

# Heather Gordon

15 Pershing Road, Asheville NC 28805

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On the web at [www.heather-gordon.com](http://www.heather-gordon.com)

## Statement

"A painting is not a picture of something in front of your eyes. It is an attack on the medium which then comes to 'mean' something." - Robert Motherwell

My game is not what things look like. My game is making visual choices which express my values derived from conflict between emotion and rational thought. Such visual discriminations often become questions of light, color, weight, solidity, airiness, strength, and so on. These choices describe who I am as a human being, not simply an artist, but a person with life's experience working with paint trying to describe states of thought and feeling.

For this reason my works are abstract in character rather than naturalistic. With abstraction, there is an opportunity to express with clarity and brevity who I am, what I think and how I feel undistracted by naturalism's extraneous detail.

The rough drawn symbols in my art form a fighting ring where thoughts of what should be meet the reality of emotional decision making. Color, shape, line and space become shorthand containers for concepts, simultaneous expressions of belief and doubt.

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## Education

- 1992-1995 New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM  
M.F.A. (honors) with a concentration in painting
- 1985-1990 University of Florida, Gainesville FL  
B.F.A. (honors) with a concentration in painting

## Collections

The French Consulate, Atlanta GA  
Marriot Presidential and Vice Presidential Suites, FL  
Radisson Hotels & Resorts, Washington DC

## Commissions

- 2005 Gaines Brown Design, Charlotte NC  
Work commissioned for JLT Partners.
- 2005 Soho Myriad, Atlanta GA  
Works commissioned for commercial clients in the hospitality industry.
- 2003 Soho Myriad, Atlanta GA  
Works commissioned for commercial clients in the hospitality industry.
- 2003 True Confections, Asheville NC  
Two murals commissioned for retail space.

## Exhibitions

- 2006 Exit Gallery Space, Cleveland, OH  
*International Art Exhibition 2006*, Robert Thurmer (juror), Director, Cleveland State University Gallery
- 2006 Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation, Watkinsville, GA  
*SOUTHWORKS*, Carla Hanzal (juror), Curator of Contemporary Art, Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2006 Creative Arts Workshop, New Haven, CT  
*Particular Places*, Bernard Chaet (juror), Yale University
- 2006 Kauffman Gallery, Shippensburg University, PA  
*7th Annual SU National Exhibition*, Kathryn Markel (juror), Kathryn Markel Fine Arts
- 2005 Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
*Art as if the Earth Mattered*, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition
- 2004 Gallery at Avalon Island, Orlando FL  
*5<sup>th</sup> Annual 12x12 Art Show*
- 2003 Gallery at Avalon Island, Orlando FL  
*4<sup>th</sup> Annual 12x12 Art Show*
- 2003 Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
Group exhibition of past solo exhibitions curated by Sarah Furr, Exhibition Director
- 2002 Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
*Grey Area* – Solo Exhibition
- 1995 Broadway Arts Building, Asheville NC  
*Emerging Women Artists Group Exhibition*

## Publications & Awards

- 2006 *International Art Competition 2006*, Exit Gallery, Cleveland, OH  
Third Place Award for *Playing Dead*
- 2006 William and Mary Review, William and Mary University
- 2006 Contributing & Featured Artist, Words and Pictures Magazine, Issue No.4, 2006
- 2005 The Best of North Carolina Artists & Artisans 2005  
Honorable Mention in the Emerging Artists category
- 2005 The Renascent Painting Book, Autumn 2005 Edition

2005 Words and Pictures Magazine, Cover Art for Promotional Catalog 2005  
2003 Boler, Kelly. "For Love and Art", Artist of the Month. *Rapid River Magazine* Dec. 2003:5

## Related Experience

2004 Artist Seminar Series, Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
Panel Member for a workshop discussing internet marketing techniques

2003 Artist Seminar Series, Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
Seminar Leader for full-day workshop discussing internet marketing techniques

2002 Artist Seminar Series, Asheville Area Arts Council, Asheville NC  
Panel Member for a workshop discussing internet marketing techniques

1995-1999 {Teaching} True Blue Art, Asheville NC  
Courses in painting, drawing, art history and plein-air painting

1995-1997 {Teaching} Asheville-Buncombe Technical College, Asheville NC  
Continuing Education courses in painting and drawing

1992-1995 {Teaching} New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM  
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Art, Drawing, and Painting

1995-2004 {Co-Owner & Operator} True Blue Art, Asheville NC  
Established a retail art supply business and in 1997 expanded it to include Artpaper.com that sells fine art paper exclusively through the internet. Both businesses were sold in 2004 allowing me to pursue my art career full-time.

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## Biography

Born in 1967, Heather received her B.F.A. from the University of Florida in 1990 and her M.F.A from New Mexico State University in 1995. She then moved to Asheville, NC and co-founded True Blue Art Supply. She has taught painting, drawing, design, and art appreciation courses in numerous locations from 1992-1999. In 2004, True Blue Art and its subsidiary Artpaper.com were sold allowing her to pursue her art career full-time.

In 2005, Heather received two commissions for paintings, was accepted for the juried show *As If the Earth Mattered*, and her work was reproduced in three publications. She also received an Honorable Mention in the Emerging Artist category from *Best of NC Artists & Artisans*.

In 2006, Heather was a Contributing and Featured Artist in *Words & Pictures Magazine*, was accepted for three juried shows, and her work will be featured in the *William & Mary Review*.

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## Local Media

### Asheville Citizen Times

[www.citizen-times.com](http://www.citizen-times.com)

14 O. Henry Ave.

Asheville, NC 28801

Melissa Williams, Community News Editor

Phone: 828-236-8971

Email: [mwilliam@ashevill.gannett.com](mailto:mwilliam@ashevill.gannett.com)

### Rapid River Art Magazine

[www.rapidrivermagazine.com](http://www.rapidrivermagazine.com)

Dennis W. Ray, Publisher

Rapid River Art Magazine

70 Woodfin Pl. Ste 212

Asheville, NC 28801

Phone: 828.258.3752

### Mountain Xpress

[www.mountainx.com](http://www.mountainx.com)

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