

Lori A. Reed

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Mixed media
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Artist Statement

In my work, I use laser prints of photos I've taken, art papers, maps, old black and white photographs, and pages from old books and ledgers. I layer the items using acrylic matte medium — wrapped around all sides of a stretched canvas or on canvas applied to a wood panel.

In each piece, I'm using the universal design principles of eye flow, color theory, and balance to communicate in ways that are veiled, loose, layered and sometimes playful. I try to evoke the feel of nostalgia, travel, or part of a story of which the viewer has only fragments. I respond to the work of Kurt Schwitters, Joseph Cornell, Ray Johnson, the improvisational quilts of Gee's Bend quilters, and to a love of nature inspired by my mother and grandmother.

Much of my newest work has been in response to road trips to Yellowstone National Park, western Montana and the hill country of Texas. Some of the work is trying to capture that "sense of place" — the expanse of view, the sweep of a hillside, the layers of foreground, middle ground and distance. In others I'm adding torn rice paper spirals and enjoying how the spirals interact with the imagery — often conveying a sense of the mystical. Spirals are found throughout nature and also are reflected throughout the history of art making. I feel I'm tapping into some of that deep history as I form and place the spirals in my work.

Upon seeing my pieces, people often say they want to touch them. I encourage touching and hope that the art, in turn, touches and speaks to them. I want my art to engage the viewer and take them to a timeless place.