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## ABOUT ELLEN DITTERBRANDT (1962 – 2014)

Ellen worked in both pastel and acrylic. She specialized in large paintings often depicting complex and colorful scenes of the tangle of nature. She worked tirelessly to produce exquisite one-of-a-kind paintings that brought the outdoors indoors on a grand scale.

Ellen's painting and pastel technique is self taught; she liked to come up with her own way of applying media. "When I paint, I generally paint fast," she said, "just letting it flow out of me. It feels like I don't know what I am doing most of the time."

Apparently few people believe that. Her work has been featured in Southwest Art Magazine; shown at Portland's Real Mother Goose Gallery, Columbia Art Gallery, and Earthworks Gallery.

Ellen was also an experienced triathlete. Sadly, in 2014, in the midst of a morning bike ride, Ellen was struck and killed by a car.

We are left with her vision of how to live with these, her own words:

"Be Positive" even if it is just a smile, or nice words. Be the peace you want to see. Be the love you want to feel. Be kind. Be understanding. Be a friend, be the change you want to see. We are here to enjoy life".



