

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Although growing up in Detroit, I've always been drawn to barns both real and in my imagination. I even recall dreaming of living in one and insisting that my parents paint our house Barn Red.

The strong earthbound structures appealed to me, no less than the surrounding plowed earth that celebrated their honest purpose.

The utilitarian forms, open and blanked off windows and doors spoke to me of their many functions here abandoned, there relocated, but in all appealing to my sense of honest purpose and enduring design.

The Skagit Valley affords further inquiry into these grand structures...some well preserved with a future still, others not so and soon to become part of the earth they served.

The graphic simplicity of a barn's exterior, reduced to its most fundamental form defines my interpretation of them. My image starts with a wood block, then a base color, after which other colors or stencils are added. Other details are painted with gouache or acrylic paint. A simple process appropriate to the subject.

Fine barns are treasured architectural representations of hard honest labor now under siege by more economically efficient mechanized processes.

Judy Talley