

# Allison Bowman

Artist Statement



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My multi-layered and elaborate compositions create imagined environments using abstracted botanical forms. The improvisational quality of my artwork stems from responses to organic compounds found in nature and my exploration between the conscious and subconscious mind. These forms are derived from overgrown, uncultivated areas of the forest floor. Gestural shapes and lush color promote analysis over time in these richly dense compositions.

Creating these abstracted environments began as a meditative act to cope with trauma in my past. While creating these environments, I allowed myself to explore spaces of escape; mental and physical. My work persuades myself and my viewers to self-reflect in a time of isolation. During this isolation I started to wonder, how do these created environments even come to be? I found myself stepping away from purely painted artwork and into the collage and mixed media world. Using pieces of my paintings as backgrounds, I start to build. In the work you will find images of birds and insects, pressed flowers and leaves, as well as translucent papers and fabrics. I am creating transcendent and transportive experiences for myself and others.

Creating is a very intuitive process to me. I let the media lead, and then allow response. As I create, I make conscious and sub-conscious decisions on how to proceed with my layers. It is a process of letting go and escaping. These spaces become sacred because of their intimacy. Each mark and layer of color is a reaction to the world around me. Adding, subtracting, covering, revealing... the

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process is one of discovery. These imagined worlds speak to the journey of their own making and to the power and mystery of nature.