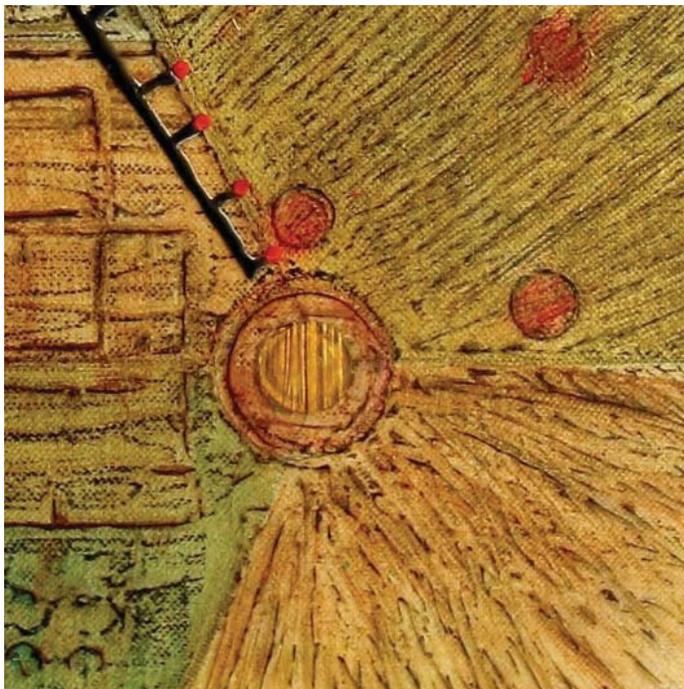


Donna Geist Buch

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I have always had an appreciation of all arts and I began working with paint and pastels in the traditional manner. In an advanced painting class at Otis Institute back in the early 1990's with the encouragement of my teacher, I discovered the wonder of mixed media painting. This fueled my drive for more self-expression.



Progressing and experimenting on my own, I began using assemblage at times as well as non traditional techniques. I found it an absolute joy to take an object and give it new meaning or to apply texture in a completely different way. I find beauty in recreating natural scenes or figures, but I get bored with it. I need to stretch boundaries and create with my own ideas, self-concepts and feelings. Working with other very talented and creative artists has further pushed me. I find it absolutely amazing that we can teach each other a technique and all incorporate it in our special way that is different and unique to the individual artist.

I feel the need to create. It is my stress reliever. I will always move in a direction of self-creativity. I can't stop.



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Donna Geist Buch grew up in Southern Louisiana. At an early age she was a self-taught pastel artist and became active with local art groups. She was influenced by the wonderful colors of Mardi Gras and the seasonal changes of the bayous. In the late 1980's, work brought Donna to Los Angeles. She soon became involved with different art groups, showing her work through different venues.

Striving to perfect her craft, she studied at Otis Parsons' Art Institute in Los Angeles, California. While at Otis Parsons', she was inspired by her mentor/teacher, to try mixed-media painting. She fell in love with mixed media and it has become one of her favorite mediums in which to express her art. As an experimental artist Donna also fell in love with assemblage. Recycling old found objects to create new meanings. Using imperfect castaways and motion with texture helps Donna to find a holistic balance in visual art. She loves to explore new ideas, pushing her imagination and stretching the boundaries of expression. Her work can be both serious and playful while incorporating texture, movement and 3-dimensionality.

Donna has exhibited in local, national and international shows; in 1992 she participated in "Issue of Choice" at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE). In 1995 her paintings were exhibited in the Mark International Group Exhibition in the Sinjuku Museum in Sinjuku Japan. Her artwork has been featured on covers of the Society Social Magazine, in Southern California. Donna's passion for working large led her to paint commissioned murals in Los Angeles homes. Currently Donna is serving on the Board of Directors for the Valley Institute of Visual Arts and is Exhibit Chair for the Valley Artists Guild. Donna is also a member of the Fine Arts Federation of Burbank, Collage Artists of America, Women Painters West and the VIVA Gallery Salon.



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