

Elizabeth Gullikson

Artist

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Birch Trees in Autumn, Watercolor

You often hear stories about people who say they knew what they wanted to do ever since they were very young. That, however, never applied to me. My art background in grade school was quite rudimentary.....consisting of gluing little glossy pictures of classical paintings onto lined paper, and then copying the artist's biography onto that sheet of paper.

In high school, my art appreciation came in small doses. It was usually in the form of a student art show where I would find myself totally mesmerized by all the wonderful drawings that were on display. I wished that I had been born as talented as those kids. That was my naïve mindset at the time. So I didn't do anything with that urge until my late twenties. Then I decided to take a drawing class at night, and I have been evolving ever since. I decided to continue my education and obtained an Art Degree in 1984.

After starting a family, I started designing my Christmas cards, doing whimsical drawings of snowmen. It's been over twenty years, and I'm still at it. I started selling some of my cards, but it just wasn't enough. Part of me longed to work on a larger scale.

I joined The Three Cities Art Club in 2006, and I have to say, it was what I was looking for and it indeed helps me explore the world of art. I have since then taken additional art. When it comes to fine art, I like various genre—landscapes, florals, portraits, and abstract art. The mediums I use are watercolor, acrylic, pastels, pencil, and sometimes oil. What I end up using is based on my subject matter and my level of comfort in what I feel will work.

One of my favorite techniques is process art. I let the watercolor washes drip and mix together. As shapes and figures start to appear, I enhance them by adding other details.

Eventually, these figures come together in a collage-like format, and what evolves is an original composition. The end result is a bridge between my subconscious and the free-flowing paint.

What is ultimately the most important thing to me is that I enjoy what I paint, and hopefully, those who view my art will respond to it one way or another.

Exhibitions

Three Cities Art Club Annual Art Show and Sale,
Canton, Michigan
2008 - 2013 Annual Art Shows

Plymouth Community Arts Council – Annual Open Juried Art
Exhibit 2011, 2012, 2013

Canton Township Hall Exhibit – ongoing club exhibit 2009 -
First Presbyterian Church of Northville – Juried Show, 2010, 2011, 2012

D & M Art Studio – “Ladies Dillenbeck Art Exhibit”, 2011, 2012, 2013

Community Involvement

Relay for Life Annual Cancer Fundraiser – Heritage Park,
Canton, Township
Volunteer Artist painting art reproductions of Matisse,
Van Gogh, Miro, etc. to raise money for the cancer drive
starting 2007 -.2011

Three Cities Art Club
Secretary, from 2007 -

Education

B.F.A., The University of Texas at Austin
Schoolcraft College, Livonia, Michigan
Drawing, Portrait Drawing

Plymouth Arts Council, Plymouth, Mi - Drawing
D & M Art Studio, Canton, Michigan - Charcoal, Pastel, Watercolor, Oil Painting
Drawing – Schoolcraft College, Linn Baum
Watercolor Classes – Edee Joppich