

Art of the Community 2021

Vicki Byrum Dennis: Artist Statement

Spring Tulips

Perhaps because of the tumultuous year of 2020 and equally distressing beginning of 2021, I find myself already longing for Spring, for renewal, for a new beginning. The world will be in balance on the day Spring begins. The equinox will remind us that the days will grow longer. The bulbs and rhizomes, like all perennials, that have been hiding, along with the rest of us, will be unmasked, unfurled at long last. Brighter days are ahead.

Tulips are among my favorite Spring flowers, along with irises, daylilies, hostas and others. They frequently “pop up” in my paintings, often off set by collage papers or stamping. I carved a tulip stamp years ago and love the interplay of the stamp directly on the canvas and on rice papers that I then added to the scene. This painting has a homey feel to it. I almost called it “Grandmother’s Wallpaper.”