

# Melissa Belanger



*Lake Lovers*

---

## THE GALLERY

The purpose of the Stillwater Public Library Gallery is to provide education through exhibits and displays; to increase community involvement in the library; and to provide an enjoyable environment for the library's users.

For more information about the gallery,  
contact Lynne Bertalmio, Library Director,  
651.275.4338 ext. 118  
224 Third St. N.  
Stillwater, MN 55082  
651.275.4338  
[www.stillwaterlibrary.org](http://www.stillwaterlibrary.org)

## *Gosh, Darn, Cute, & Other Four Letter Words*

**Artist Reception:  
6pm - 8pm  
Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Stillwater Public Library Gallery  
224 Third Street North  
Stillwater, MN**

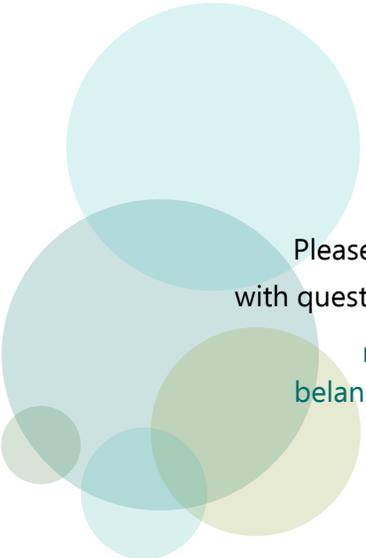
## *Artist Statement*

### Mixed Media Paintings

I'm a Midwest girl, originally from the South side of the North woods of Wisconsin. I now live in Hudson, WI, and have a studio in a converted 1914 carriage house. My background is in Art Education and Graphic Design.

I've always been inspired by objects with a past. Originally the focus of my art was sculpture/art dolls. My figures often incorporated vintage items and funky finds. A few years ago, my little 3D figures started turning into colorful textural 2D paintings. These paintings begin as paper cut outs, which move around on a textured canvas until they become a pleasing composition. They are then traced and painted. The patterns are layered in as the painted subjects start making demands for clothing designs and animal companions. Paint is applied generously, repeatedly and precisely until the effect is pleasing and the painting has decided to be finished. These illustrative paintings are now my main art focus/crush, but I still make the occasional figure/art doll from time to time.

I continue to be inspired by the charm of the small river town I live in and its proximity to "big city" sophistication. I think my paintings embody this spirit: cheerful simplicity with a retro modern edge.



Please contact the artist directly  
with questions or to purchase a painting:

[melissabelanger.com](http://melissabelanger.com)  
[belangermelissa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:belangermelissa@sbcglobal.net)