

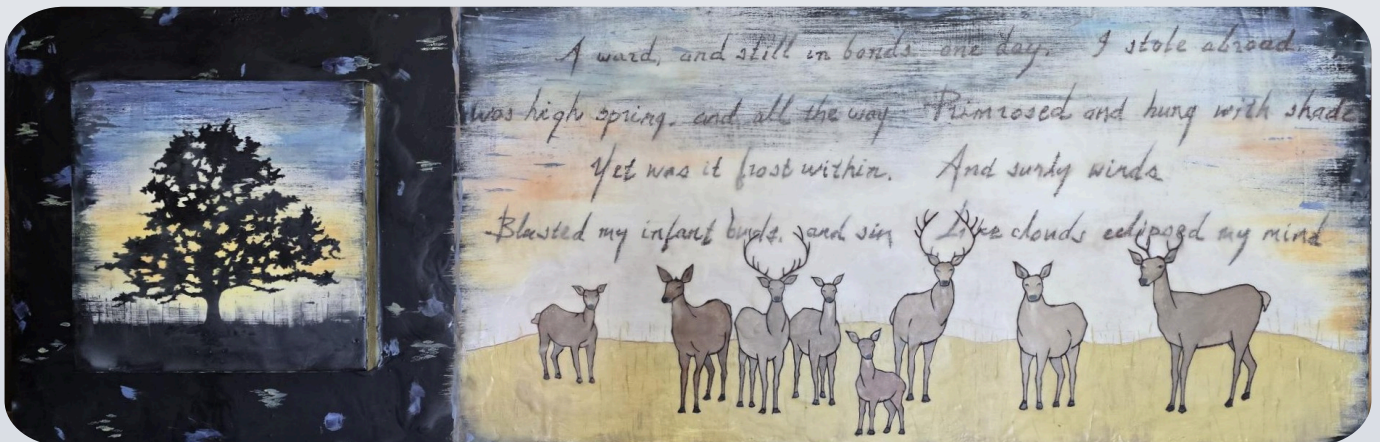


Sandra Gjesdahl



I am a retired Residential Architect, Furniture & Cabinet designer & builder. I have been in and around the 'arts' since I was 4 (that's as far back as I can remember) as my father was a talented engineer and artist. I graduated (BArch) from Pratt Institute of Art & Architecture in Brooklyn, NY, then practiced architecture in LA for many years before moving back to Washington State (where I grew up). There I met my talented Designer/Millworker/Builder/Luthier husband, and we had a very successful Residential Design/Build firm. Our projects were featured in dozens of publications and won a multitude of design awards. After our most recent decade + adventures in Central America, we have finally retired in Cochise County.

Retirement has given me an opportunity to get back to fine arts. I started creating Encaustic paintings, which led me to another application incorporating recycled books; repurposing beautifully illustrated ones or those documenting beautiful works of art. I craft each hand selected page into an origami flower. It's then dipped in Encaustic medium (beeswax and Damar resin) for durability and preservation before becoming a 'Bookquet'. I cherish the time spent in my studio creating each new piece with love and passion.



*A ward, and still in bonds one day, I stole abroad,
was high spring, and all the way - Primrosed and hung with shade
- Yet was it frost within. And surly winds
Blasted my infant buds, and sin Like clouds eclipsed my mind*

