



# Kendra Larson

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## ARTIST STATEMENT:

My practice explores historical ideas of the landscape and subtly supports ideas around environmentalism, as well as contemporary relationships with the natural world. Over the last 13 years my work has touched on themes of nature as nurture, the healing power of place, Magical Realism, Feminism, and a universal child-like wonderment by way of landscape imagery. I have depicted landscapes rich with a history of folklore with a focus on making visible the fleeting qualities (including smoke, fire, and clouds) that add to our understanding of Place.

My most recent paintings depict nature and acknowledge the mystery and nostalgia tied to specific environments. The places I paint have been here before us, will remain after us, and they hold all sorts of secrets. The Pacific NW is special in that here the veil between the spiritual and physical world is thin. Mysterious as they are, the great outdoors have taken on an antidotal role during and post pandemic. It serves as a healing escape, as well as a mirror to reflect our very human emotions of fear, isolation, and bravery. The imagery I chose symbolizes different qualities of the landscape: power, healing, haunting, magic, awe, and fear, all of which gives perspective to our human experience. Ultimately, my work reignites childhood wonderment, sheds light on the sublime, and calls on the viewer to protect natural spaces.