

Artist's Statement

I love color, color, color! The high emotions, the low emotions, the exuberance associated with luscious color palettes drive me wild. For a long time I have worked with subdued colors, but in this body of work I made the conscious decision to work with brightness, pushing saturation and bold color schemes as much as I can. All of the paintings in this body of work are about color, pattern and composition. The medium I have chosen is water-soluble wax crayons on watercolor paper, sometimes with the addition of acryla gouache or acrylic.

I have carefully staged each of these still lifes in my studio. Each piece is comprised of fabric, flowers and in most cases a small wooden or ceramic elephant. The elephant is a symbol of my storied life with my husband, Johannes. About 45 years ago we bought a large wooden elephant for each other instead of engagement rings and have been collecting them ever since. Hours spent at the fabric store have yielded just the perfect patterned fabric for me to use. And my love for color has seduced me into selecting beautiful, fresh, single flowers, usually three for each piece. Because of my traveling schedule I have had to use my camera to take my studio set up with me where ever I go. Each piece is shot from above, with particular attention to light, shadow and composition.

That being said, I use the photo as my studio still life set up, but then begins the intuitive process of altering the composition, the color saturation, the depth of the shadows until I reach the point where the painting has become what it was always meant to be.

BIO: Eileen Starr Moderbacher is a graduate of California College of the Arts in San Francisco with a MFA in Painting. She is a bi-coastal artist based in Berkeley, California and Brooklyn, New York. Most recently she has had a solo show at ArtZone 461 in San Francisco. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Visit her web site at www.artistEileen.com.

CONTACT INFO: esmoder@gmail.com, www.artistEileen.com