Lagstein Gallery

Ellen Murphy

Ellen always wanted to be an artist and, a long time ago, she received a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art. Life got in her way, and she did lots of other things to pay the bills.

Naturally, the artist's voice would reassert itself. Eventually, she realized there weren't many years left, and she started to pay more attention to it. She knows that, at this point, she probably won't be what she could have been a lifetime ago. Maybe she'll be something else.

Artist Statement

Eleanor Miller, who knows more about the arc of art than anyone I know, related to me that many years ago when the world was simpler, it became a custom to have family wealth turned into precious metal and used in a miniature painting. "Portable wealth" that could be stuck in a cloak or a pocket if a quick getaway was necessary.

This fascinated me, and I started to incorporate gold, silver, and then copper into small paintings on paper. "Working small" and incorporating metallic effects has taken me to new and interesting places. The micro view led me to be more conscious of the beauty in brushstrokes and the power of simple forms.