

## Petra Bernstein Short Biography and Statement



Petra Bernstein, a native of Germany, resides in Salisbury, Maryland. She received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Regensburg and worked as a teacher for several years, before moving to the United States in 1994. Drawn to painting and curious about art, she changed her path and received a BFA from Salisbury University in 2007. Petra graduated Summa Cum Laude with a concentration in painting.

Petra uses both painting and photography to express her love for nature. The natural beauty and the wildlife of the Wicomico River offer her inspiration, as she captures the ever changing light and weather conditions on the water and in the sky above. Her photography varies from wide angle sunsets to close up interpretations of the marsh. Petra likes to zoom in to the rhythm of the tides and the reflections on the surface. Often, her images have an abstract feel to it.

Petra spent the last 10 years exploring various art subjects within her representational paintings. Besides the human figure and portraits, she likes to paint eagles, herons, crabs, birds, butterflies, flowers, and whatever inspires her at the time.

Over the last two years, she has been drawn to abstract art and has passionately built a body of works. She loves to use basic elements of art to create unique compositions based on shape, color and values. Her main focus is to create a balance and harmony within her often geometric compositions.

“My artwork is about relationships. Every mark matters and contributes to the overall expressiveness. I allow myself to deviate from my original plan and let the painting guide me. Often, the outcome is somewhat of a mystery to myself. Some paintings show a history of my struggles, and other paintings show the fluidity of effortless creation.”

Petra Bernstein has shown her artwork in Chelsea, New York and in Bologna, Italy last year. She frequently exhibits both her photographs and her paintings in local art galleries and has won several awards her work.

For more information about Petra Bernstein and her work, please visit her website [www.petrabernstein.com](http://www.petrabernstein.com)

## **Petra Bernstein Artist Statement**

*“Influenced by my history and evolving around my thoughts and emotions, my artwork is a visual interpretation of all that inspires me. My diverse ideas originate in the complexity of my mind, where I am able to create something that is unique to me and free from boundaries. Reality, imagination and abstraction all co-exist and need no explanation. The unexplained is far more intriguing, as it resides beyond the picture plane.”*

*Petra Bernstein*

*May 2018*

## **Petra Bernstein Contact Information**

[pmbernstein@comcast.net](mailto:pmbernstein@comcast.net)

[www.petrabernstein.com](http://www.petrabernstein.com)

[www.facebook.com/petrabernsteinart](https://www.facebook.com/petrabernsteinart)

[www.instagram.com/petra.bernstein](https://www.instagram.com/petra.bernstein)