

## Fay Davis Edwards Artist Statement

Fay Davis Edwards is a professional artist living and working on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. I earned my BFA in painting from East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, where my concentration centered primarily on figurative painting in watercolor. Additionally, I have studied painting, tin collage, and wood design, and encaustics in numerous workshops with Penland School of Crafts (NC), and Pocosin Arts School of Fine Art (NC).

The focus of my current body of work is mainly in painting and mixed media. I am exploring a more nonrepresentational direction, responding to the push and pull of value, line, shape, and color. Figurative elements appear in many of these paintings, taking cues from my coastal environment. Crows, orbs, maps, and numbers invite viewers to create a dialogue about each painting, while collage materials, found objects, encaustics, and tin create a visual interest.

Many of my works are centered on the idea of “place.” My native home is a barrier island, where I have returned to live as an adult, and is an ever-changing environment of windblown sand, fierce storms, and magnificent sunsets. Rather than looking towards the ocean, my inspirations come from the marshes, sounds, rivers, and cypress swamps to my west. I have discovered that the color palette of this area has crept into my paintings, with blues, ochres, deep reds, and browns appearing as frequent color combinations.

Currently, I display my paintings at the DCAC Gallery in Manteo, KDH Cooperative in Kill Devil Hills, and Silver Bonsai in Manteo. My work may also be seen by appointment at my home studio on the north end of Roanoke Island. I share that studio (and my home) with my husband, a lively flock of chickens, and five very opinionated cats.