

Denise Sirchie

I never did like staying in the lines when I colored - still don't! With mosaic there are no boundaries: shards come in unlimited choices, from recycled bits to the odd gem found in an old pendant. I strive for 'andamento': the visual flow and direction within a mosaic produced by the placement of rows of tesserae. I want people to visually 'take a walk' when they view my art. Perhaps they too will see the world with a different set of eyes.

Mosaic captured my interest in 2000 during a visit to a Portland gallery. It became a passion, and a silver lining the following year during a successful battle with breast cancer. My SW Portland studio time became my 'blankie.' I use the coast as my sanctuary, where I tuck away visual souvenirs for future creative endeavors. Self-taught from library books, searching the internet - and learning from costly mistakes provided my education in this art form. This is my 18th year of enjoying the highs the creative process gifts me. As a bonus, the process has garnered for me a more complete life balance. How the universe knows to curse someone with a disease, then award the prize of rising above it, inspires wonderment.

