

CAROL SANTORA

Artist Statement

The process of portraying the theme of horses continues to evolve in my work. My art retains a sense of experimentation, and working in a series I focus on a particular way the application of acrylic paint reveals the desired outcome. A variation of the process motivates the next series of paintings.



Horses are amazing creatures of physical beauty and strength, spirit and sensitivity. Breaking away from reality, my art

combines abstract and realistic elements. I filter out superfluous details and portray horses in their clear essence – their spirits and souls, their energy, movement and physical presence.



Beginning with a textured surface and a simple line drawing, I pour and drip paint, spray water, and manipulate the pigments with a palette knife – move, scrape off, and add more paint. Sometimes I work the canvas flat on a table and sometimes the surface is upright, each method achieving different effects. The spontaneous drips and splashes, marks, and delicate lines combine to allow the animal's form to take shape. In black and white or color, inner meanings and emotions are manifested.

The horse's image emerges, seemingly left unfinished, to allow the viewer room for personal interpretation. By reducing my paintings to their most essential elements, I say everything I need to say about the horse – render what has truly impassioned me.

“Sometimes the ‘unfinished’ is an experiment that pushes boundaries.”