

# LORI SIMON

## BIOGRAPHY

Lori Simon is originally from Birmingham, Michigan. She received her art training at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and studied at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine. She now lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

As an artist, Lori was initially drawn to ceramics; she was fascinated by Pop Art artists such as Claus Oldenburg and Roy Lichtenstein and began to create large children's toys out of clay. Her ceramic 'Roller Skates' were selected by the international glass sculptor Dan Dailey, an early graduate student of Dale Chihuly, for his personal collection.

Lori studied ceramics and the sculptural aspects of clay. She built large ceramic sculptures, boxes, and platters with unusual surfaces and textures. She 'painted' these sculptures with wide swaths of colors using large brushes, and pouring and overlaying glazes to achieve a painterly surface.

She was inspired by the Abstract Expressionist movement and it was a natural progression for her to paint on large canvases. Her abstract paintings are filled with large brush strokes of color, and pours, drawing and splashes - multiple layers of paint – often scraped or washed away. Painted with large gestures and movements of the body, these painting reflect reactions to emotions and music and landscape.

Lori's artwork has been moving in a different and more tranquil direction; she is interested in Asian art and literature and is studying Sumi-e painting. In her recent paintings on paper she is exploring a smaller scale, using light brushwork and ink washes. These paintings invite the viewer to move in towards the artwork, thus creating a more intimate and contemplative experience.

Lori's large abstract paintings have been widely exhibited in Florida at the Frary Gallery, Claire Mitchell Gallery, Art Center Sarasota, Raymond James & Associates in Sarasota, the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa, the Florida Museum for Women Artists in Deland, and The Art Place Wynwood Gallery in Miami.

Lori Simon was an artist featured in a film documentary at the 2011 Sarasota Film Festival, *'The Observer and the Observed'*, as well as in *New England Homes Magazine* in October, 2013. Her artwork is in private collections in Michigan, Illinois, Massachusetts, Florida, New York and Connecticut. Her artwork is also in the corporate collections of Saks Fifth Avenue in Sarasota, Florida, Long Island, New York and Puerto Rico, as well as PNC Bank in Sarasota, Florida and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.