



Susan Dory

Born 1964

Susan Dory begins each painting without a preconceived image in mind. Instead, she starts with a concept that has developed from reading, digesting visual information, and her interest in the spiritual world as well as a color palette she wants to explore. She works flat and uses acrylic paint at about the viscosity of house paint and clear acrylic medium. The first step in the process is to brush paint onto the canvas in a pattern or shapes that reflect her original idea. Then she pours on clear coat, a type of acrylic varnish, to seal it. The ideas develop throughout each layer and this process continues until the painting is completed. Final works may involve twenty or more layers.

ARTIST STATEMENT

The new paintings further investigate my interest in metaphysical phenomenon. I am interested in the concept of Indra's Net as a metaphor to describe the universe, existence and the interconnection among all things - a huge statement. Quoting Stephen Mitchell:

"The Net of Indra is a profound and subtle metaphor for the structure of reality. Imagine a vast net; at each crossing point there is a jewel; each jewel is perfectly clear and reflects all the other jewels in the net, the way two mirrors placed opposite each other will reflect an image ad infinitum. The jewel in this metaphor stands for an individual being, or an individual consciousness, or a cell or an atom. Every jewel is intimately connected with all other jewels in the universe, and a change in one jewel means a change, however slight, in every other jewel."

I am inspired by the work of artists like Agnes Martin and El Anatsui. I feel they too explore the unseen, underlying support systems that exist in the world. Martin, with her restrained investigation of the line and grid and the sheer visual power of her work subsumes me into a

meditative state. El Antsui's majestic installations/hangings/sculptures and his elaborate process and materials render me speechless.

My work is process oriented. There are always several ideas to explore and work out throughout the act of painting, there is always an intended direction as a starting point. Yet often, glimpses of a revelation occur throughout the making of the painting that is fully discernable only when the painting is complete. To quote the sculptor Ted Larsen, "Meaning comes after making". I love that statement.

Color is an extremely important part of my process. I relate to Joseph Albers' idea that color is relational, that a certain color responds and changes when juxtaposed with another color. Color often takes over and directs the painting process. When things are going very well in the studio, the laying down of colors moves from beyond an intuitive spark into a kind of unyielding knowing.

I mentally collect colors that I see in the world. Some inspirational ideas/places/things for the palette I employ in this body of work are informed by the saturated, synthetic and natural colors in Mexico City and India; weavings by women artists in the *Bauhaus* school, including work by Benita Otte, Gunta Stolz, Annie Albers, Gertrud Arndt, and Otti Berger; the amazing fabrics and color combinations in recent Gucci fashion collections; the bold, saturated, lovely richness of jewel tone colors in the paintings I recently saw at the Barnes Foundation retrospective of Chaim Soutine; and the wild, surprising colors and forms in the world of mushrooms and fungi in general along with the genius of Paul Stamets. Have you seen the movie *Fantastic Fungi* yet? I hope you can see it!

Seattle October 2021

Education

1987 Iowa State University, Ames, IA, BS

Selected Exhibitions

2022

TEW Galleries, Salon Style, Atlanta, GA

2021

Art Miami, TEW Galleries, November, Miami, Florida

Susan Dory and Ryan Fenchel, TEW Galleries, October, Atlanta, GA

Salon Style, TEW Galleries, August, Atlanta, GA

2020

Susan Dory Solo-Show, *Motherlode*, TEW Galleries, Atlanta, GA

Organized Abstraction, a group exhibition, TEW Galleries, Atlanta, GA

Cut Up, Winston Wachter Fine Art, Seattle, WA

2019

Exotic Mass, Winston Wachter Fine Art, Seattle, WA

2018

Vision Division, Winston Wachter Fine Art, New York, NY

2017

Group, Carneal Simmons, Dallas, TX

2016

V2, American Painting Now, curated by Matthew Offenbacher, Seattle, WA

Fiction (With Only Daylight Between Us), v2, Boecker Contemporary, Heidelberg, Germany and Corridor Projects, Dayton, Ohio

King Street Station/Vital 5, *Out Of Site*, Seattle, WA

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Motherlode*, New York, NY

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Micromega*, Seattle, WA

2015

Geoffrey Young Gallery, *Remains to Be Seen*, Great Barrington, MA

Geoffrey Young Gallery, *If Not for You*, Great Barrington, MA

2013

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Petit Tableaux*, Seattle, WA

Guthrie Contemporary, *New Paintings*, New Orleans, LA

2012

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Persistent Mutualism*, New York, NY

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Contiguous*, Seattle, WA

2011

Kittredge Art Gallery, University of Puget Sound, *Marked:*

Michelle Grabner, Margie Livingston, Susan Dory, Tacoma, WA

2010

Guthrie Contemporary, *New Paintings*, New Orleans, LA

Tacoma Art Museum, *Neddy Artist Fellows*, Tacoma, WA

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Polychrome*, Seattle, WA

2009

Guthrie Contemporary, *Schemata*, New Orleans, LA

Walker Contemporary, *The Shape of the Plan*, Boston, MA

2008

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Equipose*, New York, NY

212 Gallery, *Summer Group Show*, Aspen, CO

2007

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Opsis*, Seattle, WA
Winston Wachter Fine Art, *New Paintings*, New York, NY
Tacoma Art Museum, *Northwest Biennial*, Tacoma, WA

