

CURRICULUM VITAE, ARTIST STATEMENT AND BIO

KIRSTEN BRAND

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EDUCATION

- 1962 Banff School of Fine Arts, William Townsend Scholarship
- 1975 University of Victoria, Visual Arts Program
- 1978-81 Victoria College of Art

INDEPENDENT STUDIES

- 1961 Studies with Charles Stegeman and Francoise André
- 1988 Camosun College - Perspectives and Rendering
- 1990 Camosun College - Printmaking and Serigraphs
- 1993 Summer Residency Program, VCA
- 1994 Studies with Jim Gordaneer and Raymundo Lorens
- 1996 Victoria School of Contemporary Art
- 1997 Drawing with Victor Arcega
- 2001 Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts, Artists in Residence Program
- 2010 Studies with Steven Aimone, "Spiritual Language of Art", Vancouver Island Workshops, Nanaimo, BC, an exploration of the visual language of mark-making.

EXHIBITIONS

- 1980 McPherson Theatre, Victoria College of Art
- 1980 Maltwood Museum, VCA
- 1981 Brackendale Gallery
- 1982 Stones Gallery
- 1982 Maltwood Museum, VCA
- 1983 Victoria City Hall
- 1993 Summer Residency Exhibition, VCA
- 1994 GVHS Employees Art Show
- 1995 BC School of Art Therapy Show

1997 Studio 222, Open Studio and Retrospective, **solo show**

1998 VCA Alumni, Rogue Art Gallery

1999 BC Festival of the Arts, juried show

2001 Grace Gallery, Grand Rapids, Michigan

2002 Sooke Fine Arts, juried show

2003 Featured Artist, BC Government House, Open House

2003 Sidney Fine Art Show, juried show

2004 Lighthouse Gallery

2005 Lighthouse Gallery, 3-person show

2005 Sooke Fine Arts, juried show

2006 Victoria Art Gallery, art rental program

2006 James Bay Art Walk

2006 Ginger Group

2007 CACGV Look Exhibition, juried show

2007 James Bay Art Walk

2007 Victoria Art Gallery, art rental program

2008 James Bay Art Walk

2008 Moka House Shoal Point

2008 Victoria Art Gallery, art rental program

2008 CACGV Look Exhibition, juried show

2008 Gallery at the Mac, group show

2009 Gallery at the Mac, 2-person show

2009 CACGV Look Exhibition, juried show

2009 James Bay Community Centre

2009 Con Brio Academy of Music

2010 Coast Collective Gallery, juried show

2011 Goward House " Boundless", group show

2012 North Vancouver Arts Council "Studio", group show

2013 James Bay Art Walk

2013 Victoria Helijet

2014 Studio 222 " The Amazing Desert", **solo show**

2016 CACGV "Women Hold Up Half the Sky", juried show

2016	Gage Gallery, "Gage Squared", group show
2016	Gage Gallery, "Staccato", group show
2016	Gage Gallery, "Living Nature", group show
2017	Gage Gallery, "Desert Spring", solo show
2018	Gage Gallery, "Intangible States", 3-person show
2018	Gage Gallery, "Retrospective", solo show
2020	The Chapel Gallery, "Renewal" solo show

ARTIST STATEMENT

Nature and organic elements are the inspiration for my paintings. St. Mary Lake on Salt Spring Island in particular, land forms, geology and the plant ecology of Vancouver Island influence my art practice.

The profusion of growth, the cycles and rhythms of flowers and plant life create a visual music for me. My understanding is that nature is a harmony of energies that must work together. I paint to convey this vitality, flow, and movement of the life force.

I am in a transitional period. My focus for over a decade was the plant life of the American south west deserts. I was fascinated by the complex, intricate and diverse plant structures, each with their unique shapes and colours. My new interest in Vancouver Island's ecology with it's ever changing seasons and varied plants from native to introduced species provides endless inspiration. The varied gardens and trees, both public and private, including Butchart's Gardens provides continuous, colourful and exciting subject matter. I begin with chalk pastel to create coloured line drawings and then with acrylic paint, I render both line drawing and painting together.

The climate is changing and the human population is exploding. Unique areas are impacted up and down Vancouver Island and throughout the province of B.C. Hence, my passion to paint some of this precious ecology.

BIOGRAPHY

Kirsten Brand was born and lives in Victoria, BC., Kirsten has studied painting and drawing since she was three years old. Both parents were classical musicians and were instrumental in the formation of and performed with the Victoria Symphony. A strong musical influence is evident in many of her paintings.

Kirsten studied at the Vancouver School of Art at age twelve and won the William Townsend Scholarship to the Banff School of Fine Arts at 16 years old. She decided to support her art by training to become an RN at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. Her Fine Art studies include one year in the Visual Arts program at UVIC and a four year diploma from the Victoria College of Art.

In her early years, along with her husband Ross, an Archaeologist with the BC Provincial Museum, Kirsten travelled throughout BC, working on various archaeological digs and a BC Petroglyph Recording Project. This experience served to strengthen her love of nature. Kirsten has exhibited in many venues over the years and her subject matter has always remained botanical in nature.