



Jane Zeeb McDonnell's journey to become an artist started in Pennsylvania where she was born and raised. But becoming an artist got put on hold as life happened. She married, had two kids, moved to Massachusetts, divorced, and then raised two kids as a single mother. During this time, she had an art related career as a graphic designer, and then an art director. She also took many art classes and workshops allowing her to experience a wide variety of mediums including watercolor, oil, various print making methods, pottery and encaustic. After she married her current husband, Jane was able to study art at Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts. She graduated with a BA in Studio Art in 2007. She received summa cum laude honors, as well as the Thomas J. Wallace Memorial Award—an award given to honor an outstanding senior in studio art.

When Jane was able to retire in 2014, she and her husband moved to Maine. She also decided, at this time, she needed to focus on one medium to master it, so she chose watercolor. She painted extensively from 2014 through 2019, but over time, became dissatisfied with her work and began looking for a new way to create. She began to evaluate the process of making art as opposed to focusing on the final outcome. She needed a process that meshed with her personality. She needed a process that had many different steps and features including some that could be done when she only had small chunks of time or was low on energy. This frustration led Jane to create a new process that she calls reconstructed watercolor.

This new work was first featured in February, 2024 at the Kittery Art Association's Spotlight Wall and now can be found in many private collections throughout the country.