

Biographical Artist's Statement

Monica Teigen

I was born in Washington, DC. Since then, I have lived all over the Southeastern United States, including Arlington, VA, Perry, GA, Raleigh, NC, and Carolina Beach, NC. I now reside on St. Simons Island, GA, as of 2005.

In the summer, I live in a town called Salou, Spain. Salou is 100 km south of Barcelona, on the Coast in the region of Catalunya. I have visited Salou for more than a decade. I am fluent in English and Spanish. I also read and understand Catalan.

I was educated at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC. Meredith College is a women's liberal arts college. My degree was in Studio Art with an emphasis in Ceramics and Art History. I minored in Spanish. I've traveled to Spain, Greece, France, and Italy. My sister lived in Zakynthos, Greece for one year, so I was able to spend over a month with her.

My artwork is strongly influenced by biology, particularly botany and anatomy. I am captivated by plants, shells, insects, bones, and the human form. My most recent work is a series of botanical drawings and watercolors. I have also rendered a series of more abstract, patchwork tapestries with the same biological themes.

The tapestries are completely my design. I dye, paint, silk screen, direct print, and transfer all the images onto the fabric myself. I never use pre-dyed or printed cloth. They convey dream images using the vocabulary of plants, insects, human and abstract forms. I piece them together, by hand, intuitively. I often transfer my botanical drawing onto the cloth.