

# Susan Aitken

Fine Artist, Educator, Author, Illustrator

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Conformity, Watercolor

I am an artist with many hats (berets? ☺), one of them being a mother of four and another being the secondary art teacher at Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton. Originally from South Jersey, I earned a BA in Art Education from Rowan University and revisited the college scene between child three and four to update a lapsed teaching certificate. There I discovered a penchant for watercolor!

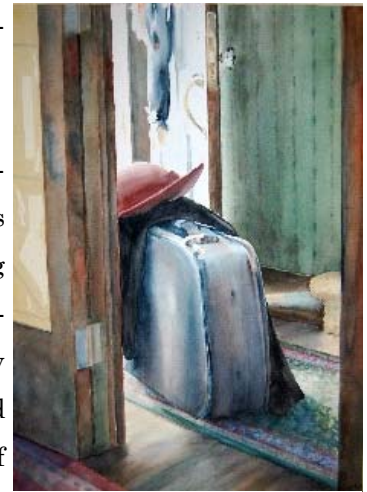
The hat that might interest you most, however, is my foray into illustration. Through the years, I have illustrated twelve children's books



Can't Remember!, Watercolor

(and authored one) for the Centering Corporation which deals with the grieving process. Watercolor is my primary medium for both the illustrations and my paintings; I love the challenge of having to leave the white areas and the surprise of colors flowing together creating various effects. Often I will incorporate colored pencil for details and use pen and ink in the illustrations as well.

In my paintings - and the illustrations - I tends to use that which is around me and with which I am most familiar as subject matter and no matter how many times I attempt to delve into abstraction or non-representation, I am continually drawn back to realism. Like the illustrations, my work usually has some narrative content beyond just the subject matter, leaving it up the viewer to determine any personal significance. Even though they are rendered a bit differently, there is most definitely a link between my illustration work and my paintings.



Crossroads, Watercolor



Smell the Flowers, Watercolor

**Exhibitions**

Three Cities Art Club  
Annual Art Show and Sale,  
Canton, Michigan  
2011 Spring Art Show

Canton Township Hall Exhibit  
Ongoing Three Cities Art Club Exhibit

**Community Involvement**

**Education**

BA in Art Education, Rowan University