



## Diane Wesman

MIXED MEDIA ARTIST

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## Artist's Statement

Across the road from my home on Bald Eagle Lake are many acres of hills, marsh, lakes, and ponds populated by oak, basswood, and sumac, along with native flowers and grasses. This corner of wilderness, just a 20-minute drive from Minneapolis and Saint Paul, has been set aside as Ramsey County's Otter Lake Regional Open Space. Here eagles nest, deer browse, beavers still log, and blue herons wade. It is a constant artistic inspiration for me.

I grew up in a working laboratory of conservation, raised by parents who taught me to love nature and to protect its beauty. My father taught me to see the magic of the spider's web, appreciate the play of moonlight on lake water, and recognize the sign of a deer's antler-rubbing on tree bark. All of these things form the core of my art through which I hope to touch others and share a deep appreciation for shapes, patterns, and colors that, I believe, tap into the wonder of nature.

I draw and paint because I love the physical world. I love the play of light on a tree branch, a bee, a hill—the shadows that objects cast demand that I take up a pencil or brush to show the twist of a stem, the bend of a branch, or the petal's elegant curve. My goal is to bring the viewer to a greater understanding of the subject.

My preference is to work from life. Most work is on paper and board. I am a mixed media artist using graphite, ink, watercolor, gouache, acrylics, crayon, colored pencil, and pastel. My recent work concentrates on pastels and monotypes which are one-of-a-kind lithographic ink prints.

A delight in and a reverence for nature form the center of my artistic expression. If a viewer sees my work and can share a bit of that feeling then my work has been successful.



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### Diane Wesman's work has been exhibited at:

The Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
The Katherine Nash Gallery  
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
The Phipps Gallery  
Minnesota National Wildlife Refuge  
Minnesota Center for Book Arts  
Saint Paul Pioneer Press Gallery  
Banfil-Locke Gallery

Brochure cover image: ©2005 Diane Wesman,  
*Basswood 5*, 4 x 5 inches from her Basswood Series  
of lithographic ink monotypes.