

PENNY ARNTZ

As Hob's Art Statement explains - "My work is utterly incomprehensible and is therefore full of deep significance."

Striving with a spectrum of colors on panel or canvas for layers of hues, tints, shades, and tones - vivid, intense, blurred or indefinite - I work to build a two dimensional surface field or atmosphere. Mixed within this two dimensional environment I incorporate man made architecturally defined lines and shapes. Some of these juxtaposed in stark contrast others in conversational harmony.

Beginning at age 3, I've savored working with watercolor, acrylic, oil, clay and fiber - recently even denim.

My Mother was an artist and instructor. My Father when not at Kodak was an illustrator. I grew up in a home with a large painting studio where Mother taught. Easels, paints, papers, brushes were always well employed. The lure of California in the early 60's and the outstanding reputation of the Art Department and instructors at Scripps College saw me hop on a 707 in a suit, gloves, heels stockings and pill box hat heading for LA. That outfit never saw daylight after arrival!!

Scripps College, Claremont, CA whose dynamic Art Department included Millard Sheets, Phil Dyke, Paul Darrow and Henry McFee opened for me the challenge of three dimensional work studying clay and glazes for 4 years with Ceramic icon Paul Soldner. In a nearby art studio I also had the joy of studying Fiber Sculpture under New York's textile designer Jack Lenore Larson's protege Marion Hopkins Stewart. Marion's (Hoppy's) husband internationally know sculptor Albert Stewart was my thesis advisor.

Over the years I've continued painting in a beautiful big studio my husband designed with room for my two 45' looms. He, with clay and I with paint have had numerous exhibits together. It has been a very happy collaboration. Back packing, canoeing and sitting around camp fires with Michael and our kids has kept me close to wilderness and to the adventures of my Great Uncle Zenas Leonard who in 1825 left Pennsylvania to become a fur trapper, spending two winters at the wild gatherings near Jackson Hole called the 'Rendez Vous'. Then, when recruited to join Captain Joseph Walker, he rode and sometimes walked in tattered moccasins the long distance to Monterey, CA. A 1825-1830 year adventure. The popular film 'Revenant' has nothing on Zenas or Zenas's book: The Adventures of a Mountain Man, University of Nebraska Press.