

# Judy Paul



“I BEGAN PAINTING PROFESSIONALLY IN 1997, SETTING UP AN EASEL IN OUR FAMILY ROOM BETWEEN THE WASHER AND DRYER SO I COULD PAINT, DO LAUNDRY, AND KEEP AN EYE ON MY TWO KIDS. YEARS LATER, I UPGRADED TO A 5X5-FOOT STUDIO AT THE BEEHIVE WITH EIGHT OTHER AUSTIN ARTISTS, WHERE I STARTED INCORPORATING COLLAGE INTO MY WORK WHILE MY KIDS WATCHED POKÉMON MOVIES NEARBY.

A GROUP SHOW THERE LED—SOMEWHAT INFAMOUSLY—TO AN AFTERPARTY THAT ENDED WITH THE BUILDING BURNING DOWN. BEFORE THAT, THOUGH, AN ART CONSULTANT DISCOVERED MY WORK, LEADING TO EARLY SALES AND A PUBLISHING CONTRACT.

I LATER WORKED OUT OF FLATBED PRESS AND BOLM STUDIOS, THEN RETURNED HOME TO PAINT AS MY KIDS HEADED OFF TO COLLEGE. IN 2016, I MOVED TO SMITHVILLE AND SPENT NEARLY A DECADE LIVING AND WORKING IN THE OLD LUMBERYARD BUILDING BEFORE RETURNING TO AUSTIN IN 2025.

NOW, I LIVE IN SOUTH AUSTIN NEAR THE HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL, WITH A STUDIO AT ART HUB ATX—ONCE AGAIN PAINTING, DOING LAUNDRY, AND HOPING MY KIDS COME HOME TO PLAY.”