2006

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Sequence Bias*, Seattle, WA

2005

Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Abstraction*, Seattle, WA
Tacoma Art Museum, *A Decade of Excellence: Celebrating the Neddy Artist Fellowship* Tacoma, WA
Winston Wachter Fine Art, *North by Northwest*, New York, NY
Kresge Art Museum, Michigan State University, *Paintings That Paint Themselves, or So it Seems*, East Lansing, MI
Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Lucky 7*, Seattle, WA

2004

Nathan Laramendy Gallery, *Hidden Treasures*, Ojai, CA
Howard House, *About the House*, Seattle, WA
Davidson Gallery, *Strata*, Group Exhibition, Seattle, WA
Howard House, *YSA Group Exhibition*, Seattle, WA

2003

Catharine Clark Gallery, *Works on Paper*, SCOPE Miami, FL
Western Washington Gallery, *Surface Tension*, University of Western WA, Bellingham, WA
Traveling exhibit from Mills College, Oakland, CA
Art house, *New American 18*, curated by Dominic Molon, Austin, TX (award & catalog)
San Diego Art Institute, 46th Annual International Exhibit, Curated by Hugh M. Davies, San Diego, CA

2002

Howard House, *Shift*, Seattle, WA
Margaret Thatcher Projects, *Breathing Room*, New York, NY
Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, *Cheap Thrills*, Seattle, WA
Margaret Thatcher Projects, *Dreamy*, New York, NY
Winston Wachter Fine Art, *Abstraction*, Seattle, WA
Mills College, *Surface Tension*, Oakland, CA, curated by Katie Crum traveling to Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, April 2003.
Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, *Contours: Extended Painting*, Victoria, BC, Canada, curated by Matthew Kangas & Lisa Baldissera (catalogue)

2001

Catharine Clark Gallery, *TimeMotion*, San Francisco, CA
Catharine Clark Gallery, *10*, San Francisco, CA
Howard House, *Lineformcolor: from Abstraction to Architecture*, Seattle, WA

2000

Margaret Thatcher Projects, *Summer Indulgence*, New York, NY
Gensler & Associates, *Group Show*, Los Angeles, CA
Bellevue Art Museum, *Northwest Annual*, curated by Brian Wallace, Bellevue, WA
Howard House, *Paintings*, Seattle, WA
Rudolph Poissant Gallery, *Group Show*, Houston, TX
Howard House, *Air Hockey*, Seattle, WA

1999

Catharine Clark Gallery, *Pansy*, San Francisco, CA
Bellevue Art Museum, *Fresh Flowers*, Curated by Brian Wallace, Bellevue, WA
Bellevue Art Museum, *Northwest Annual*, curated by Jon Tupper, Bellevue, WA
Austin Museum of Art, *New American Talent: The Fourteenth Exhibition*, curated by Amada Cruz, Austin, TX (award & catalog)

Awards, Residencies

2015

Betty Bowen Award Finalist, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle WA

2014

Ballinlen Arts Foundation, Artist Residency Fellowship, Ballycastle, Ireland

2005

Espy Foundation, Artist-in Residence Fellowship, Oysterville, WA

2004

Seattle Arts Commission, Public Art Purchase Award

2003

The Neddy Award, Behnke Foundation Artist Fellowship
Artist Trust/WA State Arts Commission Fellowship Grant

2002

King County Office of Cultural Affairs, Purchase Award

2001

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant
Artist Trust GAP Grant

1999

Seattle Arts Commission, Artist Grant, Seattle Collects

1998

Centrum Foundation, Artist-in-Residence, Fellowship, Port Townsend, WA

Texas Fine Arts Association, New American Talent: The 14th Exhibition, Curators Award **1997**
Bellevue Art Museum, Pacific Northwest Annual, Juror's Award Centrum Foundation,
ArtistinResidence Fellowship, Port Townsend, WA
ArtSpace/CARBO Group Show, Best of Show Award

Publications and Reviews

2020

Keimig, Jasmin, "Previously Hanging," *The Stranger*, October.

2016

Art in Libraries: A Visual Journey of Possibilities, Knowledge and Imagination, King County Library System, Community Relations and Graphics Department, 2016

2016

Manitach, Amanda, "Band Above", City Arts, May 2016

2015

"In a New Avatar", Blouin Art info, The Americas Edition, Summer 2015

2012

Allen, Libby, "Susan Dory's Work Finding Nostalgia through Color", *Art New Orleans*, Fall 2012, Vol. 5 No. 4

Beal, Suzanne, "Critic's Picks: Seattle," *Art Ltd*, Los Angeles, March 2012

Graves, Jen, "Currently Hanging: Susan Dory, A Little Bit Street-er", *The Stranger*, March 6, 2012,

Graves, Jen, "Susan Dory and George Stoll", *The Stranger*, March 15, 2012,

Kim, Hyelim, "Susan Dory, Persistent Mutualism", *Art Wide*, March 2012

2011

Ponnekanti, Rosemary. "Patterns, Prints and Paint at Kittredge." *The News Tribune*. 01 Jan. 2011. Web. 04 Mar. 2011.

