

ART AT THE AIRPORT

WILD WOMEN



AIMEE HAD

Mastering the art of free form whimsy with a touch of gravitas, Lake Tahoe painter Aimee Had, is interested in the magical undercurrent of life. Influenced by Van Gogh, Edvard Munch, Seuss, and more, Had is drawn toward compelling characters, and seeking what lies beneath life's surface.

Animals, music, and song lyrics strongly influence Aimee's artistic inspiration. The natural world's astonishing ability to surprise her in the most unlikely of spots also plays a significant role. ~Like a seed taking root within a rock's fissure, or a crack in the manufactured world, Had's work is an expression of spontaneous ideas cultivated into fine art.

Aimee received her BA in Art from Colorado College. Collectors of Aimee's paintings seem to be those whom love a good story, and are seeking the unusual combined with beauty.

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CHARLY MALPASS

Charly has been a painter for more than 10 years, beginning as a poet and oil painter while pursuing her BFA at the San Francisco Art Institute. The root of her creativity stems from childhood, which was spent in the woods behind the house her father built. She was drawn to the woods because it was a place where she felt small as an observer and large as a narrator, and this is the same feeling that draws her to painting.

Charly employs a variety of painting techniques to evoke a feeling of balance. Her use of composition, color and texture is guided by the unique character of each subject. She often works with bright and harmonious palettes which celebrate the vitality of our thriving ecosystems, as well as rigid, expressionistic marks to represent the vulnerability of threatened environments. Nature, with its infinite diversity and resilience, serves as an endless source of inspiration for Charly's art.

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JENNIFER RUGGE

One of five children, Jennifer roamed up and down the beaches of California and Mexico, camping along the shores and gathering food from the sea. By night they slept with the scorpions, and by day, explored the creatures and features of the tide pools. These explorations were the beginnings of Jennifer's journey to create Art from the land and to the investigation of language roots.

With a dual Bachelor's degree in Art and Languages as well as including teacher certification, Jennifer became an educator teaching elementary school. Later she completed a Master's in "Initiatives in Educational Transformation" at George Mason University.

While living in Germany and then in Vienna Austria, Jennifer had the opportunity to take Art classes at the CESMA Formazione e Cultura in northern Italy. The school visited various chapels, churches, and monasteries where the early practices of pigment mixtures on frescoes, illuminated writing and gold leaf applications were studied and practiced.

Today Jennifer lives in Nevada City, CA. She continues to collect minerals and ochres, to supplement materials through eco-friendly businesses and to be earth conscious in her endeavors. Morning tea is full of research and study of ancient and early languages, and recording signs from the past and sketching ideas. Over time she has been able to create a more environmentally safe studio and inspiring Art works.

Jennifer is represented locally by: Piper J Gallery located at 10250 Donner Pass Rd, Truckee, CA 96161
To see more of this artists work please visit www.piperjgallery.com

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LIZ PAGANELLI

Liz received a BFA from California College of the Arts and a MA from John F. Kennedy University, and also studied printmaking at Kala Institute in Berkeley, California and Santa Reparata Graphics Center in Florence, Italy. She taught drawing and printmaking at the Sierra Nevada and Truckee Meadows Community Colleges.

Liz lives in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, surrounded by the beauty of the Sierra landscape. Art making is her passion; it empowers and vitalizes her life. The creative process is what brings her into the studio day after day, continually inspired by the Sierra Landscape that surrounds her. Liz has hiked, kayaked and cross-country skied throughout the Sierra. One of her favorite things to do is to sit and sketch in the quiet of nature. Every piece she creates begins with a walk in the forest.

