

From the time I was a tiny child, I can remember being creative and artistic in everything I was involved in, - creating anything I could bring to mind or fathom in my wild and endless imagination. At first it was animals, elephants, horses, pigs, goats, and they all were a bright part of my imagination. Then I became obsessed with dinosaurs, I could name them all and I could draw them all and I had them all. We went to a simulation of a dinosaur show in New Orleans, and I was consumed by their simulated presence.

From the time that I could write, I've always been interested in interiors, architecture, landscapes, paintings, drawing, furniture, and art; sketching out my own house plans, and pretending that other people's houses were mine, and how I would redecorate them, as well as how I would redirect the driveway to give a better view of the property and landscaping. Early on I began by painting birds and animals. I can remember as a young child begging my father at the dinner table to draw something so I could watch him and then try to draw the same object, only better. When I graduated from kindergarten, my teacher wrote my mom a note about my drawings, and how she thought that I had a special gift, a God-given gift of art. My mom still has that note in her memorabilia and it reads as follows:

Collegedale Christian School

Troy, Alabama 1989

It's hard to believe the year has come and gone. Your son William is very special to me and it's hard for me to believe he won't be a part of my class any more. I will miss him more than I can tell you in words. I know God has great plans for William. He has given William a gift of art. I pray William will use God's gift and let it enrich his life. Thank you for giving William to me for the year and I pray I have touched his young life in some way, to make it better. You were great parents and I will miss you (William) remember how much Miss Sherry loves you and I will always be here for you God go with you.) Love,
Miss Sherry

As I grew older, I developed more of an interest in painting, color, art work, the movement in the art work and how the artist used certain colors to portray a particular feeling or mood. It was easy for me to look at something and know what color went where and how to mix and shade them.

When it came to the art work in the house it seemed only natural for me to do it myself instead of going out to purchasing artwork. I was always looking through magazines for ideas for paintings and searching for a new design plan

and look for my room. A lot of these magazines were an excellent source of ideas for paintings I could create. I would then frame them for my room with the old frames I had found in my grandmother's shed behind her house and faux finished them. Later on, during high school, I worked for The Little Framery in Troy and learned how to make custom frames for my paintings.

When I transferred to a new school in ninth grade, I was finally introduced to a formal art class, where I was finally able to excel in the classroom, and use my inborne talent. I was drawn to the teacher, her ideas and opinions, absorbing anything I could, and trying to be the best in the class. I was involved in a number of art shows throughout my school years, always winning awards, but never really understanding what it meant or that I had a real talent. When my senior year came around I was chosen as a teacher's aide to help with the freshmen classes and assist her in any projects they were involved with. When my parents sold the farm to move to a bigger house in the city, I met my first Interior Designer, Janice Blakeney. She was intelligent, graceful, and full of wonderful and tasteful ideas, (in my eyes at least). I can remember wanting so badly to go to her house so I could see how she lived,

arranged furniture, color choices, personal taste, and how many unusual ideas and techniques I could learn from her. She introduced me to faux finishes, curtains and rods, plantation shutters, molding, how color could look one way on a swatch but totally different in the room, and how paint can make a room appear larger with or smaller with color.

I'm obsessed with Interior Design, Art, and painting. I couldn't imagine doing anything else in my school and permanent career other than that. There is nothing more fulfilling to me than completing a piece of art, hanging it on the wall, and having it transform the room right before your eyes. Art to a room is like makeup is to a face, It can evoke a certain feeling within a room and give the room an entirely different look. I will always have art in my life!

Having my art displayed in Little Savannah is an overwhelming

and wonderful opportunity for me. This is the first time I've ever done a showing of my work anywhere and am very excited

to be able to do it. My art ranges anywhere to modern abstract

and landscapes to realistic portraits. I hope you will choose to join us for a wonderful evening with some really great people and some beautiful art!