

Cheri Reckers earned her BFA with honors from the Columbus College of Art & Design and has been a professional silk painter for over 28 years. Cheri's paintings are often inspired by patterns in nature. *"I have an irresistible attraction to colors, spots and stripes on flowers, bugs and plants and I'm fascinated by their life cycles and their role in the environment."* Her award-winning silk paintings and wearable art have been exhibited nationally and internationally and have appeared in numerous publications. Cheri has been honored with the *Master Silk Painter* designation from Silk Painters International.

Cheri's primary medium is fiber-reactive dyes on silk. Most of her work is created using a "free-style" silk painting technique (painting freely onto the silk and avoiding the use of resists or wax that are commonly utilized in traditional silk painting). Transparent dyes are brushed directly onto the silk and layered until she achieves the desired colors, image and design. Details are added using very fine brushes. Once the painting is complete, the silk is steamed for permanence. Finally, the fabric is washed and can be sewn into an original garment design or framed for hanging.