

# Carole Barrer

Seattle, Washington



## Contact

Website information:  
[CaroleBarrer.com](http://CaroleBarrer.com)

Harris Harvey Gallery  
[HarrisHarveyGallery.com](http://HarrisHarveyGallery.com)



## Biography:

Carole Barrer has a restless intelligence and natural curiosity, spanning the arts, sciences, choreography, painting, and printmaking. She has a breadth of teaching experience across the arts, including movement, performance, choreography, and bodywork; language arts, speech, and hearing; and visual arts.

Barrer has exhibited her art consistently for more than thirty years, in gallery and museum exhibitions, to regional and national acclaim. Her art is included in select public collections in the Pacific Northwest and in more than one hundred private U.S. collections. She was born in New York City and currently lives and works in Seattle.

### **Artist Statement 2023:**

My polestar is to convey a sense of natural phenomena through the interplay of color and light.

Nature has always served as an abiding inspiration and influence in my life. Observation of nature's more subtle color variations through the seasons and how these transitions work together to form the whole fascinates me. They often serve as magnificent source points for possible exploration. Letting go of preconceived notions about what I see in nature works best. I can reliably produce an organic connectedness by allowing myself to be present with what is unfolding on the canvas. This enhances the experiential aspect of the work. Direct representation engages the mind, but the feeling is my priority. It allows the viewer to rest, imagine, and remember.

My paintings are experiential and meditative.

The alternating application of complementary hues increases the perceptual luminescence of each piece. I glaze multiple layers of pigment in order to enhance the color subtlety and complexity of the work. As I layer the hues, spatial relationships change. Attention to balancing these small changes in color allows me to achieve a coherent sense of space—even slight shifts in light or prolonged viewing reward one's sustained contemplation. In turn, these details invite the viewer to explore the finer distinctions of the painting.

In art, as in life, attention to the medley of minutia determines the larger picture, always.

## **Description of artwork:**

*“Lavender 2”* was formed during the time of year when the sun lowers in our sky. I combined colors to fit the moment though they were modified as the painting developed. The direction of lines also changed as the values in the piece deepened. Because the repeated rhythm of the line strengthened, I stayed with this pattern. The gradation of hue led me to create an anchoring by employing the darkest values to serve as a holding point for the entire design. I felt the process so engaging that I created the lower third section as a reverberation of what I had created above.

*“Blue 15”* developed out of my desire to express the vastness that I often experience in nature. The primary focus was capturing the light as it moves through space. As colors changed and values deepened, they eventually danced together, defining each other. The differing elements of this piece eventually coalesced into a cohesive and kinetic whole. Altogether, this combination then supported a sense of expanse.