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Artist Statement:

"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way – things I had no words for." – Georgia O'Keefe

My artistic motivation comes from a deep curiosity about the world, and a drive to express my perceptions in a particular way. I have something to say about what I see and experience, and visual art allows me to do that in a uniquely satisfying way.

The idea of telling a story through painting and drawing also motivates me. The beauty and mystery of the natural world have always influenced my artwork. Over the past several years I've also been drawn to painting figures and portraits, in hopes of conveying a more specific story and experience. I lean toward watercolor as my primary medium because I am intrigued by the combination of planning and spontaneity, movement and rest, water and pigment that are unique to watercolor. Although there is a measure of control, watercolor always has the potential to surprise, and makes me feel like anything could happen. At its best, I find the process of making art to be an inspiring combination of thought, emotion, soul, and physicality.

Bio:

I am a lifelong artist and native Washingtonian. I love to paint and draw more than just about anything else. In high school and college I took courses in drawing, painting, and print making. My first real watercolor instruction began in 2001, with outstanding teacher and artist John Adams. In 2004, I took my first watercolor workshop from Jan Hart at Ghost Ranch in Abiqui, New Mexico. I had the time of my life, and though I had to take an extended break from painting, my foundation with John and Jan ensured my passion for painting would lead me back to it. For the past ten years I have been meeting weekly to make art, learn, chat, and snack with the Brig Studio Artists, an extraordinary group of painters in Seattle. I've also taken various classes and workshops over the years from artists Ted Nuttall, Tom Hoffmann, Stephen Quiller, Suze Woolf, Molly Murrah, Jeannie McGuire, and Donna Zagotta. Barbara Fugate, at the Gage Academy and elsewhere, has taught me to love drawing, among other things. My watercolor paintings have been exhibited in various exhibitions and juried shows in the Puget Sound region since 2002.