

## Barb Tucker - Biography

Barbara Tucker began her post-secondary studies in the sciences before switching to Fine Art. She completed a Bachelor of Fine Art degree, with distinction, from the University of Victoria in 1996 and continues to work in her studio at Leir House in Penticton, B.C. She earns a living teaching children's, teens, adult, and senior art classes privately, and through various institutions. This work permits her enough income to continue experimenting in her art, and in particular for the past two to three years, the time to focus on the detail required for the Random Order Series, which she continues to work on.

Her work is inspired by her continuing interest in science and nature, and in particular ideas from chaos theory, fractals, and quantum physics. She is intrigued by how repeating simple patterns can create sometimes overwhelming complexity.

Her production technique often includes random application of materials. Presently she uses acrylic and oil paint applying the acrylic paint in a loose watery way as a base for the rest of the detailed work in oil. Other times the work begins with a detailed grisaille painting with colour and more detail added later.

Past work involved applying various collage materials to a surface in a random way, then painting with a watery solution of acrylic paint that would be permitted to flow where the surface dictated. These surfaces would have structured elements overlaid such as stencils or ornamental structures like wrought iron elements or traditional stencil designs, contrasting random patterns with man-made stylized patterns.

Other past work and work still in progress from the Connections Series involves combining various images on paper or canvas then rendering the elements in detail in graphite, watercolour media or paint. The finished pieces become what she calls abstract realism. They often instill a feeling of mystery with peacefulness.

My work is inspired by nature. Looking back at thoughts, drawings, and journal writings from years past, I can see that this has been a focus all my life. Every day I learn something new; discover another connection as I seek an expression of the complexity, simplicity, delicacy, and resilience of nature. The vision is becoming crisper and more focused.

Continually recurring concerns in my art are shape, colour, and texture, with a recent emphasis on pattern and pattern recognition. Over the past few years, the choices I have made during the process of making my art have been influenced by my growing interest in fractals, chaos theory and particle physics. My work doesn't always visually represent these subjects, but reflect a philosophy extended from these ideas. From these sources come ideas of connectedness, complexity, and order.

Details of plant growth, arrangements of rocks on a beach, or assemblages of fallen sticks, for example, are important. The random arrangements create a pattern that is characteristic of the objects represented. The focus on various random arrangements of objects or growth leads to connections not before realized such as the branching of a tree or bush being similar to the network of nerves or blood vessels within our bodies or the patterns created by trickling water over sand.

Some work represents a close-up fragment of one subject, while other work combines several images, juxtaposing or comparing various patterns, sometimes expressing similarity, other times, differences, but always a connection.

New ideas in science and mathematics are changing the way we look at the world. There is a growing realization that the reductionist approach does not explain everything. I use the grid or square format to reflect the "scientific" approach of "knowing" a thing. There is now more acceptance of using an holistic approach when looking at understanding all things.

The detailed works I am creating reflects this approach. I am not simplifying or reducing what I represent. "God is in the details." The work of art can never be the thing represented, but it may cause the viewer of the art to look at the real in a fresh way.

Barbara Tucker  
11603 South Lakeshore Dr.  
Summerland, B.C.  
V0H 1Z1  
(250)494-3345

## Education

Okanagan University College/University of Victoria - Kelowna, B.C.  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, with distinction, 1996

Kootenay School of Art - Nelson, B.C.  
Traditional Japanese Wax Resist, 1996

Okanagan University College - Kelowna, B.C.  
Traditional Japanese Woodblock Printing, 1995

Maiwa Handprints - West Vancouver, B.C.  
Fabric Painting and Floor Cloth Painting, 1995

Opulence Studio, North Vancouver, B.C.  
Silk Painting and Japanese Wax Resist, 1995

University College of the Cariboo - Kamloops, B.C.  
Diploma in Fine Art, 1982  
One year photography, 1991

Evelynn Armstrong, Merritt, B.C.  
Monoprinting, 1978

Emily Carr College of the Arts - Outreach, Merritt, B.C.  
Screen Printing, 1979

Capilano College - North Vancouver, B.C.  
One year Science, 1970  
One year Fine Art, 1971

## Exhibitions

2005 Solo Show - Highliner Diner, Edmonton, A.B.

Summerland Art Walk 2005

Solo Show - Random Order - Leir House, Penticton B.C.

2004 Summerland Art Walk 2004 - Summerland, B.C.

Studio Open House, Penticton, B.C.

2003 Cafe on Kelly - Summerland

Calgary Art Walk 2003 - Calgary, AB

Summerland Art Walk 2003 - Summerland, B.C.

2002 Summerland Art Walk 2002 - Summerland, B.C.

Cafe on Kelly - New work - Summerland, B.C.

Calgary Artwalk 2002 – Point of Art Gallery – Calgary, AB

2001 Passion - Group Show - Summerland Art Gallery - Summerland, B.C.

Summerland Art Walk 2001 - Summerland, B.C.

