

STATEMENT

Growing up on a dead-end dirt road surrounded by woods, I spent my childhood roaming the forest in search of small treasures. That early way of seeing, attentive, tactile, and rooted in the natural world continues to shape my studio practice today.

My acrylic paintings engage with the gestural, embodied tradition of Abstract Expressionism, particularly the atmospheric color-building and physical engagement with surface found in Joan Mitchell's work. I extend this lineage by incorporating dried flowers, fragments of worn cloth, and hardened skins of paint. The surfaces become denser and more sculptural, hovering between painting and object. My process unfolds as a kind of dance across the surface, building pale veils of color, drips, and poured paint. I squeeze paint directly from bottles, allowing lines to loop and tangle. Salvaged paint skins form, break apart, and reattach, becoming both structure and residue. The work holds a record of touch, accumulation, and time.

BIO

Brenda Cirioni is a New England painter deeply inspired by nature. Her paintings emphasize surface texture and invite a sense of touch, while exploring themes of impermanence, transformation, and regeneration.

Cirioni's work has been exhibited at New England venues including the Danforth Art Museum, DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, and the Fitchburg Art Museum. Her paintings are held in numerous corporate and private collections, both nationally and internationally, including the Wrigley Family Collection in Chicago. Cirioni's work is part of the Art in Embassies Program, and her piece, Dickinson's Hope, once graced the office of Governor Deval Patrick and now resides in his personal collection.

Cirioni is represented by Three Stones Gallery in Concord, MA, and Portland Art Gallery in Portland, ME. Cirioni works out of her studio in the historic Gleasondale Mill in Stow, MA.