

ARTIST STATEMENT

Painting is a very physical and sensual process for me, beginning days or weeks before I ever make a mark. Stretching canvases, mixing new colors and mediums, searching for new tools and methods of working. Each step is as integral as the application of paint and mark. I try to keep myself off-balance and my mind at bay for as long as possible. The work needs to be born from a deeper place—somewhere pure and primal...the place where mind, heart and vision blur to create a new narrative.

I embark on every painting as if it were a journey – a new destination with new languages to be translated, new waters to be crossed...where each mark becomes a new taste in my mouth, each passage of paint like a new vista I'm seeing for the first time. I want to keep the painting open to all possibilities, deviations and directions – where it's outcome is not yet known and anything can happen. Getting things wrong is often more exciting than getting things right. Organic and architectural elements intertwine, colors become saturated or atmospheric, tangles of marks that whisper or shout are laid down, discarded, rediscovered and reconsidered. That mystery of what might be keeps the work alive for me, and becomes the map for the viewer to explore their own terrain.

BIOGRAPHY

KRISTA HARRIS
(b. 1954, Roanoke, Virginia) Lives in Colorado

EDUCATION

East Carolina University, BFA Painting, 1977

A career level artist whose gestural, abstract paintings are richly layered with mark and medium, sharing a love of both drawing and painting. She thinks of her work as maps or environments, exploring the imperfect, fleeting changes between the natural and the man-made worlds we navigate on a daily basis.

There is nothing frugal about her paintings; instead they are richly layered, sensually manipulated surfaces which seem to live and breathe. Concealing as much as they reveal, and weaving together energetic marks and fields of color, the opposing forces lure you in... inviting you to linger over painterly passages, to get lost between the lines, and just for a moment, to suspend thought in favor of feeling.

Her work is widely collected and exhibited in prestigious galleries, corporations, and international art fairs across the country.

EXHIBITIONS & AWARDS

Jan - April, 2015	Group Exhibiton, Chicago Art Source, Chicago, IL
November 2014	SOFA Chicago, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Sept, 2014	NEW LANDSCAPE OF SOUTHWEST, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
August 2014	CULTURE OF WOMEN, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
June 2014	Group Exhibition, Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
June 6-Aug 2, 2014	Solo Exhibition, J Saslow Gallery, Chicago
January 2014	Art PalmBeach
November 2013	SOFA Chicago, Tansey Contemporary
October 2013	Artist Talk/Painting demo Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe
September 2013	"Circus, Circus" Group exhibit, Telluride Gallery of Fine Art
Jun 6, 2013	Abstract Expressionist show at Telluride Gallery of Fine Art
Jun 22-Sept 1 2013	"Southern Lights", The Bascom Center for the Arts, Highlands, NC
February-April 2013	Pine River Library exhibit
January 2013	Craighead Green, Dallas, TX, 3 person exhibit
January 2013	Art Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, FL
September 2012	Judy Saslow Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2 person show
September 2012	Solo show, "Blame it on the Weather", Buchanan Gallery, TX
2012	SOFA International Art Fairs: NYC, Palm Beach, FL & Chicago, IL
March 2012	Group exhibition, Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
March 2012	Solo show, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
December 2011	RED Show, Cheryl Hazan Gallery, NYC
2011	SOFA Shows: NYC, Santa Fe, Palm Beach, & Chicago, IL
November 2010	SOFA Chicago, Chicago, IL
December 2011	Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX. 3 person show
May 2010	Solo Exhibition, ENO, Durango, CO
April 2010	U8, Sopa Gallery, Kelowna, B.C.
March 2010	Huntsville Museum of Art, Annual Fundraiser
October 2009-2010	Work exhibited at DIA and the Colorado State Capital
September 2009	Ellis Contemporary, Durango, CO
March 2009	Huntsville Museum of Art, 18th Annual Museum Gala
August 2008	Churchill Gallery Fall Show, Newburyport, MA
May 2008	Tenth Anniversary Exhibit, Ellis West Gallery, Durango, CO
March 2008	Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL
September 2007	Red Sky Gallery, Charlotte, NC, 2 person exhibit
September 2007	Ellis West Gallery, Durango, CO, solo exhibit
October 2006	Red Sky Gallery, Charlotte, NC, 2 person exhibit
September 2006	"Process" A 2 person show, Ellis Crane Gallery, Durango, CO
July 2006	Aquatics Show, Somerhill Gallery, Chapel Hill, NC
May 2006	Spring Gallery Walk, Durango, CO

COLLECTIONS

Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
Northern Trust Bank, Chicago, IL