

# Jeanne Sears Valdez



## Artist Statement:

*Art is a venture into the world of imagination and the unknown... The more you paint and the more you experiment with the different media, the more you grow as an artist.*

Jeanne and her husband Jim moved to the Puget Sound in 1997 and share the home they built on Whidbey Island with a pair of dappled doxies named Dino and Chloe. Their two children come often and bring their families to visit and enjoy the beaches and beauty of island living.

Jeanne is a graduate of Citrus College where she earned a degree in Liberal Arts and later attended the University of California Polytechnic Institute in California where she majored in art with a minor in art history.

She is a working artist whose artistic experience includes teaching grade school 2-D/ 3-D art classes and adult workshops, illustrations for children's educational toy catalogs, gallery management, portrait commissions, murals and gallery affiliations. She participates in juried art shows and has received awards for her work in painting, sculpting and ceramics.

Throughout her working career and the raising of her family, Jeanne continued to pursue her interest in art through continuing education classes and workshops sponsored by local colleges in her area.

Jeanne works mainly in acrylic, watercolor, oil, mixed media, pen & ink, and develops her own black and white photography. She uses photographs she has taken as reference for some of her work and continues to add to her collection through her travels within the United States and overseas.

She chooses to paint subjects that inspire her and through her use of color, shadow and light, she defines the features she feels are important. Depending on the complexity or simplicity of the subject, her paintings may be loosely rendered or highly defined.

Jeanne is a founder of Garry Oak Gallery in Oak Harbor, WA and Artworks Gallery in Greenbank, WA. She is also represented by the Blue Heron Gallery in Coupeville, the Deception Pass Art Gallery in Oak Harbor, the Pickle Barn in Mt. Vernon, and Whidbey Allied Arts on Whidbey Island. She serves on several boards of art associations and was the co-chair of the Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival Art Show in 2003.

Memberships include the Skagit Art Association, Whidbey Allied Arts, and Oak Harbor Bay Artists.

Her works are in private collections in the USA, Canada, and overseas.