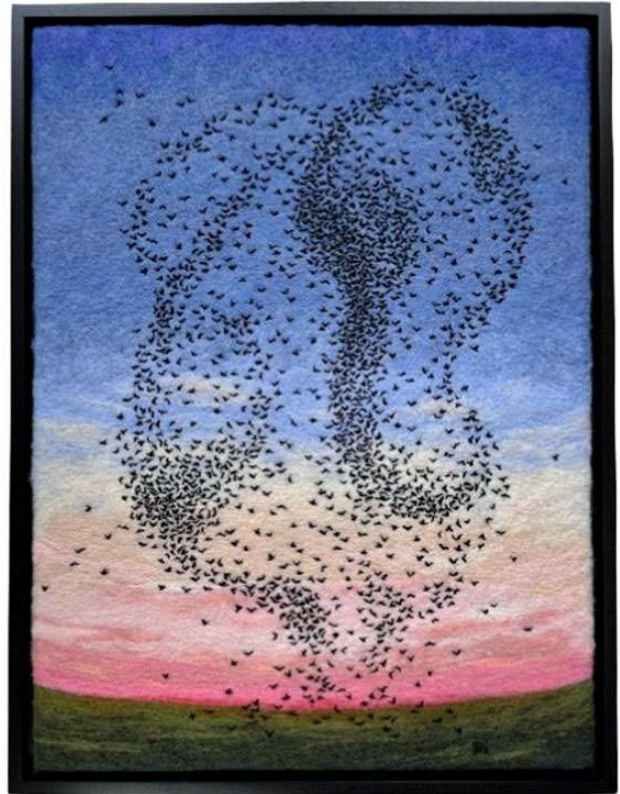


Enchanted They Rise

18 x 24 inches

Needle felted wool on linen

Dani Ives



Bio

Dani Ives is an award-winning fiber artist, educator, and author based in Northwest Arkansas. She is best known for her painterly approach to needle felting, a technique often described as “painting with wool.” By layering and sculpting fibers with a barbed needle, Dani creates richly textured works that capture the beauty of animals, plants, and the connections we share with the natural world. With a background in biology and conservation education, Dani brings a unique perspective to her subjects, blending scientific observation with emotional storytelling. Her work often explores themes of identity, belonging, and the tension between the individual and the collective—whether through flocks of birds in motion or the quiet intimacy of a single portrait. Dani’s artwork has been exhibited nationally and featured in publications such as *Fiber Art Now*. In addition to her studio practice, she teaches needle felting techniques to students worldwide through online courses, workshops, and her book *Painting with Wool*. You can explore more of Dani’s work at www.daniives.com or follow her creative process on Instagram at [@begoodnatured](https://www.instagram.com/begoodnatured).

Artist Statement

My work is rooted in a fascination with the natural world and the ways we connect to it. Using needle felting techniques in a process I describe as “painting with wool,” I layer and sculpt fibers to create imagery that blends fine art principles with the tactile nature of textiles. I am especially drawn to animals and birds, whose movements and presence reveal patterns of belonging, individuality, and interdependence. Murmurations and flocks reflect the power of the collective, while portraits of single creatures invite intimacy with the individual. This balance between many and one mirrors our own human experience of identity and connection. With a background in biology and conservation education, I approach each subject with both scientific curiosity and emotional sensitivity. The slow, meditative process of placing thousands of fibers becomes a way to honor both detail and wonder—transforming wool into images that capture life, movement, and relationship.