

# **Ditte Cloutier**

## **Artist Statement**

I have always been an artist. Art allows me to just "be" with the unknown of my life, and to create a visual representation of this process. Having had the privilege of being nourished as an observer, I move from viewing to creating.

As violinist James Ehnes has said:

"Art feeds a desire to be more than you think you can be."

Artists solve problems creatively and with passion without knowing the results. I am excited and inspired by these surprising results which reaffirm my commitment to a process of discovery. I embrace the risk and uncertainty as I trust the process rather than focussing on the result.

I was drawn to the world of fibre art by the exquisite colours of batiks and Jane Sassaman's fabrics. Not knowing what I would do with the quilters' "fat quarters" I had purchased, I embarked on a new passion. At first, I hand stitched only, then learned to use a machine, and eventually I plunged into the world of fabric dyeing, screening and surface design.

Although I began as a quilter, I quickly found myself more interested in art quilts, hand dyeing fabric, stamping, screen printing, digital printing on fabric and, fabric sculpture.

I especially enjoy the mystical process of dyeing and rusting when the resulting image is neither drawn exclusively from science nor art. It just magically appears.