<http://blog.thenewstribune.com/arts/2011/01/19/free-arts-month-patterns-prints-andpaintat-kittredge/#ixzz1FUMgXTJN>.

"Interview with Susan Dory." Interview by Elise Richman. *Artpugetsound New Podcast Weblog*. Podbean Podcast Site, 1 Mar. 2011. Web. 04 Mar. 2011. <<http://artpugetsound.podbean.com/>

2010

Guppy, Nancy. "Art Zone." *Art Zone*. Seattle Channel. Cable Channel 21, Seattle, WA, 5 Feb. 2010. Television.

Hackett, Regina. "Susan Dory - the Pulse of Electronic Color." *Another Bouncing Ball: Regina Hackett Takes Her Art to Go*. ARTSJOURNAL, 21 Jan. 2010. Web. 02 Mar. 2011.

<http://www.artsjournal.com/anotherbb/2010/01/susan-dory--the-pulse-of-elec.html>>. 2010

2009

Kronick, Julie, "The Curator's Eye", *City Arts*, October. 2009

2008

Vivre Voyager, "Pop goes the West", summer 2008

Rowe, Lindsey, "Artists We Love", Seattle, Homes and Lifestyles, April 2008

2006

Kangas, Matthew, "Creating, and enjoying, art for the sake of art", Seattle Times, February 17, 2006

Hackett, Regina, "Susan Dory's grids set their own rhythm" Seattle Post Intelligencer, January 27, 2006

2005

Kangas, Matthew, "Abstractions and Revelations", Seattle Times, July 8, 2005 Hackett, Regina, "Abstraction", Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 8, 2005

2003

Kangas, Matthew, "Young Stars and Abstract Stripes Captivate in New Group Shows", Seattle Times, December 12, 2003

Hackett, Regina, "YSA", Seattle Post Intelligencer, December 12, 2003

2002

Johnson, Ken, "Dreamy", New York Times, April 26, 2002

Thompson, Sandy, "Surface Tension at Mills College", Artweek, April 2002

DeVuono, Francis, "Abstraction at Winston Wachter Fine Art", Artweek, April 2002 Kangas, Matthew, "Abstraction", Seattle Times, January 2002

2001

Golonu, Berin, "Jill Weinstock and Susan Dory", Artweek, June 2001

2000

Kangas, Matthew, "Susan Dory at Howard House", Art in America, September 2000

Kangas, Matthew, "Four young artists embraced the pleasures of the abstract world", Seattle Times, April 14, 2000

Hackett, Regina, "Stream of fluid abstraction connects engaging artists", Seattle Post Intelligencer, April 21, 2000

Fredrickson, Eric, Art Bio, The Stranger, April 6-12, 2000

1999

Rose, Cynthia, "Air Hockey", Seattle Times, Dec. 2, 1999

Sims, Lowry New American Paintings, The Open Studio Press, Dec/Jan 1999-2000 Hackett, Regina, Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 1999

1999

Hackett, Regina, "Northwest Annual at BAM is Nice Surprise", Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 1999

Kangas, Matthew, "BAM NW Annual", Seattle Times, June 1999 **1998**

Kangas, Matthew, "Bold in Bellevue", Seattle Times, July 1998

1997

Kangas, Matthew, "SAM'S RSG Offers Sales - and Shows Too", Seattle Times, July 1997

Bell, Clare, New American Painting, The Open Studio Press, Oct/Nov 1997

Kangas, Matthew, "Pleasant Changes Enrich BAM", Seattle Times, July, 1997

Updike, Robin, "Bellevue Annual Sparks Vitality of Art Scene", Seattle Times, June **1995**
Time Capsule, A Concise Encyclopedia by Women Artists, Creative Time/ SOS International, DAP,
1995

Art Fairs

2021

Art Miami/Context, November 30 – December 5, 2021, TEW Galleries

Public Works and Commissions

King County Library System, Public Art Commission, Sammamish, WA
TF Green International Airport, Public Art Commission, Warwick, RI
Everett Events Center, Public Art Commission, Everett, WA

Public Collections

Toyota, Plano, TX
Ballinglen Arts Foundation, Ballycastle, Ireland
Hewlett Packard, Plano, TX
William Clements Jr. University Hospital, University of Texas, Dallas, TX
Iberia Bank, New Orleans, LA
Neiman Marcus, Bellevue, WA
Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
Art in Embassy Program, Vientiane, Laos, US Embassy
4Culture Portable Works Collection, Seattle, WA
King County Arts Commission, Public Art Award, Seattle, WA
Seattle Arts Commission Collection, Seattle, WA
Microsoft Collection, Redmond, WA
Vulcan Enterprises, Bellevue, WA
W Hotel, Chicago
City of Seattle Public Works Collection
Swedish Hospital, Seattle, WA
Swedish Hospital, Issaquah, WA
Nordstrom Headquarters, Seattle, WA
Mandalay Bay, Private Commission, Las Vegas, NV
Spa Resort Casino, Private Commission, Palm Springs, CA