

Nancy Spears Whitcomb

Providence, RI
nancyspearswhitcomb.com
nsw125@cox.net

Statement

For a long time I have played with several themes in my work. I like souvenirs and old printed photos, illustrations and advertisements. The originals might be on a scrap of faded paper or buried in an out-of-copyright discarded book. I like to save them by copying them or painting them, maybe putting them in a new environment. I like the way an old image will stoke the imagination, bringing on a flood of memories or evoking another time. I hope that some of my images cause a viewer to time travel too.



Nancy Whitcomb, *Women's Day in Iran*, 13x16, 2016

I've also painted many busy pictures. I like the flatness of a two-dimensional representation of a crowd of people or a group of objects, and the motion created on the surface of the picture. Animals are another area of interest.

In recent years I have worked more with encaustics, the ancient medium of painting with wax. It is terribly messy and unpredictable. It opens up many possibilities using collage, photo transfer, and offbeat materials. It has become an increasingly popular medium, with many new supplies and techniques emerging to help push its boundaries. I am trying to mix my familiar tendency to work with realistic imagery with a medium that wants to go wild and abstract. I don't always know where this will take me but I'm enjoying the ride!

Bio

Nancy Spears Whitcomb graduated from Sarah Lawrence College and spent a year in the studio-art group at the Whitney Museum's Independent Study Program in New York. For many years she worked in graphic design and illustration, and continues with occasional illustration work. Her work is shown primarily at the Providence Art Club galleries. She has also had work in group shows at the RISD Museum, Newport Art Museum (member shows), Saco Museum (*Beneath the Surface*, 2016) University of New England, Portland (*Vision & Verse*, 2016), Mystic Museum of Art, University of Rhode Island Fine Arts Center gallery, Art League of Rhode Island gallery and other regional galleries, as well as a few Fidelity Bank juried shows.