

## Bio: Deeann Rieves

Deeann is a contemporary artist in Marietta working with mixed media and abstraction.

I am drawn to mixed media because you can draw and paint simultaneously, switching from one medium to another as each layer transforms the piece. I love the juxtaposition of luscious brush strokes with carefree chalk contours and subtle colored pencil lines. In all of my paintings, I use a sewing technique called free-motion machine embroidery on top of painted papers and then incorporate those papers as collage. I love the way the stitched lines sit on top of the layered paint forms, embellishing each piece with texture and delicate lines. I am drawn to the tactility that sewing adds to the painting process. The nature of thread is strong but intricate; it has a sort of permanence with the appearance of fragility.

I went to Memphis College of Art and loved every minute of school; I couldn't get enough. I was a painting major and had always loved mixed media and collage. I took several surface design classes, where I learned machine embroidery and sewing techniques. After school when I began working abstract, I combined these two techniques and found my own creative voice. I live in Marietta, GA with my husband who is a songwriter, musician, and producer. My in-home studio is bright and full of natural light, and my favorite place to be. I am always working on a few paintings at a time- some days are for messy beginnings, other days are for more refined finishing touches.

**Deeann Rieves** | Fine Artist

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