

cynthia byrnes
contemporary art

Bette Klegon Halby
Artist Statement

I believe that certain art does expand the human spirit. To that end I have developed a body of work involved with extending the boundaries of two-dimensional space and engineering spatial relationships—shapes that shape the way we see and mold the way we move.

For the last few years I have focused on developing both free standing and hanging sculpture. Their painted surfaces are a metaphor for the joyous lyrical qualities found in music, much akin to that of riffs in jazz or the solemnity of a fugue. Impulses of the Baroque occur and reoccur in their mark making and saturated palette.

These explorations of color and form function to create a certain voluptuousness and sense of presence that I seek. Color selection is always a matter of decision. Selecting color is like choosing a word in a poem. It must resonate within me, evoke emotion and strike a chord.

As reflection or response to the terraforming of the earth through mining, industrialization and urbanization threatening our water supply is my “Out of the Blue—Water is Life” series. It demonstrates my commitment to the profound need for clean water. We as Americans and citizens of the earth are entitled to healthy, clean water and must guard its preservation.

In addition, the city fuels my practice and fills my soul. With its complexity, emotion, rhythm, conflict, power and intensity, the urban landscape is highly seductive and the source of inspiration for the “Black Jax” series.

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203.557.0819



info@cynthiabyrnes.com