

Ginit Marten

Artist Statement - "Glass Shelf"

In this still life, the main character is a glass cabinet, with transparent shelves and mirrored back surface.

A shelf is populated by a random assortment of objects chosen partly for their visual qualities: color, transparency, pattern, and surface texture.

But the objects also represent aspects of a personal history: dishware and glassware belonging to a grandmother, fabrics selected on trips, postcards from museum visits, small toys left behind by children. The cabinet itself belonged to my mother.

While the picture is small, and the objects are quiet and domestic, I want the painting to be more assertive. The objects jostle together with little space between them. Where there is a space, that space is filled with a glimpse of the shelf below.

It's a dramatic viewpoint – we glimpse between the objects through the shelf to objects below while simultaneously enjoying a second view, in the back mirror, of the same chaos.

The yellow and red lead our eye up and back, then forward again. It is a chaos of color, texture, pattern that raises questions about how things are related, where do they come from, and how do they come to be here.

Resume

I earned an MFA in painting from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. Working in Watercolor and Acrylic, I have exhibited a number of times in the Cooperstown National Juried Show, at the Cooperstown Art Association in Cooperstown, NY, also in the Adirondack National Exhibition of Watercolors at the View Arts Center in Old Forge, NY, and in the Art of New York Juried Show at the Arkell Museum and Canajoharie Library in Canajoharie, NY.

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