

CHARLENE COLLINS FREEMAN, NWS

WWW.CHARLENECOLLINSFREEMAN.COM

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am both enthralled and comforted by the richness of every day scenes and moments. I am drawn to subjects which, through their ordinary and familiar qualities, take on a sense of beauty. Something catches my eye, something common, and in that moment it strikes me as extraordinary. There is great beauty in what surrounds us. In particular, nature continues to inspire me.

My work focuses on the pauses between our words and the scenes between our actions, as these represent the threads that connect us.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Born in San Francisco, California with an American father and Italian mother, Charlene was raised in Italy and in the U.S., between the new world and the old. She attended Mills College and the University of Utah, where she received her BFA in 1987. Her artwork and photography have been exhibited in national and international shows and received top awards, including several Best in Show honors. In 2011 Charlene was awarded signature membership in the Northwest Watercolor Society and an Individual Artist Project Grant by 4Culture for her photography work. In 2013 she had two watercolors selected for inclusion in *Splash 15*, an annual compilation of the year's best American watercolors published by North Light Books. In the same year she was also invited to join Women Painters of Washington. In 2014 she was chosen as a finalist in the Landscape category of *The Artist's Magazine* 31st Annual Art Competition, which appeared in the issue of December 2014. In 2015 her work was again selected for inclusion in the annual compilation of the year's best American watercolors, *Splash 17*. She was the featured speaker at the International event "Get Inspired" on Zoom in 2021 and the guest speaker at the Kenmore Art Show in 2015, presenting "Traveling with a Sketchbook." Charlene was honored by the City of Kenmore in 2010 and again in 2013 when the City purchased her watercolors for the City's Art Collection. Her works hang in private collections, corporate collections and public buildings. Charlene has been a juror for several exhibits and she teaches drawing, painting, and the joy of sketchbooking at numerous art schools and colleges. In 2016 she became the U.S. partner for World Tours Studio (<http://www.worldtoursstudio.com>), which organizes workshops around the world. In 2017 Charlene fulfilled a long time dream by opening an online art school, Cloud 9 Art School (www.cloud9artschool.com) attracting instructors and students from around the world. Her artwork is available for purchase from her website, Red Sky Gallery in Lake Forest Park, Washington and Tsuga Fine Art in Bothell, Washington.

