Jeanne Bieri - Biography

I grew up on a farm in Hastings, Michigan, went to Western Michigan University, taught in a two-room schoolhouse in Hopkins, Michigan, married and moved to Detroit in 1972. In the 80’s I discovered art and art-making and it was as if a curtain opened and I was able to translate the visual world into my terms.

I received my MFA in Painting in 1994. My work changed substantially while I was in school. Because oil painting involves canvas, sewing was an easy way to connect and move ideas and images. Making art is visual problem solving and sewing keeps the artistic process flexible. Art making is a way of life that has an ingrained belief that art can understand and alter the world.

After earning my MFA in Painting from Wayne State University in the 90’s I taught at the University of Michigan (Dearborn), Wayne State and Henry Ford Community College. I have shown throughout Michigan and the Midwest. Career highlights have been receiving a Kresge Fellowship in 2017 and being awarded a Michigan Council for the Arts Grant in 2000. I was the Gold Medal winner of the Scarab Club in 2008, 2011 and 2016. My imagery is both realistic and abstract. I enjoy working on large scale pieces like the mural I completed in 2007 for the Ewald Library in Grosse Pointe Park. I have maintained a studio in Detroit for over 30 years.