

Over the Little Golden Gate

7.5 x 7.5 inches

Painting



Jackie Wolven

Bio

Jackie Wolven is an emerging artist whose work explores mindfulness, joy, and the beauty of imperfection. Beginning her painting journey at 50, she is establishing herself in regional and local exhibitions, with work held in private collections. Rooted in wabi-sabi philosophy, her art embraces rich color, layered texture, and intuitive expression. Jackie isn't interested in realism or perfection—instead, she seeks to capture the mood and moment of an experience. Through her weekly studio vlog, she shares her process and progress, inviting others to find joy in making and to embrace creativity as a path to presence and personal growth.

Artist Statement

My art is an act of presence—rooted in the same values that guide my work in community development: noticing what is, honoring what has been, and imagining what could be. I began painting at 50 as a way to process life more fully, and quickly found that the creative practice mirrored the slow, intentional work I've done in building communities. Both require trust, patience, and a willingness to work with what's already there—layer by layer.

I'm not chasing realism or perfection. Instead, I use bold color, layered textures, and intuitive mark-making to capture the feeling of a moment—the stillness before change, the joy in small things, the complexity of everyday life. Influenced by the philosophy of wabi-sabi, my work embraces impermanence, imperfection, and the quiet beauty of what's often overlooked.

Each painting is a meditation, a conversation between what I see, feel, and hope for. Just as I encourage communities to uncover their strengths and tell their own stories, I approach the canvas with curiosity and reverence for the process. My goal is not to control the outcome, but to be in relationship—with the work, with the viewer, and with the world around me.