

5 Mini-Marine Series

October 2021, and our entire region and State was breathing easier. Omicron had yet to hit, I was vaxxed and boosted and feeling grateful for the opportunity to extend my physical social life beyond our beloved Trader Joe's!

Having completed all but one commission, I was still busy but I had been able to spend a little more thoughtful time on organizing the materials in my studio, reducing redundancies created by merging of two spaces.

The most fun was sorting through my materials for mixed media work. Organizing by color and touching fabulous sheets of hand-made decorative papers, boxes of clippings, painted papers and other collage items almost always leads to inspiration.

I needed to create small works for the December 2021 exhibit at Jo Fleming Contemporary Art. I was excited. While my optimistic attitude had never left, I realized around this time that it had been taking a rather long nap. Feeling newly inspired, I was led me back to the familiar optimistic theme of water, only this time with fish and other sea creatures.

Animals are magical and a source of joy. Featuring animals in an abstract or unnatural space emphasizes their magic and sense of playfulness, and even shows their sense of humor, which I believe all animals possess.

Most of all, animals really are the embodiment of what it means to live in the moment. I look to them when I need to be reminded to always live in the present, because right now is all there is.