

Luz Frye

Fine Artist

luzfrye.com online store

Artist Biography

Luz Frye was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia where she began painting as a young child. At the age of 7, her parents encouraged her creativity through painting classes. Monday through Friday, Luz attended private school. On Saturday mornings, she returned to school for oil painting classes which she attended as the only student. Luz continued these Saturday classes for about 3 years, strengthening her love of painting as she explored the creative process.

During her college years, Luz was commissioned by her university to create artwork on slides for the foreign language classes. Over the course of 4 years, Luz used translucent color inks to create very small and detailed illustrations on hundreds of 1" x 1" slides used to project the course material. During this time, Luz developed both her love for detail and her visual acuity. After graduating with a degree in Modern Languages and Linguistics, Luz began her teaching career. She created all of her own teaching materials, making hundreds of visual resources for her classes. She could and did draw anything she wanted to create for use in teaching her students. Luz taught 1st year English at the Universidad de Los Andes in Bogotá, and high school literature before coming to the United States to teach high school Spanish and Spanish literature, and middle school Spanish. As an English as a Second Language teacher at a church in Raleigh, North Carolina, Luz taught English to many students from Asia, Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America.

Around 2010, Luz was asked by the Pastor of her Raleigh church to paint live in front of the congregation during Sunday services. Over several consecutive weeks, she created a new painting each week with the completion of each work taking place on Sunday mornings painting live while the service took place. Luz was given Bible passages in advance so she could pray, contemplate the passage, and begin preparing and sketching the painting. The preparation included writing the passage on the surface in a meditative and prayerful way, then covering the canvas with paint. For Luz, this became a conversation with God, an important turning point for her and her work.

Preparing for one Sunday when she was to paint a passage about the Holy Trinity, Luz recalls a wild, abstract, geometric painting began to emerge. Approaching the color palette with the three primary colors: red, yellow, and blue with which she created all other colors in her palette, was her parallel response to the Holy Trinity and its mysteries. Prior to this, Luz had been purely traditional in subject matter and aesthetic, and never abstract. Now, using acrylic paints that enabled faster drying time, this paramount experience offered Luz a new momentum, aesthetic, and inspiration. Today, her paintings range from traditional landscapes which she paints en plein air in peaceful and meditative rural areas of her home state of North Carolina to abstract mixed media works alive with vivid colors, geometric shapes, and textures.

Luz lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with her husband and works from her home studio. Her paintings are available for sale on her website luzfrye.com

Artist Statement

My paintings have a strong connection to my faith. Whether I am meditating and praying in peaceful, rural landscapes while painting en plein air, writing biblical verses onto a canvas before painting over them, or creating with a meditative, acrylic flow medium, I am deeply connected to the Holy Spirit and the power and beauty of all creation.

I love color. I love the energy and vibrancy I find in color and in using color combinations. My abstract works are full of movement and energy, and focus on layered geometric forms and depth of field. I have been painting since I was a child, but most recently found a strong desire for abstraction when I was asked to paint live in front of my church congregation in response to biblical passages provided to me. My need and desire for abstraction originates by means of the Holy Spirit, and each painting I create has been a great dialogue for me between God and myself. While my traditional landscape paintings are a direct way for me to articulate the idea of God's earthly creations, abstract art has been a way for me to provide a visual articulation to represent all the mysteries of creation and of heavenly things.

portfolio available: luzfrye.com