

Meet the Artist

Linda Hanks

I grew up in a small Southern town where I watched the art of painting at my mother's knee. I watched her paint a large oak tree in winter and was in awe of her ability to make it look real. As I grew, music became an important part of my life with piano, clarinet and saxophone being the avenue of concerts, jazz bands and orchestras. I became interested in science and math in high school and decided that if I wanted to feed myself regularly, I should pursue one of those interests. I went to college, majored in microbiology, married and worked in microbiology until my daughters were born. I raised my children, divorced and in the process, discovered painting. For me, painting is a very spiritual endeavor and I approach each piece with eagerness to translate thoughts and feelings on canvas. Each time I go into my studio, it's like going into a microbiology laboratory. I experiment in different approaches in starting a painting, color combinations, pain application, brush sizes, and brush types.....depending on the subject.

In my latest series "Georgia Peach Orchards", I started each painting with a geometric design. I also painted in the perspective lines since the placement of the trees was so important. Each piece is different with its own challenges and stimuli.

Winning awards locally, regionally and nationally has been very validating along with exhibiting with "The Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club" and "The American Artists Professional League" in New York City. I have been invited to participate in activities with Atlanta's High Museum of Art and the Columbus Museum in Columbus, Georgia. Also, I am showing in Atlanta and Nashville, Tennessee.

I love what I do and I hope to evoke a mood or a feeling from the viewer, even though it might be different from mine. Painting for me is like talking on canvas because it's a non-verbal communication. I have always, always, always loved the color red. In high school, everything I had was the color red....even my 1949 Dodge coupe. I now use the color red to sign my paintings, whether it is burgundy, wine or fire engine red. I find it adds an element of design and above all, suits me.