

## **Anja Albosta ~ Artist Statement and Bio 2024**

*My art “Symbolic Expressionism”, processing life's events and emotions. Stories in pictures and words. Oil paint, collage, gold leaf, bits of news articles, books, human and animal life, land and oceans interlinked.*

*Raised between California and Europe, I completed my drafting degree at the age of eighteen. Subsequently obtaining a degree in interior design. After a brief stint on cat walks in Switzerland and some time spent working at trade fairs I settled into working within my profession, which afforded travel. Yugoslavia/Croatia at the age of seventeen, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Egypt, Portugal, France, Malaysia, the US and repeatedly Italy and Thailand. Art, food, people, exploration.*

*Born in Munich to a German architect father, who was 16 years old when WW II ended and a fifth generation American mother from California, who met him on her Euro tour after college.*

*When I was six she left him, moving back to California with my younger sister and I. Returning five years later to settle legal disputes.*

*Childhood went under in this situation. But reaching adulthood, in age if nothing else, gave me freedom.*

*My art and traveling is the inner and outer journey of self discovery.*

*In 1998 I returned to California. The place I had been happiest as a child.*

*In 1999 in the wonderful Yosemite area I met my mountaineering husband and we built a home together. Having loved new places and experiences, I now went rock climbing and hiking. My life filled with love for the Sierra Nevada. During these years, art became a main pursuit in my life.*

*Currently I am working on a series called “Earthrise” after the 1968 photo from the Apollo 8 Mission. My Earthrise series, a homage to Earth, my hope that collectively we will work to preserve the balance on this blue-green globe.*

*A view of earth in the distant universe and a close up of our wonderful home.*

*Past series, 2018- 2022, include Stardust, Greta Thunberg’s XR movement, art revolving around the pandemic and our geopolitical arena, Black Lives Matter and the Me Too movement.*

*In 2011-2012 the tree of life called “Yggdrasil” and the “Norns” were my inspiration. 2013-2016 brought forth a collection of paintings called “Raven”, connected to the black madonna of medieval Europe.*

*From 2016-2018 my art revolved around “balance” and “the passing of time”.*

*In 2018 we left our home in the Yosemite area due to drought, the die-off of millions of ponderosa pines and fire evacuations three years running. We then relocated to the spectacular central Oregon coast.*

*Over the last 30 years my art has been exhibited in the areas I have called home. Currently being exhibited at Ocean, Beaches and Glass Gallery in Seal Rock and Peephole Gallery in Yachats.*

*In 2023 I had a painting in the prestigious OSU's Art About Agriculture. Giustina Gallery in Corvallis, Rogue Gallery and Art Center in Medford and Portland's Center for the Arts.*

*In the past my paintings have been shown in Switzerland, Basel at the Alliance Insurance. In the Yosemite area by Williams Gallery and Timberline Gallery in Oakhurst, and Sierra Artist Gallery in Mariposa, California.*

*2011 I held a month long exhibit at the Historic Mono Inn Gallery in Lee Vining Ca. and a month long exhibit at the River Rock Inn in Mariposa Ca.*

*2015 I was honored to be part of the art exhibit "One Degree of Separation"; in 2017 "Three Degrees of Separation". A Sisterhood of California Woman Artists, at Arte' Americas Gallery in Fresno.*

*2004, 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017 I have been part of Sierra Art Trails held in the Yosemite area, showing from my home studio in North Fork.*

*2017 and 2018 I was part of the Chris Sorenson Gallery and Studios in Fresno California.*

*Art prizes and selection from Juried shows.*

*2023 OSU Art About Agriculture, selected for Touring Exhibition.*

*June 2002 ~ second place at "Summer Solstice Art Affair" in Oakhurst Ca. for "Perception" acrylic on canvas 36"x36".*

*June 2005 ~ first place at the "Gold Rush Art Show" in Mariposa for "Half Dome" acrylic on canvas, 20"x24"*

*Feb. 2017 ~ first place at the "Art Scientific" art show at Sorenson Gallery for "climate change ~ Giraffes on the Horizon of L.A." oil, collage on canvas, 24"x30"*

*May 2017 ~ second place at "The Garden Party" art show at Sorenson Gallery for "Tree of Life ~ Traveling Alter" oil on canvas, 36"x72"*

*Aug. 2017 ~ second place at the "Landscape Show" Sorenson Gallery for "Sunrise~ Joshua Tree National Park" acrylic on canvas, 36"x48"*

*Nov. 2017 ~ second place at the "Nude Show" Sorenson Gallery for "Weather Extreme ~ Ladies in the Water" oil and collage on canvas, 30"x48"*

*March 2018 ~ second place at the "Under the Sea" art show at Sorenson Gallery for "Galapagos Monsters" oil and collage on canvas 24"x30"*