

Solo Show- Moving Toward Resilience

Reviews

"Her message and art is a beautiful expression of her soul's journey. She follows the call to put into words her compassionate and soulful trek of resilience." – Julie Tallard Johnson, MSW, LCSW Writing Sherpa

"Resilient people come through life's difficulties and challenges. They are not permanently damaged by the experience. It's there. It's a part of their life story. They learn from it." - Janna Becherer, LCPC

Artist Bio: Dawn Marie Wians

Inspired by the everchanging seasons in her perennial gardens, as well as her journeys through interior landscapes of the soul, she uses nature as a material reference to make sense of and give meaning to her expression as an artist. She imagines diverse ways of capturing images and words through the senses to push the experimental use of materials and mediums forward into abstract images and objects. Her ideas, rooted in analogies of the natural and spiritual world: heaven, earth, dormancy, resilience, regeneration, growth, faith, aspire to draw metaphors to our human experience. Memories of gardening, parenting and painting find their way into her recent writings; serving to move her along an emotionally conscious journey and to bring meaning to life's challenges. She encourages the viewer to tinker and explore in their own unique ways.

"To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering." -Aldo Leopold, 1949

Her formal studies earned her a BA in Design and the Human Environment. Trained as an interior designer, she is drawn to materials, the form they take and the way we experience them. "In workshop and studio sessions, I use experimental and abstract approaches to traditional mediums and substrates because it removes the intimidation of art-making for the beginner and opens new pathways to creativity for experienced artists." Dawn offers creativity workshops and private studio sessions. Natural mediums she explores include: graphite, soft pastel, oil pastel, tube oil, oil pigment sticks, cold wax, encaustic wax, and paper collage.

Please contact her at dawnwians1@gmail.com to book a workshop or studio session, inquire about art shown in this exhibit or online at her website www.dawnwiansart.com

Artist Statement

Vivid images of places, people, objects and nature are collected on our journey through life. We can give meaning to life's challenging times when we make sense of these images and reframe the story both visually and through verse. Like most, once a challenge has moved past us, we awaken to the moment and look up stream. But we can find images and stories that get caught in the undercurrent of our unconsciousness. They resist the pull of the upper current and find their way into my art and poetry. Writing is one way of untangling them to take a closer look before I set them free in my paintings.

As a mixed media artist, there are a multitude of mediums to create with! I layer asemic writing over some of my paintings. Poetry and short vignettes' give another dimension of exploration and meaning to my paintings. We all witness the healing effects of making and viewing art. There can now be deeper discovery and healing through the written word. My current body of work explores the process of moving from difficulty toward resilience through art and the written word as they come together.