

BIO

I was born in Ft. Myers, Florida in 1938. I am a sixth generation Floridian.

As far back as I can remember I was drawing. All through public school I was dreaming of art. When I graduated from high school I went to Florida State University to major in Art. While there I studied with Ed Hill and Karl Zerbe. Before I graduated in 1960 I changed my major to Art Education so that I could get a state teacher's scholarship and federal teaching loans.

In 1960 I taught art in Jacksonville, Florida. I had work selected for exhibitions at the Jacksonville Art Museum. I had meant to be an artist. I hadn't meant to fall in love with teaching, but I did. That fact set the direction of my life.

In 1962 I began teaching Art and Humanities in Prince George's County, Maryland, and studying art at American University. At A.U. I studied with Joe Summerford and Robert Gates. I taught and took classes in the evening and summers. I received my M.A. in Art in 1967.

When I completed my Master's degree I began appealing to my county to initiate a High School for the Arts.

In 1971 I received a paid sabbatical to work on my Ph.D. in Arts Education. Penn State offered me a teaching fellowship and free tuition. I accepted. At Penn State I received permission from the Art Education Dept. and the Philosophy Dept. to take all my elective courses in Philosophy. I wrote my dissertation on Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit. D.P. Veren, then of the Penn State Philosophy Dept. was my advisor.

When my course work and exams were finished I returned to my former position as Art and Humanities teacher and department chair. My department grew to five art teachers and once again I was pressing the School Board for a county wide school for the arts.

This time the Board of Education formed a task force and we developed a curriculum in the arts for ninth through twelfth grades. But the school concept had to wait until the mid-eighties when magnet programs came into vogue.

I completed my dissertation and received my Ph.D. in 1978. In 1985 I received the Washington Post Agnes Myers Teacher of the Year Award. This award is given yearly to teachers in Washington D.C. and the surrounding counties in Maryland and Virginia for outstanding and creative teaching.

In 1987 we finally instituted the Prince George's County School for the Visual and Performing Arts as a Magnet. We had a building of our own and the best equipped studios. I worked with my visual arts team to develop a four-year program for gifted students in the visual arts. We accepted approximately thirty ninth graders each year. They took four periods of art every day throughout the four year program. The courses were required in the ninth and tenth grade. In the eleventh and twelfth grade the student could elect two, two-period classes as majors. There

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were designated studios for painting, sculpture, printmaking, a photography suite, and a computer design suite, a room for drawing and introduction to art and an art history room. We also had a state of the arts gallery for our frequent shows.

In the ten years I was there (from 1987 - 1997) and with the assistance of a first rate staff, our students won amazing scholarships to the finest art schools and universities in America.

For those of you who are still with me, I will now get to the point. In all those years I was teaching, I kept on drawing and painting but there was little time for my own art. Though I exhibited in public galleries in Washington D.C., Alexandria and Annapolis, I could never devote the time it takes to truly develop my own work or to exhibit on a regular basis.

To make matters worse, for ten years I set up a wood workshop and designed and crafted furniture. It was another exciting experience but I found there is no market for a Renaissance woman.

Several years ago I sold my tiny Victorian cottage overlooking the Shrewsbury River and Sandy Hook in New Jersey and bought a larger house in the hills of Highlands, N.J. The new house had a huge attic which I had turned into a wonderful art studio. I spent so much developing the studio I felt obliged to use it.

Now you may think this is the end of the biography, but it is only the beginning. For almost four years I have spent most days in my studio struggling to find my voice in my work. My work has been largely pastel and charcoal. I have completed a large series of florals and another series of land/water-scapes. While these are both presented here for your viewing you will also see I have wandered off into other subjects.

And that is my story. I'm now a practicing artist. My first one person show is scheduled for October in Washington D.C. It is an invitational show that will be held in a large residential loft in the Adams Morgan section of D.C. Several dozen framed florals and landscapes that you see here will be on display at this show.

Thanks for taking a look. My work is available for sale. Along with the originals, giclees of most works are available. Giclees are done in limited, numbered editions which are signed.