

Darlene H. Morris

*Watercolor, Acrylic, Oil
& Mixed Media with Collage*

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Biography

Darlene Hansen Morris began her art career when she received her first new box of Crayola crayons at an early age from her artistic mother. Taking art classes each semester in high school, she sold her first watercolor painting to the high school secretary. Her work was exhibited in the annual student show at Balboa Park in San Diego when she was a high school senior.

In the intervening years she has continued her studies with well-known artists, including Annette Paquet, Roger Folk, Gerald Brommer, Katherine Chang Liu, Morten Solberg, Louise Cadillac, and Pat Dews. Her work has been exhibited in the Southern California area since 1983. Morris' paintings were juried into shows at the San Diego Watercolor Society, Carlsbad-Oceanside Art League, Fallbrook Art Association, San Diego County Fair at Del Mar, La Jolla Art Association, Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, and Joshua Tree National Park Art Faire. Her paintings in oil, watercolor, and acrylic are in private collections across the United States. Morris is currently working in acrylic with collage, oil, and watercolor.

The subjects she chooses to paint are a reflection of her love of the natural landscape and her appreciation of man-made structures. During her youth she traveled with her family by car across the United States several times. As a result, she loves the variety of landscape scenery. Morris' attraction to architectural forms led her to study architectural drafting and rendering, which increased her understanding of structure and strengthened her work.

Darlene believes art should be an uplifting experience for the beholder as well as the artist. She strives to see grace, beauty, and soul expressed in each work to bring a sense of peace and harmony into each painting. As a watercolor and mixed media instructor, Morris enjoys sharing these ideas and her techniques at the Twentynine Palms Art Gallery and the Yucca Valley Community Center.

Artist's Statement

I don't paint alone – I paint with angels. As I am working, I listen for intuitions, angel messages that tell me the steps to take, from initial idea to completion.

While reviewing the work completed since high school, I found a common theme and realized that this listening has been a constant help to me for all my creative years. Mountain ranges, distant vistas, soaring birds, sturdy trees, and vast bodies of water represent spiritual ideas to me. The mountains are solid and grand ideas; the distant vistas show a higher viewpoint; the soaring birds are human aspirations rising above the mortal view of life; the sturdy trees reach upwards toward the light of Love while being rooted in the soil of Life; and the waters indicate the never-ending flow of Soul.

I strive to bring to the viewer a message of hope, joy, and the expectation of good in ones life experience.