

BIOGRAPHY OF DIANE LA FONTAINE

Diane La Fontaine was born in Matane, Quebec, Canada and raised in Chicago, Illinois. Her art training began in high school at the Art Institute of Chicago, studying anatomy and composition. She then attended the Art Students League of New York City for four years with various scholarships. With her early love of abstract paintings, she focused her studies at the League with the renowned teacher, Vaclav Vitylacil and print maker, Seong Moy. Both artists studied with the Hans Hoffman School. Diane also studied with Roberto De Lamonica and Michael Ponce de Leon for traditional and contemporary methods of printmaking.

Her desire for adventure and new inspirations, lead her to the West Coast where she then moved to Vancouver, British Columbia and became part of the growing 1980's art scene. After five years, she moved to Galiano Island, a small, rural island between Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia and made it her home base for 17 years. It was during this time that Diane first explored the raw untouched beauty of the West Coast in her work. Here she has developed a significant body of work inspired by the island's natural beauty, working in plein air to study the landscape and its natural forms in oil pastels and oils. Diane later discovered her plaster based mixed medium method and decided to further her exploration by studying sculpture, ceramics and conceptual art at the Emily Carr School of Fine Art. She traveled for long periods of time to new vistas and cultures, to stimulate diversity of her expression in the creative process.

In 2002 Diane moved to Maui, Hawaii. She continued with her landscape inspired artwork and created a wide variety of artistic expressions executed in series, using various applications of mixed mediums over the ensuing years. She left Maui in the summer of 2012. Diane then traveled for 6 years across the USA and Canada, creating art directly influenced by the environment in which she resided. Diane returned to her beloved Maui in 2018 where she now resides full time.

DIANE LA FONTAINE

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ART EDUCATION AND AWARDS:

1992-1993 Emily School of Fine Art and Design, Vancouver, Ceramics and Sculpture
1972-1974 Art Merit Awards, Art Students League, New York
1970-1971 National Scholastic Award, Art Students League, New York
1970-1974 Art Students League of New York City, Printmaking and Painting

SELECT GROUP SHOWS:

2018 Maui Open Studios Tour, Maui Hawaii
2012 Art Maui, 34th Annual Juried Exhibition, Schaefer International Fine Arts Gallery, Kahului, HI
2011 Art Maui, 33rd Annual Juried Exhibition, Schaefer International Fine Arts Gallery, Kahului, HI
2010 Art Maui, 32nd Annual Juried Exhibition, Schaefer International Fine Arts Gallery, Kahului, HI
2009 Art Maui, 31st Annual Juried Exhibition, Schaefer International Fine Arts Gallery, Kahului, HI
2002 Juried Member's Show, Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center, Maui, HI
1997 Wakefield-Chelsea Artist's Tour, Wakefield, QC
1990- 1987 Bi-Annual Group Show, Dandelion Gallery, Galiano Island, B.C.

GALLERY REPRESENTATION

2012- 2014 Merwin Gallery, Castleton, Vermont
2010- 2011 Maui Craft Guild, Paia, HI
2009- 2011 Maui Hands, Lahaina, Paia, and Kaanapali, HI
2002- 2004 and 2008- 2012 Banyan Tree Gallery, Lahaina, HI
1986- 1994 Dandelion Gallery, Galiano Island, B.C.

SOLO SHOWS:

2015 "Studio Show/Small Artworks", Lancaster, PA.
2014 "Rocks and Riverbeds/Stream Bed Reflections", Artisan Gallery, Lancaster, PA.
2012 "Featured Artist", Artist in Residence, Merwin Gallery, Castleton, Vermont
2011 "Recent Works", Banyan Tree Gallery (Mixed Media), Maui, HI
2010 "Color, Light and Form", Banyan Tree Gallery (Mixed Media), Maui, HI
2003 "Earth, Color and Form", Banyan Tree Gallery (Mixed Media), Maui, HI
2001 Diane La Fontaine: "A Farewell Retrospective", Community Hall, Galiano Island, BC
1999 "New Galiano Landscapes", Studio Show (Oil Pastels), Galiano Island, BC
1995 "Southwest Impressions", Dandelion Gallery (Wall Relief Painting), Galiano Island, BC
1994 "Eclipse", Murari Gallery (Mixed Media, Paintings, Vessels), Victoria, BC
1994 "Language of the Goddess", Dandelion Gallery (Ceramics and Paintings), Galiano Island, BC
1993 "Abstractions: Land and Sea", Studio Show (Oil Paintings), Vancouver, BC
1992 "Symbolist Iconography", Studio Show (Mixed Media Paintings), Vancouver, BC
1991 "Chevrons and V's", Loni's Café, (Mixed Media Paintings & Tableware), Galiano Island, BC
1990 "Recycled", Not Just Desserts Restaurant (Mixed Media Tableware), Vancouver, BC
1988 "Mythology and Nature", Gallericos (Oil Pastels), Vancouver, BC

1987 "*Cable Bay Views*", La Berengerie Restaurant (Oil Pastels), Galiano Island, BC
1986 "*Vista: Gulf Island Landscapes*", Gallericos (Oil Pastels), Vancouver, BC