Cornelia Jutta Forster

Series Artist Statement

Calligraphy Lost and Found

This series is not meant to be displayed as a whole; it is not aesthetically unified. Rather, this is a learning series where I have taken a technique and experimented, pushing it into various directions.

My medium is oil/cold wax medium. I work on Arches oil paper.

I have a long-standing interest in language, translation, alphabets, etc. Inspired by written languages from around the world, I have developed my own set of marks, which can be used "print" or "cursive"; essentially: asemic calligraphy. The marks are applied onto tissue paper with ink or acrylic. After drying, the tissue is torn and collaged onto the oil/cwm painting. The tissue becomes transparent and adhesion is good.

In these pieces we see how asemic calligraphy can be used in different colors and values. When large, it acts as a shape, Smaller, it can appear as line work or visual texture. It can dominate as a focal point, or fade into the background. The line itself can be solid, broken up, or used in outline. The asemic calligraphy can be obvious, or partially hidden. Overlapping adds yet another layer of texture.

These examples  demonstrate how the marks made using this technique can act as various design elements. They are incorporated into and support the overall compositions, contributing to both unity and diversity of each piece.