

ASIAN FUSION

ARTIST STATEMENT

The eastern world, sometimes referred to as the Far East, is a geographical region that includes the Russian Far East and Eastern and Southeastern Asia. Significantly, the term evokes cultural as well as geographical separation. Not only is the eastern world geographically distant but its culture is, in many ways, exotically different from that of the western world. The richness and sensuality of this culture form the basis for the work in this exhibit. This exhibit contains pieces depicting cultural icons, symbols, colors and myths from Japan, Korea, China, India and Vietnam. In researching and preparing the work for this exhibit, I have become convinced that all people, east or west, north or south, face the same challenges and crave the same things—love, peace, beauty, prosperity, health, and spiritual satisfaction. These themes were repeated throughout the materials I researched for this exhibit and found their way into the work created for this exhibit.

The challenge in creating this work has been to integrate the icons and richness of the culture depicted with the more western abstract aesthetic. Abstractions of jumping koi, cranes, kimonos, lanterns, lotus as well as ancient themes and myths are all included in this work—each piece completed in fiber collage with a contemporary treatment.

This exhibit is a “fusion” in two ways. First, the work derives from influences from various Asian countries and these influences have been fused into one exhibit of work. Second, the work involves a fusion of ancient icons and cultural themes with contemporary art principles.

Throughout the process of preparing this work, I have endeavored to produce work that is, in whole, a homage to the cultures depicted. I have attempted to be sensitive to the nuances of these cultures and to avoid disparaging or disrespectful representations. If I have failed, that failure was unintentional.

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