



W A L T E R W I C K I S E R G A L L E R Y I N C .

210 Eleventh Avenue Suite 303  
New York, NY 10001

T 212-941-1817

F 212-625-0601

[wwickiserg@aol.com](mailto:wwickiserg@aol.com)

[www.walterwickisergallery.com](http://www.walterwickisergallery.com)

## OPEN YOUR WORLD

Lauren Jones Worth's work has singular beauty, power and originality. The product of a synthesis of abstraction and of an almost magical realism, it is work that is wholly her own while being wonderfully enriched by history. Like mid-century masters Milton Avery, Wolf Kahn and Ralph Wickiser, Worth begins with the natural world, visually building layer upon layer to create a complex tangle of natural forms articulated in clear, jewel-like colors.

Each work is crowded with life; no portion of any canvas is left unexamined. Edge to edge to edge to edge, Worth builds a rich, dense field of meaning and image that flows from abstraction to pattern and to figure in so active and animate a manner that each work can seem literally and in its own particular way alive. Take, for example, *'Night Sprites'*, which has a linearity so enlivened by its dots and splotches of energy that the trees appear to shiver in the breeze. *'Open Your World'* uses a more sober palette to create the expectant calm of a summer evening; one in which we are spellbound with wonder about what is about to happen in its large and confident central space. And then there is *'Web and Wing'*, an isolated frame of tree and sky that almost-but-not-quite dissolves into pure abstraction and yet still retains a sense of life so potent as to seem aural. It is easy to believe that you can hear as well as see this painting.

This dynamic vitality is also apparent in the artist's creative process. It is through a physical exploration of materials that Worth's vision is fully realized. The artist builds as much as paints, appropriating a wide assortment of materials and techniques, including oil

and acrylic paints, decorative and handmade papers, dried fruits and leaves, original stencils and drawings. Like life itself, this is not a linear process but one of complex and vigorous investigation.

Ultimately, we are aware of an underlying unity to be found in her process and in her work. And this sense of unity is also present when Worth speaks of the wellsprings of her work...

*"I celebrate the hum of the earth—the dance and rhythm of life. I celebrate the living spirit of trees and those places found in Celtic lore where the veil between the spiritual realm and the material realm is very thin."*

In Lauren Jones Worth's work we find a new twenty-first century vision for the medium of painting; one in which a great legacy of twentieth century abstraction joins with a renewed embrace of the natural world to marvelous, revelatory effect.

—Adeline Talbot

Adeline Talbot is the owner of *Studio Traveler* where she designs and leads cultural travels for museums and non-profits.