## Diane Haddon

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Diane did what she loved long before the phrase became a thing. She laughs and confesses she's been a collector of flotsam and jetsam of days gone by and an artist since she was a kid. She didn't know what she would do with her finds from yard sales and secondhand stores. Finding them was enough. Ultimately her collections became the source material for mixed media collage paintings and found object assemblages.



Most days Diane walks twenty steps with her French Bulldog, Peaches, from her cottage under guardian cedars and enters her magical studio through a weathered door into a curiosity shop where every object tells a story and visual stimuli activate wonder and imagination.



"Walking through this door, it's another world. A calm comes over me and I just smile," she says. The "what am I going to do with this" question has morphed into "what will happen today?"

After many creative classes and workshops, art classes at Western Washington University and a career in Human Resources for healthcare providers it was time to explore the possibilities of incorporating art into her life on a full-time basis. As her daughter headed to the US Naval Academy, Diane began a two-year program in Advertising Art at Seattle Central Community College. Her coursework steeped her in the old-school tools of a graphic designer: watercolors, graphite and colored pencils, acrylics, fonts and hands-on art processes. She had been given the tools to start exploring her creativity.

