



Beth Flannigan

3276 39th Court
Washougal, WA 98671
503.750.5349

www.bethflannigan.net

Artist's Statement

I grew-up in the Pacific Northwest and currently reside in the Columbia Gorge area. While predominately self-taught, I had the pleasure of learning from highly regarded, local artist Susan Spears. I supplemented her instruction with years of practice.

My process begins with a sketch, penciled out onto a pre-stretched canvas. I work without an easel, painting with the canvas flat and rotating it, at times painting sideways or upside-down. I use water mixable oils on all of my paintings. This new type of paint is eco-friendly, non-toxic and does not require the use of harmful solvents.

Whether painting an abstract or contemporary landscape, my image needs to contain a certain set of elements. Firstly, it needs to be full of energy, either quiet or exploding. High contrast helps to convey this force. I also focus on the feel of the line, which usually has an organic quality. Lastly, my paintings come together with areas of smooth transition and fine blending. I know I have achieved success when I sense the energy from my canvas and cannot quite tell where one color ends and the next begins.

Upon finishing a piece, I sign the back or edge and assign a number to the work. I think a front signature detracts from experiencing the artwork and a title will influence perception of the image. Much of the enjoyment of abstract art is the individual and personal interpretation of the piece.

Beth Flannigan