

ABOUT THIS WORK . . .

I have been working as an artist for over 30 years producing mixed media works, small sculptures, drawings and photographic portfolios. In the late 1990s I began making small collages. These works on paper combined imagery from printed material with watercolor and ink drawing. The printed and drawn elements become small narratives. The combination of printed colorful images, black and white illustrations and hand drawn elements create their own energy within the frame. It also allows me to work with pastiche as a strategy to create odd juxtapositions that are unexpected and sometimes humorous.

In 2002 when my wife, artist Diane Arnold, and I built our house and studio I returned to larger scale painting. These paintings from my current studio practice reflect a longstanding interest in nature and landscape. As with the collages, I continue to use pastiche to construct visual relationships within the painting. The works are larger scale and the subject matter is no longer dependent upon found printed material. Instead, these paintings piece together painted and drawn elements on the canvas or panel – almost like dialog boxes. The different bits work together to construct a visual relationship.

These works also use different stylistic approaches – simplified abstraction, naturalistic elements, more formally drawn elements, etc. Both imagery and stylistic process become part of the conversation here. In some ways, the paintings are about the multiple possibilities of approach and visual language.

The sources and ideas for this work come from everywhere. Printed material is probably the primary source. I visit museums regularly always looking for something I can use knowing it will be changed by my process and the way I might use it.

I always know where I am going to begin a painting. I never know where it will end up – and that's okay.