Calgary Artwalk 2001 - Point of Art Gallery - Calgary, AB

Cross House - Group show of Point of Art Artists - Calgary, AB

2000 Point of Art Winter Show - Point of Art Gallery - Calgary, AB

Calgary Artwalk 2000 - Point of Art Society Group Show - Calgary, AB

The Cosmos, Chaos, and Violins - three-person show - Point of Art Gallery, Calgary, AB

1999 The Point Christmas Show and Sale - group show - Point of Art Gallery

Luna Tucker Art – two-person show – Cheshire Cat Gallery, Calgary, AB

Calgary Art Walk 99 - Point of Art Society Group Show - Calgary, AB

Patterns of Nature - Fractals Everywhere - Solo show at Point of Art Gallery, Calgary, AB

The Point Returns to the Cheshire Cat - Group Show - Cheshire Cat Gallery, Calgary, AB

The Point Goes to 9th Ave - Group Show - Cheshire Cat Gallery, Calgary

1998 Christmas Show & Sale - Point of Art Gallery & Studios, Calgary, AB

Mainly Art - Christmas Show & Sale - Summerland Art Gallery, Summerland

Summer '98 - solo show - Summerland Art Gallery, Summerland, B.C.

Culture Shock - juried group show - Penticton, B.C.

1997 Choicest Parts - 3-person show - Art Gallery of the South Okanagan, Penticton

Figuratively Speaking - group show - curated by Brenda Fredricks and William Hodgson, Penticton, BC.

Land Biography ... Pa(y)ssages of the Okanagan - exhibition juried by Anne Rosenberg and Keith Wallace - Kelowna Art Gallery - Kelowna, B.C.

Like Mother, Like Daughter - 2-person show - Summerland Art Gallery - Summerland, B.C.

Women's Works: Celebration of International Women 's Month - M-Body Gallery, Kelowna, B.C.

1996 Interior Landscapes - group show - curated by William Hodgson - Penticton

Summer Showcase - group show - curated by Ingrid Winkler - W.I.N. Gallery, Summerland, B.C.

Penticton Art Walk - Penticton, B.C.

Summerland Art Walk - Summerland, B, C.

O.M.R.A.C. juried show - Oliver, B.C.

Summerland participants of O.M.R.A.C, juried show - Summerland Art Gallery, Summerland, B.C.  
Perceptions - Okanagan University College graduate show - Kelowna, B.C.

Guilty Pleasure - group show - curated by William Hodgson - Summerland, BC

1995 Summerland Connection - O.U.C. - group show - Summerland Art Gallery - Summerland, B.C.

Lakeshore Delicatessen - two-person show - Kelowna, B.C.

3rd year drawing class show - Alternator Gallery - Kelowna, B.C.

## **Professional Experience**

Kids' Art Club - Owner and Instructor 1999 -present

Helen Gorman Elementary School - Artist in Residence - October 2005

Giants Head Elementary School - Artist in Residence - January -March 2005 - Drawing, watercolour painting, monoprinting, & clay sculpture instructor

Okanagan School of the Arts - Instructor and trainer of teens for Creativity Camp - Summer 2004 & 2005

Wiltse School, Penticton, B.C. – Artist in residence – March 2003, 2004, 2005

Home Learners Program, School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) – Art instructor – 2001-2003

Glenfir School, Summerland, B.C. – Art instructor – 2001-2002

Summerland Community Arts Council - Program Coordinator & Office Facilitator, Director, Gallery Committee, Acquisitions Committee - 2000/02 – Summer Art Program Art instructor 1997 - present

Point of Art Society - Calgary, AB - Director - Publicity - 1998/99

Art Studio - Summerland, B.C. - Owner and Instructor - 1997/98

Okanagan Mainline Regional Art Council - Juror, 1998

Summerland Community Arts Council - Director; Gallery Committee - Curator and Selection Committee; Summer Art Program - Coordinator and Instructor, 1994/96

Okanagan Summer School of the Arts - Instructor, 1996

University College of the Cariboo - Student Technical Assistant - 1980

Kamloops Public Art Gallery - Research and Technical Assistant - 1980

Merritt Alternate School - Art Instructor, 1979

Cariboo College Continuing Education - Instructor - 1979

## **Public Collections**

Okanagan University College - Kelowna, B.C. - two pieces in permanent collection

Private Collections United States, Asia, and throughout Canada

## **Professional Organizations and Memberships**

The Calgary Point of Art Society  
Penticton & District Art Council  
Summerland & Community Art Council  
Art Gallery of the South Okanagan  
Kelowna Art Gallery  
Alternator Art Gallery

## **Publicity**

Penticton Herald - Random Order - 2005

Penticton Western - Random Order - 2005

A-Channel - Patterns of Nature - Fractals Everywhere - Calgary, AB - 1999

Summerland Review - Figuratively Speaking - Penticton, B.C. - 1997

Summerland Review - Summerland Connection - O.U.C. - Summerland Art Gallery, Summerland, B.C.

CHBC television - Perception - O.U.C. graduating class show, Kelowna, B.C. - 1996

- Summerland Connection - O.U.C. - Summerland Art Gallery - Summerland, B.C., - 1995