

Artist Statement: July 2023

I have always been drawn to the outdoors. The seasons, weather- all environments speak to me. I can hear and feel them in my soul. I portray landscapes, weather, ordinary and imaginary subjects in an abstract, non-objective way. My interpretation, while not representational, expresses my feelings. I love to experiment with different mediums, but most of my work is acrylic or cold wax and oil with collage elements.

My new series "Places I've Been-Real and Imagined" is done in cold wax and oil on cradled wood panels. The five pieces in the series are of a Florida Winter Sunset, The Caribbean Sea, Out of This World, My Oklahoma Heart, and Alaskan Waterfall. Snorkeling in the Caribbean, hiking in Alaska, spending childhood summers in Oklahoma, wintering in Florida, and dreaming of other worlds have inspired this series.

I use texture, variety in color and shapes to represent these beautiful locations. As in life, there are many layers in my work. The beginning layers are full of random marks, collage elements, and vibrant colors. All of these build the texture that is revealed in the upper layers. The upper layers are more focused on the subject of the piece.

I use many tools in my work- not just brushes. I love to use scrapers, palette knives, awls, sander, putty knives. These tools help create texture in the lower layers.

While not representational, these works express the joy I feel enjoying God's wonderful creation.