

MARJORIE CUTTING



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RIGHT: MARJORIE, PEN IN HAND,
WORKING ON THE DRAFTING
TABLE IN HER STUDIO



Just the Facts!

Marjorie Cutting- [Studio Offsprings](#) - Baraboo

Artist medium: Watercolors and inks, but also use fabrics for wall-hangings and when I design costumes for the theater.

Primary method of working: I use watercolor paints and ink and occasionally experiment with acrylic. Designing costumes begins with reading the script, discussions with the director, set designer and lighting designer. Next I decide on my color

palette, watch rehearsals, take measurements and then start putting my ideas on paper. With my color palette in hand I then go shopping for fabrics. Often fabrics have to be dyed and painted to achieve certain effects. Designing a show is like creating a moving painting.

Favorite techniques: Watercolor, ink, and fabrics.

Equipment used: For large pieces I work standing on a flat surface. For smaller work I use my drafting table and my sewing machine for making wall-hangings or costumes. I have made Wall Hangings from as small as 12"x12" to several large enough to fill an auditorium 27 ft x 18 ft..

Studio playlist: Silence. Music distracts me, I end up listening to the music instead of painting.



TREES BY WATER



TREE OF LIFE: AUTUMN



BARN

Artist Conversation!

Let's Learn a Little More...

Tell us a little bit about yourself and how you came to be living life the you are today?

I was born in England on the outskirts of London. At thirteen I won a scholarship to attend a special high school that focused on art. It was two years after WWII and art supplies were a little sparse. We worked mostly with pencils and watercolors. During my last two years there I took classes in pattern drafting, history of costume and architecture. When I reached seventeen, I began work in the professional theater in London. My first job was during the Festival of Britain in 1951, working for Tyrone Guthrie's production of three Irish plays. There I learned to work all hours, keeping awake with cups of tea, or sleeping on the floor under racks of costumes because I had missed the last train home. I loved every minute. The following years I worked with the Royal Opera House and the Royal Ballet Companies, London's Festival Ballet and various small festivals and venues. As an assistant in the workrooms, I learned to transform leading artists designs into wearable costumes. I learned

much from these top designers like Cecil Beaton, John Piper, Andre Levaseur and many more. I also had the privilege of traveling all over Europe with these companies and learned to live out of a suitcase for months at a time. Eventually I completed my education at the London School of Economics and London University, all the while working for the theater in my spare time. My marriage brought me to San Diego and while my husband pursued his PhD in biochemistry, I went to work at San Diego Costume Company. I began designing costumes for local theater and dance groups. In 1973 I bought the company, and became an American citizen. I also pursued my education and finally succeeded in obtaining a Masters in Special Education. My years as a teacher were, of course, interspersed with working in the local theaters in my spare time. I am now retired and in Baraboo (that's a whole other story) and spent the last 10-15 years designing costumes for the local theater scene at the Ringling and Brown theaters, Now I have put my sewing machine away and I am spending my time Painting and writing.



TREE OF LIFE: WINTER



BACKWATER



TREE OF LIFE: SPRING



BECOMING ONE



RIGHT: MARJORIE IS SHOWN EXPLAINING SOME OF HER CREATIVE PROCESSES



BRIGHT BIRDS



COMIC STYLE ILLUSTRATIONS



MARJORIE HOLDING "FACE OF GOD"

Please tell us a little bit about your Studio!

I now rent a small studio place on Oak Street above the Village Booksmith. I use the studio to hang my original paintings and to have a quiet space to work. Eventually I will have regular hours for visitors. My [web page](#) at has many of my paintings on view and prints can be ordered in different sizes and prices. I will be adding pictures so sign up for my newsletter and special sales. I plan to add prints of my costume designs to the gallery.

Where do you find your inspiration?

My inspiration is often from my dreams or meditations, or from just seeing how the paint runs on the paper. I am on an inner spiritual journey, being expressed in my graphic novel, and is often reflected in my painting and writing themes. This is a new branch in my life and I hope I still have a few years left to bring this branch to fruitfulness.

Where can we find your work and learn more?

Please find me on my [web page](#). There you can view my artwork, read some frequently asked questions and you can [sign up](#) for my newsletter too!