

* Jackie
Stacharowski
Abstract To
Expressionism



Non-representational art

- * *Non-representational art* can be compared to an instrumental song. It may not have words, but it does have melody, phrasing, emotion, style and mood.
- * No matter the type of art, I believe every piece of art should also have good composition, mood, emotion, a focal point and be interesting.

Interesting is better than boring!

Types of abstract art

Abstract art can be created in many different ways.

*Linear - lines of all sizes, shapes, directions, colors and styles.



“Lines” by Chris MacDonald

Types of abstract art

*Blotches - distinct patches of different sizes, shapes, colors and style.



Abstracts created with watercolor, collage and batik
By Jackie Stacharowski

Types of abstract art

- *Flows - smooth transitions of shapes and colors. Size and styles can vary.



Various abstracts by Jackie Stacharowski in oils.

* Styles of abstract art

Abstract art can be:

- * Graphic - hard edges, intense colors, simplified shapes.
- * Impressionistic - soft edges, vibrating pastel colors, movement within the picture plane.
- * Relational - shapes or blotches that are placed carefully throughout the piece to explore the relationship between and among them.
- * Field - the entire surface covered in a mass of colors and forms.



There is no 'right' style of abstract art.
Your style is what is right for you.

Why Abstract art?

- * Picasso noted that with the invention and acceptance of photography it was no longer necessary for artists to record the visual.
- * Artists are now free to explore other aspects of our lives. Emotions, relationships, movement, moods, dreams, thoughts, feelings, illness, healing, war, celebration...

Things not easily represented by traditional images.

The challenge is to design a composition that captures the notion that you want to grab and put into the art.

How do you design a ...????

‘The Scream’ by Edvard Munch 1913



Who hasn't felt like
this at some time?

*Expressionism

Definitions: [ik-spresh-uh-niz-uh m] from dictionary.com

1. *Fine Arts.* (usually lowercase) a manner of painting, drawing, sculpting, etc., in which forms derived from nature are distorted or exaggerated and colors are intensified for emotive or expressive purposes.
2. A style of art developed in the 20th century, characterized chiefly by heavy, often black lines that define forms; sharply contrasting, often vivid colors; and subjective or symbolic treatment of thematic material.
3. Modern art, especially the experimental or non-academic styles of contemporary art.



Your style is your voice.



Wave of celebration 2015

Does this feel like a celebration to you?

*Where I started

I have always enjoyed exploring new ways and subjects to paint. My 'casual realism' is the style I really started my art career with. Along the way I created these two paintings, had a notion and began exploring personal and interpersonal body language.



Body Language Series

- * A series of paintings exploring the Interpersonal Relationships we all encounter along the pilgrimage of life.
- * The relative positions of the figures suggest the relationships & interplay among the individuals.
- * The colors reflect the moods & tensions; distances & closeness; the internal & external emotions...
- * The figures are faceless because it is both the interplay & emotions that are important not the individuals.
- * The figures are unspecific since they represent us all.
- * No matter what gender or age or color or culture we share this human experience many times in our lives.

*One, two, three, many...

- Larger groups reflect the choreographic nature of crowds,
...inviting others in or shutting them out?
...how subgroups interact within the whole;
...how one fits into the group.
 - Smaller groupings reflect the relationships between individuals:
... are they drawing together or pushing apart?
...are they facing things together or alone?
...are they coming closer or drifting apart?
- *An individual's internal feelings and struggles.



The true subject matter

The internal journeys...

- *The dynamics of the groups we join as well as those we seem to just drift through...
- *The journey we all take with those close to us as well as strangers...

Each is the true subject.

*Where do they come from?

I am often asked where my ideas come from and there is no one answer.

Individual or internal concepts mostly come from feelings and struggles that I or someone close to me are experiencing.

I like to people watch. I am aware of body language, body motions, the feelings given off by the dynamics of the interactions among others...

Then I try to catch that notion and put it into a composition.

Composition

- *Sketches, doodles on any scrap of paper, photos, images from TV or movies or magazines, old paintings, new paintings. A shape. A color combination.
- *No one formula. Sometimes I start with the figures, sometime I start with the colors. Sometimes I start with the dynamics.

Sometimes they work.

Sometimes they don't.

*Sketches for inspiration



Taking Shelter
But feeling trapped...
Is there really shelter here
or is the roof about to collapse?
Is the roof even large enough to
provide true shelter?
What do you need shelter from?

Pages from my sketch book.



My Head is Spinning.

Why can't
I control things?
My life is
unraveling...
I cannot get a
firm grip
on
things.

My life is just of
of my reach...

* Photo for inspiration



Mormon Temple near DC December 2014



All My Eggs
2015

Eggs & Pinecone
an old painting
inspires and
becomes new

**An old painting of eggs and a pinecone in a bowl becomes
an image of figures with their heads in basket.**

**The pinecone stays to symbolize the seeds of the future.
The shape echoes the shape of the eggs.**

*Starting with colors...



Enfolding The Warmth

*I was playing with the primary colors and a very 'warm' palette.

*Size Matters

*The size of the canvas does make a difference when doing expressionistic painting.

*An 8"x10" is an intimate painting.

*A 40" x 30" is mountain-ish



*The styles vary

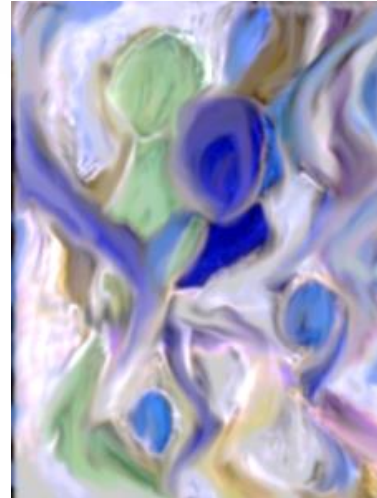
Sometime I use my basic 'casual realism' to create a painting.

Sometimes I use types of abstract art as a building blocks to create some of my more 'out there' 'body language' paintings. Building them is fun!

I choose the style that works best to convey the mood and emotion I am trying to capture.



*Steps In The Process



Not everything goes as planned.

Trying things out as I go . . .

*Many Ideas To Explore

One of the very good aspects of exploring my Body Language series is that I have just started and have tons of ideas to explore.

Every time I experience an intense emotion or see someone else have an interaction, hear a song lyric, watch a good movie...

inspiration is everywhere.

More paintings to come!



Artist Jackie Stacharowski Abstract To Expressionism

www.artistjackie.com
website and blog

