

## About Me



Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, I have long enjoyed the beauty, tranquility, and the lush environment this area affords. As an avid hiker and camper, I find the mountains and ocean beaches to be some of my favorite places. Now residing in the beautiful Skagit Valley, I also enjoy the vast open spaces and patterns of the rural farms and fields. The subjects I choose to paint are frequently inspired by the surroundings I enjoy here.

My journey as an artist has come full circle, and I am grateful to be at this point in my artistic travels. During my childhood, I enjoyed drawing, and excelled at realistic representations of animals using colored pencils. I occasionally dabbled with watercolor and acrylics, but enjoyed the detail of colored pencils the most. My love of animals took me to college, where I had planned to study biology. Along the way, however, my love of art was re-kindled, and I found myself pursuing fine art in painting. I graduated in 1992 with a BFA from the University of Washington and later received a teacher's certificate in 1995. However, as I followed job opportunities in business and Technology, I eventually ended up in Information Technology, managing information systems and then consulting. I had temporarily left the world of art. Now, I'm back! And I love every minute of it.

Today I feel very fortunate to be surrounded by a loving family (husband and two children), who support me in my artistic efforts. I am enjoying being a full time artist painting every day, and interacting with the artist community – I'm a member of the Allied Arts of Whatcom County, and the Skagit Art Association, as well as being involved with several on-line artist communities.

My painting is truly an expression of the person I am today. I hope you enjoy my work, and knowing the path which brought it to you.

## About my Art

Since coming back to the world of art, I have found more joy in my surroundings and in my life, which I believe directly affects my paintings. I favor bright colors, lively shapes and lines, with an attention to the whole space of the canvas. I want to bring my viewer into a moment of peace, joy and thoughtfulness thru simple subjects combined with cohesive and vibrant colors. Landscapes and flowers provide a fitting subject as they naturally provide the range of colors, shapes and patterns I enjoy most. Everywhere I travel I am looking at my surroundings with a painting in mind. I note color combinations and compositions to bring back to my canvas. I have recently started photographing locations to help bring more of nature into my painting, and to add greater depth to my pieces, although I still love painting from memory and creating a flatter abstracted image which brings more of myself into the piece. With either method, my paintings are always an expression of me, and how I see my world. As you view my work, I hope you enjoy the places I've been and find a moment of peace and beauty while you're there.