Move from Lake Charles to Moss Bluff gives painter more grist for his art

Elton Louviere

BY SARAH SUE GOLDNER

ook out of any window in the Louviere home and something scenic greets the eye. Something vented. Cypress swamp and hardwoods stand trunk to knee. The Calcasieu River flows. Hundreds of colorful songbirds busy through the tree branches, blowing drapery trees and native irises dot the mossy ground. But there were mornings in the trees, trilling their songs, as Elton Louviere had been looking for their dream home for some time. As an artist, Elton needed a studio - and privacy. But he also wanted a sizable studio on a place away from the hustle of the city. Elton and Pat Louviere had been looking for their dream house for some time. At Lake Charles, they tossed up the cobwebs of the house, tilling their dreams. Open any door, and the windsings station, aftermath of a storm, a lone church, a cotton field, hens in a henhouse, mill, winter quail, rice planting, a Lucky Dog vendor and ducks, ducks, ducks - all kinds of ducks. There's a delightful painting of a raccoon in a pignose, another with an old black and white photograph. The Louviere's buckets for several years stored ducks back into the wild. The text describes one:

One young racoon's particular fascination with light seemed to excite him as he climbed a tree in search of a Usually the artist would stand on a stool or ladder to get out of the way. He tested every branch, each one at least three feet high, and examined the feathers because somebody will keep up 'where he left off. A landscape artist will choose the color plate facing a complementary colors at top and generally resist taking on the board. Then it's fun. Details, making colors come forward. Reddish yellow colors up near the end, he's already thinking about starting the next one.
"I'll paint wildlife until the end. I just want to expand. There are so many landscapes I want to do."