

La Estrella de la Cazadora

Acrylic and Papier Collage on wide canvas

\$250

Cindy Nielsen

Artist's Statement

Jade is learning a new language. With each new word, she pieces together another section of her life. I have decided to express this as a quilt using the Hunter's Star pattern, each piece representing a section of Jade's life. Starting with the central star, Jade twirls around in a constant dance of searching for herself adding pieces, representing important life events, onto the view of Mount Hood from St John's Bridge. She seems to start at the upper right side with ÉXITO twirling clockwise to end at LIBERTAD.

In painting Estrella de la Cazadora, I started with the sunrise scene of Mount Hood from St John's Bridge, traced in the quilt sections, and added the scenes from Jade's life. There are other events I could have added, like her being mentored which helped her to recognize the value in who she is. My medium is basically acrylic on canvas with some paper collage added. I then used a trompe l'oeil technique for the scissors and the thread. This was very challenging, especially trying to represent each little stitch.

Finally, with the last snip of thread, Jade realizes she doesn't have to leave who she is to succeed (ÉXITO). She puts all her experiences, good or bad, behind her. Ironically it is these experiences that have made her who she is. She will continue her life twirling from one experience to the next in a dance of freedom (LIBERTAD).

Bio

Cindy Nielsen is multi-talented but loved hand-building pottery so much that she ignored painting. It has only been in the last three years that painting became uppermost when she began hosting Monday Painting and Drawing Drop-ins at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church. Because of that experience, she joined Artists-in-Action, displaying her paintings at the Salem Downtown Something Red Art Walk in Decembers of 2017, '18 and '19. She didn't entirely abandon pottery; the 2019 Something Red submission included a hand-built apple. Artists in Action has inspired her to submit projects not only for Something Red but also for Out-of-the-Box, Mini Canvases, and Painted Parasols. She has been included in the River Gallery's Wild Woman Show, and a religious show at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland for the last 2 years.

From 1988 to 2006, Cindy was an on-going pottery student at Salem Art Association's Visual Arts Center and the Barn Annex. She sold her pieces at Bush Barn from 1998 to 2001. At that time, she became interested in Renaissance Faires where she began to sell pottery Pilgrim Flasks and oil lamps. When the Visual Arts Center closed, she became one of the founding members of the Willamette Art Center on the State Fairgrounds where she continued her pottery and finally started painting again.

Cindy received her BA in Studio Arts from the University of Hawaii in 1971. After living in Okinawa for 18 months, she returned to Hawaii where she received her Professional Certificate in Art Education. She taught art to adjudicated youth in Hawaii for three years before coming to Oregon. She continued her education at Western Oregon State College receiving a Master of Science in the Education of Handicapped Learners in 1982. She taught at Oregon Youth Authority's Lord High School for 25 years in such classes as special education, pottery, art, silk screening, and layout and design before retiring in 1998.

Email: 2cronesus1@comcast.net

Website: www.twocrones.weebly.com