



# Dentist exhibits his creative side through paintings

By BROCK RADKE  
VIEW STAFF WRITER

There's at least one advantage to being a dentist and a painter: You already have a place to hang your paintings.

Patients are always surprised to find that the lush, colorful landscapes adorning the walls at Hillside Dental, 6015 S. Fort Apache Road, Suite 103, were painted by the dentist working on their teeth: Christopher Lim.

"I didn't know he was an artist when I first got here," said Jane Rogers, a member of the practice's staff for three months. "I was surprised to find out he was the one behind these beautiful paintings. I was

**"Before I used to just say I was a dentist and painting is my hobby, but now I can say I am an artist and be a little more confident."**

**CHRISTOPHER LIM**  
NORTHWEST RESIDENT AND DENTIST WHO HAS SECOND CALLING AS AN ARTIST

astonished."

For Lim, a northwest Las Vegas resident, painting has always been a hobby, something he has to find time for between running his 2½-year-old practice and caring for his family. But lately, he's taking his art a bit more seriously.

"One of my patients is a full-time artist and he has been mentoring me, and I've been able to pick up a lot of things

from him," Lim said. "Before I used to just say I was a dentist and painting is my hobby, but now I can say I am an artist and be a little more confident."

Lim, who has never studied art, paints tropical landscapes, ocean and rainforest scenes that remind him of his native Cambodia and Hawaii, his honeymoon spot in 2003.

► SEE ARTIST PAGE 3AA



LARRY CRUIKSHANK/VIEW

Christopher Lim, a northwest Las Vegas resident, shows one of his paintings displayed at his dental practice at Hillside Dental, 6015 S. Fort Apache Road.

## ► ARTIST: Hawaii provides inspiration

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1AA

"I fell in love with the ocean and the coconut trees," he said. "People here are used to seeing desert scenery, but I'm from Cambodia, and I try to paint places so people can imagine what it's like in that place."

Many of his creations are on display at his dental office, which he said helps create a relaxing mood for his patients.

Although he lives in the northwest, Lim's practice is in the far southwest valley, near the Las Vegas Beltway and Russell Road.

"When I started looking for a place to practice here, I first went to the northwest near Centennial Hills Hospital," he said. "But I couldn't find the right spot and so I settled in the

southwest. It's still early into my practice, but business is not bad. Both are fast growing areas."

Lim lived with his family in Long Beach, Calif., before going to dental school at Temple University in Philadelphia. He graduated in 2003 and has been in Las Vegas ever since.

He's been painting since his days as a high school senior and all through his college years, but Lim is much more proud of his recent work.

His only official art show was in a student lounge while he was in dental school, and he's hoping to get some exposure in the local art scene when the time is right.

"I'd like to get about 15 pieces done — I already have about 10 — and then have a little show in my office, invite colleagues and other business owners and display the work then," he said. "I don't expect anything to come out of my art right now, I just love painting."

He might say he's not ready for the big time yet, but others have different opinions.

"Patients are always asking where we got our paintings, and they're very pleasantly surprised to find the doctor painted them," Rogers said.

"Most of my patients still don't know I'm a painter," Lim said.

Examples of Lim's work can be found online at [www.infostarproductions.com/lim](http://www.infostarproductions.com/lim).

**"I'd like to get about 15 pieces done — I already have about 10 — and then have a little show in my office, invite colleagues and other business owners and display the work then."**

**CHRISTOPHER LIM**  
NORTHWEST RESIDENT AND DENTIST WHO HAS SECOND CALLING AS AN ARTIST



LARRY CRUIKSHANK/VIEW

Christopher Lim stands in front of the large mural he painted inside his dental practice.