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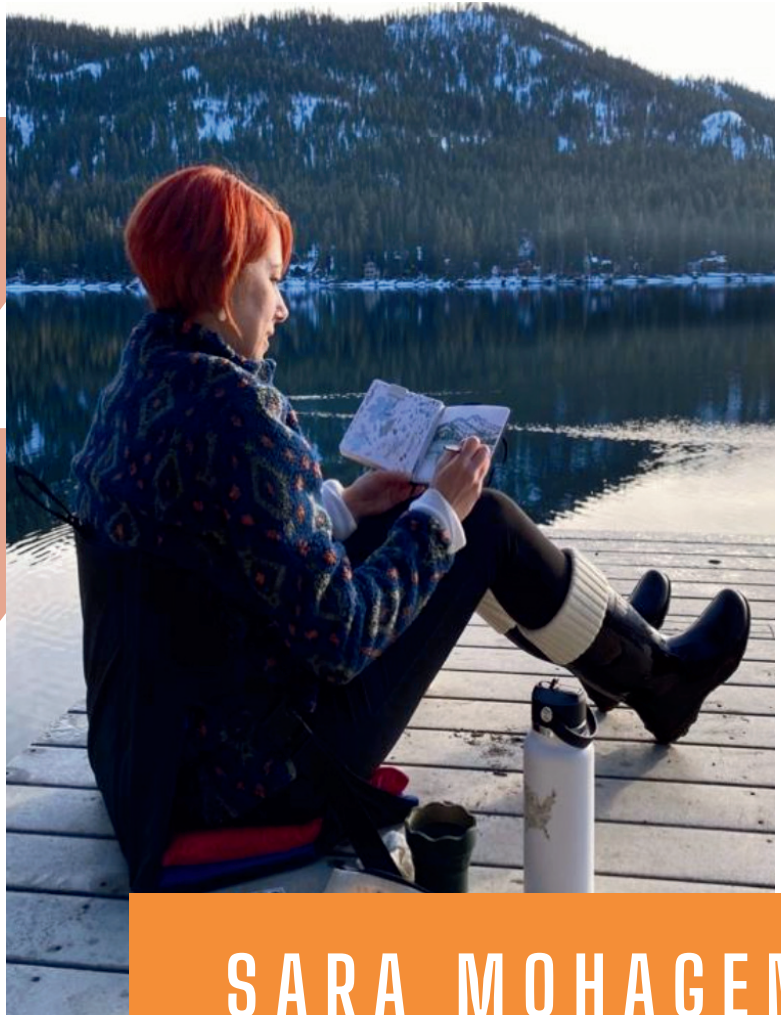
SARA L SMITH

Sara's work is inspired by living in the interface of the wild world, by our interconnections with it, and our responsibility for it. She uses a variety of materials and processes such as traditional painting and drawing combined with spray paint and metal leaf, and frequently incorporates reclaimed wood and repurposed decorative materials and fabric.

Her practices and themes spring from constant curiosity and a longtime interest in things that contain layers or which have lived previous lives, the tactile and emotional connections we have to materials and images, as well as from a deep desire to preserve and protect this beautiful world we inhabit by giving form to new things, built from old things. Materials have their own story and connections embedded within that add to the story.

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SARA MOHAGEN

Inspired by the great outdoors, Dark Fox Creative was born from a love for the wilderness, mountains, and wildlife. Sara is an artist and illustrator who embraces unique styles of art with realistic graphite black and white wildlife illustrations as well as vibrant watercolor and acrylic paintings. Sara shares a cabin with her husband and little dog, and finds joy in watching the creatures she draws come to life.

With pencils and erasers, Sara spend countless hours creating highly detailed portraits of animals she encounters as seen in her Woodland Wildlife Series. From the bears seen in the woods to the birds in her backyard, the black and white pieces offer a depth of shading and light within the portrait that draws your eye to the animal in a way that is sometimes passed over in color.

Sara says she often feels a bit like a woodland Beatrix Potter; chatting with the beaver swimming next to her in Donner Lake or walking next to the coyote in the woods on a snowy morning. She makes up stories and names for the animals and would love to put them into children's books someday.

Dark Fox Creative began after Sara was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer. A self-taught artist, she started drawing when she was going through treatment. In doing so Sara found a love for artwork and creativity that brings her joy every time she sits down to draw and paint. On any given day Sara can either be found walking outdoors or sitting at her desk in her art studio near Donner Lake. Her creative partners are always nearby in the form of a mug of coffee, sweet pup, and occasionally a bit of dark chocolate.