

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Creativity and the philosophy and techniques of Cezanne, Matisse, Gauguin, and other rebel Master Artists who developed the concepts of Modern Art are the cornerstone of my intuitive approach to Art. The Japanese understanding of “Satori” or enlightenment permeates my personal and professional commitment toward Life as the “Greatest Art.” It is within this context that I have chosen to be a collage artist and to share this satisfying experience with my students.

I believe creativity is a universal, innate “human” process, and that individuals are unique and precious, having the capacity to develop themselves and express their own experiences of and in this Life. Also, that Art is a part of our human experience that connects us to each other through visual and other forms of communication.

For me, Collage is the Jazz of the visual Art forms: improvisational, spontaneous. I “paint” with paper, snippets of various hand made mulberry, banana, and rice papers from the Orient, papyrus from Egypt, classic prints from Paris and London, Origami from Japan and vibrant colors and contemporary images from Haute Couture magazines of today. The world is my palette and trinkets, as well as dried flowers, and mementoes find their way into my collages. Creating a collage becomes a game, like putting pieces of a puzzle together without the picture on the top of the box. Inks, watercolors, oil pastels and layers of varnish are intermingled and layered with the papers to achieve both subtle and detailed embellishments.

My abstractions from nature appear representational. But within the detail the viewer can see two-dimensional flat patterns and geometric cut shapes that may be totally and mysteriously unrelated to the optical reality they are supposed to represent. Each collage is a leap of faith and a unique adventure into the unknown. Each Artwork takes on a life of its own, some expanding out of the two-dimensional picture plane into the reality of the viewer’s space. Every outcome is a potpourri of blended objects and a complete, unique surprise.

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