



barbarann mainzer

ba7jax@gmail.com

(603) 361-8358

Natural Expression

*We are stewards of the earth,
pause to reflect on its awesome beauty.*

My fascination and respect of nature was evident from early childhood. I brought home butterfly wings and feathers, leaves, rocks and driftwood, as well as live animals like snakes and lizards, dogs and cats. When at age 5 I received my first paint set, I promptly raced outside, gathered a few rocks and painted them bright colors. Then I set out to try to sell them to my neighbors for a penny each.

In high school I studied with watercolorist Frank Smith of Ohio fame. I graduated from Bowling Green State University with a BFA and a teaching certificate where I studied under Robert Mazur. I married soon after graduation and moved to the East Coast. As a young mother, I continued to paint and participate in a few shows a year. I was always searching out new surfaces on which to apply paint. In addition to paper and canvas, I soon discovered wood and my favorite - stone. The darker background of the wood or slate affords a different approach to the white of the canvas or paper. I continue to paint nature portraiture of plants and animals on all those surfaces.

I want the observer to **see** that which they normally give only a glance. I approach my work with the intent of capturing both the planned beauty and the inherent subtle humor of the subject matter. **I hope you enjoy the view.**