

Judy Tepley

Washington Federal Show August 2019

Now an island woman after 14 years residence here. I love fine beadwork, hand sewing, infinitely fine details, geometry, spatial relationships, color of course, patterns and the making of many varied objects by hand.

I learned how to do hand sewing as a child from my mother. This skill has brought me pleasure unbounded over the years. In the beginning I could never have imagined where it would carry me, how the pure joy of creating each whole and unique object would flow freely through heart-mind-hands.

Whether it be flat work, 3D sculpture, clothing, sphere's, embroidery or painting; the opportunity to play freely with color, design, texture and line provides me an unlimited palette and resource for artistic expression.

I was born in 1948 and grew to adulthood in the Midwest, then moved West to Wyoming where the influence of historical beadwork began many years of learning and mastery.

The beaded spheres began as 2" diameter balls I'd seen in museum displays of Traditional American Indian artwork. They gradually grew in size and complexity expressing more of my own design elements; pictorial stories, geometric designs and patterns.

Temari, Japanese thread balls crossed my path 9 years ago and ever since that moment I've been deep in the wonder of creating their complex surface patterning.

Who knows where that wiley muse will carry me next. I often think that being free of any formal art training has been a blessing in it's own way. Pulling needle and thread is a primary and essential part of everything in this show.

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