

Jo Ann Nelson



I choose from forms in nature and rely heavily on an emotional attachment to each individual within, I do not like to work with definite shapes. I intentionally depict the contours of an object, with the shapes and swirls of color creating an essence rather than a likeness. There is no one form, color or shape attached to one feeling or emotion. There is an essence everywhere, a flow of energy or the lack there of, which is a continuous source to be reckoned with and to be understood.

The first layers are usually the compliment of the final product, with the texture of the final product being evident. The process of creating a push-pull effect in the relationships of the colors through the use of texture is evident. In my creations there is a simplicity, a balance of shape, form, color and texture. I feel that there is a new answer waiting to reassess each question, and the real power comes from “The Life Force

Within”. The most important fact about my work is that I do not worry about making a mistake, since all work is an evolution of relationships between color and shape.

Jo Ann was born on a farm in Collyer, Kansas the eldest of six children. She remains close to the land and the family she grew up in.

She received her BS and MA from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas. All post graduate work was completed in Colorado where she now makes her home. She has been involved in education, art education production for a lifetime. She has a passion for knowledge and understanding of new things.

A great source of inspiration for her art work has come from mountain hikes, with her son and daughter. Their love of nature, rocks, water and growing things has been the subjects of many collections and discussions. Consequently, the interaction with family members and the collections of natural objects have become the subjects that were used in all her art work. Many times a tiny section of a rock is the inspiration for a large painting. Textures and shapes, depict the lines of the rock image and they become the bones that support the mixture of flowing colors within a painting.

The circle of life is evident with the flow of one thing into another, the idea that all things are related and that no one thing can stand alone. Her work can be found in many homes from Maryland to California, Texas to North Dakota as well as in Australia.

Jo Ann has a passion for life and a love for many things.
