

**Yong Sook Kim-Lambert**

## **Living on Borrowed Time**

### **ARTISTIC STATEMENT – SHORT BIOGRAPHY**

I like to challenge the viewer by combining unsettling environments where abstract and figurative subjects are developed. Since I have always been interested in the human figure, I try to express my daily feelings and thoughts in autobiographical form in order to find my identity. As a mother of two who was born and educated in Korea and now living in North America, I face the added challenge of Oriental art of capturing the ‘essential’ through simplicity. Also, I am deeply interested in the key challenges raised by modern art, such as the interplay between flatness, space, and color. With this in mind, I combine figurative and abstract environments by creating certain ‘flatness’ in the interaction of the figural form with an abstract handling of color. Even though ‘figuration’ has since reentered my art, a lot of my work is still done in spontaneous and quick strokes. It even seems as though all the forms in my paintings represent human figures even if the subject matter is a landscape or a still life. I concentrate on watercolor and mixed media drawing on paper and acrylic on paper and on wood panel.

I was born in the Republic of Korea, earned a B.A in Fine Arts at Hong Ik University in Seoul. I met my Canadian husband in 1987 and have traveled to several countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan, France and the USA; these experiences have given me rich nourishment of Oriental and Western tradition. I participated in group and solo exhibitions in Korea, Japan, China, Canada and the USA. My work is represented in private and permanent public collections by institutions such as Loto-Quebec Art Visuel Collection; Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Pennsylvania; Ottawa’s House of Commons in Ottawa and Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau. I was awarded The Artist’s Magazine/Watercolor Magic Magazine Prize at the 134<sup>th</sup> International exhibition of the “American Watercolor Society” held at the Salmagundi Club in NY, Monarch Litho Award at the 81<sup>st</sup> National Watercolor Show at the Brea Civic and Cultural Center Gallery in CA. I also won 1<sup>st</sup> prize at “The State Museum of Pennsylvania 2001” National Art Competition juried by, Judith Dolkart, Department of Painting and Sculpture at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, NY. I am a member of the Canadian Society of Watercolorists (SCA), National Society of Painters in Casein and Acrylic (NSPCA), Pennsylvania Watercolor Society (PWS), and San Diego Watercolor Society (SDWS). I have been teaching Western and Oriental Art and giving workshops in Canada and the United States since 1989.