

Ellen Goldschmidt
ARTIST STATEMENT
September, 2022

Change is the through line of my 20-year career as an artist. Though I'm committed to drawing and painting as the foundation of my practice, the subject matter of my work ranges from still life to figuration, landscape and abstraction, embracing a variety of styles.

I've turned restlessness and intellectual curiosity to my advantage, using these tools to power the growth of my artistic vision and skills. An example: The urge to make images without reference to models, photos, or other externals—in other words, wholly from imagination—led me on a drawing jag that produced over 25 images in graphite, charcoal and colored ink. These drawings became my 2014 Blackfish Gallery solo show, titled "Interlopers: Unintended Narratives." Making these large-scale works boosted my risk-taking chops, birthed a powerful process for accessing stored visual and emotional material, and heightened my sensitivity to line. I've brought all three of these valuable assets into my subsequent projects.

A background in philosophy informs my practice as does a psychological approach to human experience and behavior. The salient formal elements of my work are color and composition.

New Members Show Statement

My work in the current show reflects a new preoccupation: Nature—especially the exuberance of Spring and the emotion it evokes. Instinct told me I could best convey the bounty and joy I experience walking under fruit trees in full bloom by abstracting and reimagining the photos I snapped of my subjects. It is through acts of imagination and memory, after all, that we fully embody our world. The theme of renewal feels unusually urgent as America creeps out of the shadow of the Covid pandemic.

Events

Artists Talk, October 8 @ 1pm, along with other new members

A background in philosophy informs some of my subject matter choices as does a psychological approach to human experience and behavior.

I write a new artist statement for each project.