

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Gretchen Beck, MFA

For the images I produce as an artist, I have conducted research in Niger, West Africa, where I lived for three years. My art involves an exploration of the Nigerien landscape, the Djarma and Fulani cultures and the art forms they create. This abstract work portrays ritual and tradition in Nigerien culture.

To create my imagery, I work from a variety of references. Relationships among color, shape, and texture come together to form fluid and grid-like compositions. Color dominates the images and dictates the media employed to produce them. Drawing, painting and collage are the focus of my artistic repertoire.

Gretchen Beck served as Professor of Art, Chair of the Art Department, Curator and on the faculty at Concordia University, Irvine, CA, for eleven years. Currently, she is a professional artist.

She exhibits and discusses her work in group and solo exhibitions in galleries, on national and international levels. For further information about her work in the visual arts, please contact her at gretchenjo.beck@gmail.com and you can view her art at www.gretchenbeck.com