

## **Reborn**

Mixed media paper collage

**\$350**

Archival prints available upon request

## **Rebekah Rigsby**

### **Artist's Statement**

Life is a process of continual change. Our ability to succeed is often tied to our ability to embrace change as it occurs. As with most people, my life has been a series of hills and valleys, all bringing their own challenges and triumphs. I believe that there is an emotional energy that stems from those experiences. Recognizing the potential of that energy and utilizing it takes diligence and deliberate action, but it can be a powerful force. The journey of life, combined with periods of monumental change, has shaped me. I feel that the emotional energy builds to a culminating point at which I am faced with an opportunity to grow. It is a metamorphosis and I am Reborn.

This piece includes multiple layers of words and images that are of importance to me. As the piece progressed, some components became obscured, but I found I had given visual weight to the positive and this suits me. The author, Renee Watson, and her book *Piecing Me Together*, spoke to me strongly. I absolutely relate to the concept of taking materials that would otherwise be cast aside and remaking them into a message or image of beauty. I have often taken photographs to use as reference for my work, but in this piece I was inspired by the author's incorporation of her own photos and made the choice to include my own image, indicating the self-reflection of the moment.

### **Bio**

Rebekah Rigsby, Salem, is a mixed media artist who specializes in paper collage, acrylics, and watercolor. Raised in the Silver Creek canyon, her landscapes incorporate the unique colors and fiber patterns of paper and delicately capture some of the most impressive features of the region, including Willamette Valley Wine Country, Silver Falls State Park, and the Columbia River Gorge.

Rebekah is a member of Lunaria Gallery in Silverton where she shows her work year round. She teaches art classes to local elementary school students and has done school Artist in Residence programs. Rebekah graduated from Willamette University with a degree in Studio Art and Spanish. She was further mentored and influenced by her father, Tom Allen, who made a successful career of his art and always encouraged the pursuit of doing something that you love.

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