

Ellen Cohen
Visual Artist

Ellen's *Earth Ribbons* paintings and photographs are inspired by the thousands of images imprinted onto her visual memory from riding in the rear-facing seat of at least four family station wagons as she traveled the West from Acapulco to Anchorage. Ellen graduated from finger painting in nursery school in Arizona's low deserts to inks, acrylics, oils, and water colors in the high desert of Dragoon, Arizona where she established her studio *Esperanza del Desierto*.

" As if in flight, I perceive liquid landscapes where light, wind, and water shape a moment on Earth in continuous interaction and transformation. During flight, water becomes air, darkness becomes light, jagged turns smooth, one becomes another. A single blade of grass has as much influence as a sixty-mile-an-hour wind or a drenching monsoon burst. Similarly, our perspectives are forever changed by the people in the landscapes of our lives. I hope that you find a moment of peace unencumbered as you travel into these paintings."

Before being able to dedicate herself fulltime to visual arts and volunteering at the Amerind Foundation and the San Pedro River Arts Council, Ellen spent 30 years as Professor of English as a Second Language in Mexico and Arizona in both public and private institutions where the students ranged in age from five to eighty-five. 25 of those years were in Yuma, Arizona where she raised her 3 children and served on the Yuma Fine Arts Association board.

Since 2003, her work has been exhibited in both juried and non-juried shows, art walks, community colleges, hospitals, and libraries in Yuma, Tucson, Vail, and Cochise County. Her work is in private collections in Washington, Montana, Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Panama. She's had several one woman exhibits in Yuma, Vail, and Benson, AZ and will have another in Cochise Community College Benson Center November 2019. She is a member of the San Pedro River Arts Council where she is also a docent and general volunteer. Her work in Endeavor Gallery includes photographs, original oils, water colors, ink paintings, highly pigmented archival ink matted prints on Museo Silver Rag paper, and high resolution note-cards.

