

About the Artist

After 28 years of design and advertising, Jill Brinser seized an opportunity to reinvent herself as an acrylic painter. In late 2018, she rekindled a long-ignored passion for fine art. A resident of Elizabethtown, PA, Jill has shown her work at area shows and businesses and keeps a running list of styles and subjects to explore. She holds a BFA from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. Jill is an active member of the Hershey Area Art Association and identifies her work under the name Hermione Paints.

“As a painter, I’m fascinated by details that often go overlooked—reflections, highlights and shadows, edges, and textures that reveal the quirks and personalities of the everyday. I’m drawn to still lifes and portraits for the challenge of capturing an object or a person in a new way, drawing out minute details that give life to the subject, like a sparkle in the eye, reflections in a water droplet, or a wrinkle in skin. The hallmark of my painting is a strong color theme with saturated, heavy-body paints to draw out those unique qualities.

I design the painting by photographing the subject in various lighting, backgrounds and perspectives, looking for interesting artistic features. I like to experiment with a colorful underpainting, which becomes a fun layering process. My first layer is often unusual colors, because I love the surprise of seeing the hues and tints of those colors peek through the layers.

Most times I paint larger than life, inspired by the world around me. Some paintings are intentionally cropped tight, as if you could reach in and touch the subject. And I’m always looking for opportunities to incorporate typography, a personal interest of mine.

At first glance, my work may look like a photo, but I intentionally incorporate subtle brushstrokes and imperfections as a reminder that the composition is my interpretation of real life rather than a replica of it. I get enjoyment when people realize my paintings aren’t photos, that they aren’t what they THINK they see. And the real joy for me is if my art stirs a good memory or simply makes someone smile.”