

MELISSA BISBEE ORME

A native of Michigan, Melissa Bisbee Orme graduated from the School of Architecture and Design at The University of Michigan where she majored in painting and earned a BS in Design. She has worked as an art teacher; a painter in oil, watercolor and acrylic; and also as a printmaker.

In the 1980's, she began painting exclusively with watercolor and ultimately transitioned to acrylic.

*" For me, painting is a projection of the spirit and my inner visual language.*

*My objective is to create compositions that reflect this concept through the evolution of*

*abstract form and color. Although this is a seemingly spontaneous process, it is never free from the the underlying elements of design.*

*This is an ever changing process and a constant challenge as I am always desirous of achieving a higher level of excellence.*

*Thus painting is my passion and the ultimate form of my voice."*

Ms. Orme also studied at the New York Botanical Garden where she earned a certificate in Landscape Design and started her own design firm. She has designed numerous gardens for private residences in the northeast. She refers to garden design as "designing and painting with plants - another medium for the painter." Her garden illustrations have appeared in *House Beautiful* magazine. Her own garden was featured in *Connecticut Cottages & Gardens* magazine in June of 2007 and in the book *Private Gardens of Connecticut*, Jane Garmey ~ Photographs by John M. Hall, 2010.

For several years she studied with Phyllis Rutigliano at Silvermine Guild Arts Center in New Canaan, CT, and more recently with Alyse Rosner at Silvermine and Anna Patalano at Greenwich Art Society.

Ms. Orme is an exhibiting member of The Rowayton Arts Center and exhibits widely in group and juried shows in the tri-state area. Her first one-woman show was mounted at the Town & County Club in Hartford, CT, in March 2009. In May, her second solo show was hung at Garden of Ideas Gallery, in Ridgefield, CT. In 2014, she exhibited in a one woman-show at Teatown Gallery, Ossining, NY. Her work can be found in private collections throughout the United States and England.