

Cade Tompkins Editions • Projects
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SUSAN HARDY

American, b. 1950

Education

Corcoran School of Art, Washington, DC

American University, Washington, DC

Leed Polytechnic Institute, Leeds, England (Summer) 1974

Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Maryland (Magna Cum Laude) 1974

Susan Hardy Twaddell began her career as an abstract landscape painter but, later, a deep interest in the history of mankind in reference to artistic endeavor would lead to sojourns in Sicily, Florence, Spain and the immensely engaging Dordogne region of central France where Hardy Twaddell felt a profound connection.

Horizons were to expand again in 1988 when Hardy Twaddell left for West Africa to live for what would be nine years. In Mauritania the desert was a new field of exploration and abstract images of landscape, colors muted by blowing sands and symbols devoid of human representation were incorporated into flatly painted works. Wanting to broaden her experience and also that of native artisans Hardy Twaddell worked with a local blacksmith on a project designing miniature boxes inlaid with copper and ebony.

Susan Hardy Twaddell moved on to Liberia, West Africa and it's civil crisis in 1992. The war and symbols related to a culture on the verge of collapse is featured in three years of work. The paintings have now become deeply textured and of a small format. Hardy helped set up a program of art instruction for children in refuge camps in Liberia along with unemployed artists of the region that was sponsored by UNICEF.

In 1997 Hardy Twaddell moved to Nigeria, West Africa. Her paintings became her journals, emblems that identify the places visited and symbols that mark an experience. Surfaces are deeply layered and then burnished to create a sense of the continuum and complexity inherent in Nigeria's diverse culture.

With her avid interest in the rights of people Hardy co-authored a book OUR PEOPLE O that was funded in part by The Ford Foundation. It involved traveling to diverse regions of Nigeria and collecting stories from elderly citizens from all walks of life. Proceeds from the sale of the books went to deserving Nigerian female writers.

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Exhibitions

2010 *Susan Hardy Twaddell: After Africa: New Drawings 2009-2010*,
Cade Tompkins Editions • Projects, Providence, Rhode Island

Susan Hardy Twaddell has exhibited most widely in Washington D.C. before moving to Rhode Island.

Collections

Corporate Collections include The Washington Post; Wyatt Communications, Washington D.C.; H.N. Gorin Associates, Boston; Howrey and Simon Law Firm, Washington D.C.; Jennifer Howard Graffics, Washington D.C.; Swidler and Berlin Chartered, Washington D.C.; Clyde's INC, Washington D.C. Some private collections include; Stanford Z.Rothschild, Baltimore Md.; Alan Davies-James Cubitt and Partners, London; Jeffrey Goldberg-Foreign Correspondent, New Yorker Magazine; Randy Broiles, Mobil Oil, Nigeria; Mr. And Mrs. Robert Braunohler, Braunohler Designs, Washington D.C.