

carlene frances

Biographical Sketch

Carlene's canvas is a field of color, continuously in play from edge to edge, rather than organized in terms of figure/ground relationships. Her work seeks to explore non-objective line, circles, and the relationship between color and content. Though out her paintings, the color harmonizes and expresses a melodic sequence or simultaneous chord, which appeals to ones emotions. The paintings reflect the juxtaposition of complexity verses simplicity analogous to Eastern and Western cultures. The result is the harmonization of opposites, therefore creating balance.

Her great admiration for Asian art and its magnificent sense of design led her study Chinese Brush Painting early in her career. Much of Carlene's work is based on the philosophy of the manual, *The Tao of Painting*, the 17th century translation of the *Mustard Seed Garden Manual of Painting*, concerned with the concept of *Yin* and *Yang*, opposites converging to create harmony. She assimilates knowledge of Eastern art; passes it through the filters of Western culture and takes the best each has to offer. Carlene says, "My intent is not to make art that looks Asian, but emerges from the power of its aesthetic."

Carlene holds a BFA in painting and drawing from Rocky Mountain College of Design. She also attended Kendal College of Art and Design of Ferris State University in Michigan before moving to Colorado in 1974.

She has taught painting and drawing at Colorado School of Mines, Red Rocks Community College and Park Hill Art club. Carlene is a member of the National Association of Women Artists and currently exhibits her work at Enso/Space Gallery in Denver, Colorado.