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www.jamcgill.com

# **EDUCATION / EMPLOYMENT**

#### School of Visual Concepts | Seattle WA 1993 Illustration

- American Academy of Art | Chicago IL 1990 Fine Art | Illustration
- Art Institute of Chicago | Chicago IL 1988 Fine art | Print making

#### Western Illinois University | Macomb IL

1985 Liberal arts

#### JAMcGill Fine Art Studio | January 2015 - present

- oil painting
- illustration
- design
- communications direction
- social media content
- project management

#### Dillon Works | March 2012 - 2014

- illustration
- design
- architectural renderings
- copy writing
- print management
- project management

#### Bunnies By The Bay | 2005 - 2012

- illustration
- design
- embroidery design
- print pattern design
- packaging
- print management

#### Maverick Design | 1998 - 2005

- art direction
- design
- illustration
- photo direction
- copy writing
- print management

#### Bode Design | 1997 - 1998

- design
- illustration
- print management

#### GBA Design | 1998 - 1996

- design
- illustration
- photo direction
- print management

#### Enesco | 1991 - 1993

- design
- illustration
- package design
- photo direction
- print management

## **EXHIBITS / AWARDS / ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **NW Art Beat Studio Tour**

2018 Skagit Artists

#### The Front Gallery | Mount Vernon WA

2018 First Saturday Art Walk

#### Scott Milo Gallery | Anacortes WA

2018 Little Gems Show 2017 Little Gems Show

#### American Art Company | Tacoma WA

2017 Valleys & Vineyards

#### Maryhill Museum | Goldendale WA

2017 Plein Air Painters Invitational & Exhibit

## Art Muse Contest | USA

2018 February Art Merit Award

#### Projekt Bayern | Leavenworth WA

2016 Oktoberfest Art Competition Winner

#### Methow Arts Alliance | Twisp WA

2016 Discover Twisp | Art Competition Winner

#### Wilmer Shields Rich Awards for Excellence in Communications | USA

1998 Gold Award | Report to the Community, Generation to Generation1998 Silver Award | Annual Report to the Community

### International Festival of Events Association | USA

1998 Pinnacle Gold Award | Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Poster

## Union League Civic & Arts Foundation | Chicago IL

1989 Scholarship of Fine Art

## Artistic Grant | Western Illinois University

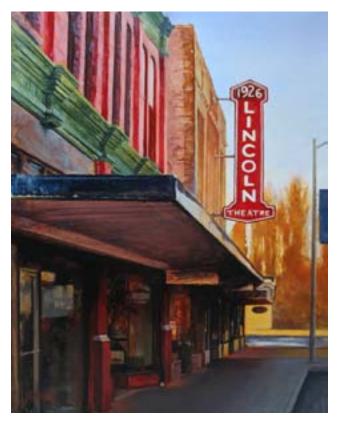
1985 Tuition Scholarship

### 2018 Organizations

Skagit Artists Methow Arts Alliance Plein Air Painters of Washington Oil Painters of America American Women Artists

# **ARTIST STATEMENT**





**Glowing Revue, 2017** Oil on board | 16" x 20"

The two most important messages I want to convey through my art is Love & Storytelling. My purpose as an artist is to capture the essence of the world around me. I paint moments in time, and share memories of places through painting. I paint the beautiful Skagit Valley and Northwest. The places and people are rich in visual vocabulary with farmland, towns, sea, sky, flora and fauna.

I scout locations, sketch, take pictures and plan for success. I love clean color and use a limited palette based on subject matter. The complex interplay of elements: warm, cool, texture, smoothness, line and shape are employed to help tell my story. The success of my painting is defined by how closely these elements and my vision of the story align.

I am the first artist to paint a series of Skagit County, titled Skagit Gems. Skagit is chock-full of iconic architecture and pristine nature. My purpose is to showcase the beautiful Northwest through painting.



#### Nostalgic love for The Lincoln Theatre

I'm a sucker for vintage signs and architecture. In downtown Mount Vernon, WA lives the beautiful Lincoln Theatre. The Lincoln was constructed in 1926 with a Spanish motif design. The interior is bathed in a lush deep red velvet color. Originally this theatre brought in live vaudeville & silent movie entertainment. There's even an original lovingly maintained Wurlitzer organ, just one of 98 remaining in the USA. Today the Lincoln offers films, performing arts, and concerts.

This place holds special music memories in my heart. It's where I go to see my percussionist son play live Jazz with the talented Mount Vernon High School Band. *Glowing Revue is part of my Skagit Gems Series.* 

## **ARTIST BIOGRAPHY**





Born in Pasadena, CA in 1967. Jennifer looks beyond the ordinary, seeking to tell visual stories of places she has experienced. Napa, Chicago, Seattle and the Skagit Valley – are places that have inspired her throughout her life and career. She finds the Skagit Valley rich in visual vocabulary, and paints to capture the essence it reveals. Jennifer paints primarily in oils. She enjoys painting in plein air, refining her sense of color and light. Jennifer develops larger studio pieces from her smaller stories captured in the field.

Jennifer received an art grant from Western Illinois University, and began college at age seventeen. She focused exclusively on art at The Art Institute of Chicago & The American Academy of Art, studying watercolor with the late Irving Shapiro, graduating with honors from the Academy in 1990. During her final year, Jennifer received the Union League Civic Arts & Foundation Scholarship for Fine Art.

Jennifer has received numerous prestigious art + design awards, and won a range of art competitions. Her work is worldwide with collectors, products and installations.

Her art career includes working as a Designer & Illustrator for Enesco, Bunnies By The Bay, and Dillon Works!

Jennifer lives in Mount Vernon, WA with her husband, two sons and a dog named The Pickle.

# my STORY





"Jam the daughter of an artist I never knew." I was born Jennifer Ann McGill. The surname McGill is Gaelic for "Son of the Stranger". Sounds a bit mysterious, yes? And, a strange but true story. Ironically, I am the daughter of an artist I never knew. During my senior year of high school I learned my biological father was a professional artist, which was pretty mind blowing at the time. With this revelation I found purpose as an artist. Art schools, awards and scholarships were the catalyst for a lifetime love of art.

#### I began an adventure to uncover the McGill mystery.

This mystery would take me from Los Angeles to Cleveland, and Chicago. I discovered my father and I both attended The Art Institute of Chicago 45 years apart. What were the chances? The father I never knew would also share a love of architecture, interior design, flora, fauna, color palettes, music and writing. I am left handed too, another McGill trait.

**Before this story begins to sound too sad**, my Mom married an amazing man who adopted me. My passion for drawing and painting was a seed planted by biology but nurtured by ever present and encouraging parents. Dad was a pilot, who gave the gift of adventure. Seeking stories, witnessing where and how others live is inspiring; so, when Mom and Dad decided to relocate to the beautiful Northwest, I enthusiastically followed and have called it home ever since.

I am a Painter who lives in Skagit Valley. I am the first artist to paint a series of Skagit County, titled *Skagit Gems*. Skagit is chock-full of iconic architecture and pristine nature. My purpose is to showcase the beautiful Northwest through painting.