

Rachel Oresky-Portner received her BFA in Painting and Drawing from the University of the Arts with a concentration in Art Therapy. She then obtained her Master's degree in Art Therapy from Drexel/Hahnemann University in 2007. She is a registered board-certified Art Therapist and Licensed Professional Counselor.

She has been working as an art psychotherapist and mental health professional in a variety of clinical settings with a people experiencing a wide spectrum of mental health challenges for 18 years. She has presented at Expressive Therapies Conferences, has been a featured art therapist in art therapy newsletters and has won awards for most active artist in the PAATA (formerly DVATA). In her clinical work, she likes to create response art to group and individual therapy sessions to help her better process responses, thoughts and feelings surrounding sessions and information that emerges.

Rachel has always been interested in the emotive and healing powers of creating art. Making art has been a natural method for expression and communication for her since childhood. Her early subject matter was inspired by the dreamlike, whimsical, bizarre and imaginative imagery of Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali, Egon Schiele, Gustav Klimt, Mucha. She began to create what she called, "mindscape" that represented her inner worlds where fantasy and reality meet. Over the years her art has been heavily influenced by her work as an art therapist and psychotherapist, in addition to her love for travelling and being inspired by exploring new spaces.

Rachel has exhibited her artwork in several art spaces in Pennsylvania including the Well-fed artists gallery, Glam gallery, Sienna Gallery, Studio 364, the Sketch Club, Off the Wall Gallery, Olde City Jewish Arts Center, B2 Gallery, and Red Hook.

