

TERRI DILLING

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STATEMENT

My starting point is an interest in the beauty and complexity of the natural world with a focus on structures, patterns and cycles. My compositions contain lines, gestural marks and organic forms that evoke plants, flowers and other biological systems. However, I am often thinking about verbs more than nouns, creating a sense of energy, growth and movement. Each artwork becomes its own world where visual elements are emerging, evolving, and moving through time and space.

I am intrigued by the transformation of an artwork during its creation, with actions and reactions that occur along the way. Some elements get pushed back and covered over, while others are pulled forward, and when a painting is finally complete, it contains a rich history.

Besides painting, I also work with cyanotype, which creates a cyan blue print through sun exposure. I have been drawing directly with the medium, often incorporating multiple exposures and toning agents to achieve complex layers. I love that sun and water are the natural elements that help me create this art. These works are more minimal visually with a focus on organic lines, but stem from the same ideas and references as my paintings.

My approach to making art is both intellectual and intuitive. For me, the process is a meaningful metaphor for the way we build and experience our lives. The results are very personal, and reflect the way I attempt to find order and balance in the chaotic flow of my own life.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Terri Dilling is painter and printmaker interested in the beauty and complexity of the natural world with a focus on its structures, patterns and cycles. She received a BA from Indiana University, a BFA Georgia State University, and has also studied visual arts in England, Spain, and Italy. After being awarded a 2005 residency at the Caversham Centre in South Africa, Terri revived printmaking in her own practice, and joined the effort to found the Atlanta Printmakers Studio. She served as board president for six years.

Terri has been creating and exhibiting her work for nearly twenty years. She has received numerous grants and awards, including two Center for Chemical Evolution project grants, Art on the Atlanta Beltline project grants, a Hambidge Center Residency Fellowship, and an Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs collaborative artist grant. She has been featured in a variety of publications including Fresh Paint Magazine, Studio Visit Magazine, New American Paintings, and FORM: Artistic Independence.

She has shown both nationally and internationally, and her work is in many public and private collections around the world, including the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Fulton County Arts Council, Fidelity Investments (Boston), UPS (Atlanta), Four Seasons Hotel (Marrakech, Morocco), Conrad Hilton (Hong Kong), JW Marriott (Ankara, Turkey), and ANA Okayama Hotel (Okayama, Japan).