

My landscapes are conversations. They are like old friends that I revisit time and again, having new things to tell and discovering new things about them that I love. With each visit we share more intimacy that I am compelled to abstract into painting. I feel a strong spiritual pull towards the natural world and the relation between earth and sky. These places are my sanctuary where I feel comfort, freedom, and connection. They are connections to my past and satisfy my hunger for the places that have meaning to me. I am part of them.

I find that I will paint a certain “place” repeatedly to get to know it better and eventually find those elemental simplicities that are the heart. They are no longer about a specific place but rather an emotion. What is it about a place that is so compelling? Is it the light? Is it the space? Is it all the living things? I break it down to the most basic; shifting towards portraiture and the conversation becomes more intimate.

My love for the natural world comes from a strong lineage of land and wildlife conservation. I am an advocate for openspace and the use of public lands and I am grateful for having spent most of my life being able to witness and enjoy wild places that are now under threat of extinction. I cannot imagine a world without it and my hope is that I can, at the very least, preserve these places through my painting.

I typically paint in square format. It is a balanced shape that encourages the eye to move around in a circular motion rather than linear. It tends to emphasize an intimate and singular subject thus lending itself towards portraiture.

My influences stem from a variety of painters; from my earliest with NC and Andrew Wyeth, and later with the work of Russell Chatham, Wolf Khan, and a host of others.

I was born in 1961 in southeastern Pennsylvania and lived there my entire childhood. In 1986, I received a BA in Art History from Montana State University. That same year I married and moved south to Hattiesburg, Mississippi where my husband and I have since lived and raised our two children. From 2004-2013 I taught elementary art at the school our children attended. I am an active member of the Women’s Art Collective, in Hattiesburg, the Mississippi Art Colony, The Degas Pastel Society, and the Pastel Society of America. My husband and I now divide our time between Mississippi and Montana.

