

Terry Havey Hilt

How often it is said how unruly watercolor is to master, but also how beautiful a successful watercolor painting can be!

I have felt that juxtaposition. The spontaneous action of watercolor often results in the wonder of having created something surprising. John Marin implied that we should “let the paint have its way.” Yet, as this freedom is explored, the painted gesture is nonetheless, unalterable.

However, even if only a segment of the painting works, nothing is actually lost for me.

I have built (over the years) a beloved, private cache of inspirational, “experiments.” Recently, I visualized a new use for the pieces in my cache of private paintings—a traditional but new genre for me. That is, this recent series was created by gathering and arranging interesting cut pieces from such painted experiments into collages. New life emerges in this montage form....where the pieces are no longer private and no longer unseen.

When the layered shapes are adhered to a canvas support, a colorful, dimensional appearance is suggested. Most of the collages, as well as my traditional watercolors in this show, are colorful, full of movement and inspired by nature.