

Welcome to the Northside

Acrylic on Canvas

\$250

Prints available upon request

Price depends on the size

Patricia Young

Artist's Statement

My acrylic painting on canvas, titled "Welcome to the Northside," illustrates the neighborhood landscape of North Portland as I remember it as a child. *As a side note:* My father died in the Korean War just ten days before I was born, so my mother and I lived with her parents, my grandparents, where she grew up in North Portland. We lived there from the time I was born until I was 3 or 4 years old when we moved into our own home in NE Portland. Therefore the book, *Piecing Me Together*, by Reneé Watson, brought out many memories of living in the Northside of town, where I often stayed with my grandparents throughout my childhood and teen years. The neighborhood (*el barrio*) was predominantly occupied by black families – ours being one of the few white families living in that district. I realized then, throughout the 50's and 60's, that Portland was very segregated, but I always loved staying at my grandparent's house, going to local shops and parks, and learned early on that people are alike regardless of their skin color.

This painting is illustrative of the characters in the book, taking place as the main character, Jade invites a friend from the private school where she is going, to visit her home. She realizes that her friend, Sam, has never been in this part of town, and that she has been warned against it, but Jade is confident that she will discover there is nothing to fear. Sam soon becomes introduced to Jade's childhood friends and everyone enjoys their time together. They compare notes as to what is being taught in their respective schools and discuss the pros and cons of private vs. public school.

In my painting, the houses are derived partly from memory and partly from photos I gathered showing scenes of North Portland homes. The white house, with the big front porch, on the end of the street scene especially reminds me of my grandparent's home as I remember it.

Bio

A second-generation Oregonian, born in Portland, I've been painting since childhood, influenced by my mother, who was a wonderful oil painter. I studied Fine Art and Graphic Design at the University of Oregon and Art Education at Western Oregon University, where I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Art Education. For many years I worked as a graphic artist including over 17 years with the State of Oregon.

I paint from my home studio and *en plein air* whenever possible. I enjoy painting in all mediums ~ oil, acrylic, and watercolor. I appreciate each medium for its unique possibilities.

Living in the Pacific Northwest, I love to paint the varied and awe-inspiring landscapes. My work can be seen at the River Gallery in Independence, and occasionally at venues in Salem including the Elsinore Gallery, Roy John Designer Goldsmith, the Enid Joy Mount Gallery in Keizer, and the Lunaria Gallery in Silverton.

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