

SALLY RUDDY

Artist

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"Longing" © 1995, 36x48", Oil on Canvas

STATEMENT

It is with a sincere tenderness towards humanity and a reverence for nature that I create my paintings.

I live on a small almond ranch in Waterford, California, a quiet farming community. I was born in California, but raised in Reno, Nevada, where landscapes were barren and space was wide. Childhood summers at Lake Tahoe developed in me a great love of nature. In 1967, I returned to California. I graduated cum laude from California State University, Stanislaus, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Art, with a concentration in painting. I also took post-baccalaureate studies at the College of Arts and Crafts, in Oakland, CA.

The expressionistic qualities of the works of Vincent Van Gogh inspired my work, especially in the early stage of my career. Other artists who have interested me are: Botticelli, Bonnard, Gauguin, and Alice Neel.

I work both from direct observation of nature and from imagination. My work is about color and feelings. The thrill for me in painting lies in the countless possibilities of the interjection of a single stroke of color, upon color. I strive for spirituality in my work. The piece is not finished until it has a certain "presence" about it. For inspiration, I turn to my personal environment: lonely landscapes.

My recent COUNTRY series reflects my intimate world. I pass the "Oberthier Barn" on my way to the post office every day. I see "Bee Boxes" on my morning walk during almond blooming season. The garden scenes in the SPRING SERIES reflect intimate views of my garden and the splendor of Nature.

My art is my effort to capture a moment and preserve the sweetness of it. It's not just about me making art; it is about honoring this place in the world where I live.

- Sally Ruddy, Artist
2010