

why PAPER?

I believe I was born an artist. With the encouragement of my parents and the God given spirit, I was always creating. I thought it would be fun to make a list of the various mediums I've tried over the years.

Acrylic paint . Buttons . Basic Design . Candles . Cardboard . Ceramics . Clay Sculpting . Colored pencils . Construction paper . Cooking . Crayons . Crewel . Crochet . Custom Framing . Drawing . Embroidery . Encaustic . Etching . Glass Blowing . Glitter . Graphic art . Knitting . Oil paint . Pastels . Macramé . Markers . Metal Jewelry . Graphite . Play-Doh . Rug Hooking . Sewing . Spray paint . And I'm sure others that were overlooked.

In May 1987, I went to a party and met a woman who had made the invitations with paper she had made. I said "I've always loved paper and I'd like to try paper making." We got together in my kitchen with a dish tray and a blender and as they say...the rest is history. I was hooked! So much so that I signed up for a show in September to show the work. Talk about putting the horse before the cart.



May 1987 learning papermaking in my kitchen.

Why paper?....

For me, making a sheet of paper was easy. I was interested in using paper at an art form rather than making technical papers. Learning about the various fibers and pigments for coloration that would remain as beautiful years from now as the day created, was the important information to me. Other than that, there wasn't a lot of technical information I needed to fall in love.

This allowed me to start in with the creative process. With some of the other mediums, I had to spend years getting good at the technical aspects and learning the rules before exploring beyond the rules (one of my requirements for creating).

My love of fiber, stitching, basic design and form all came together.



First piece created

The other aspect I like about paper is that it is very flexible to your personality. All the paper artists I know approach the medium very differently.

Each artist finds their own medium, the one that allows you to grow. I never would have thought that paper would have taken me through 29 years and still be exciting! I am truly blessed.