

DONNA HINSON

Bipolar Disorder has been an illness that has manifested itself in at least four generations of my family. As a child, I did not understand what all the chaos in my family was about. My mother and grandmother were both treated for it. When I was diagnosed later as an adult, life began to make a little more sense. Eventually, three of my children would also be diagnosed with bipolar.

For twenty years, I worked on a series of watercolor and mixed media paintings to work my way through some of the most confusing and painful parts as well as some of the triumphs and joys of living with bipolar disorder. Most of my paintings have flowing color, contrasted by black areas. These represent the strong dichotomy of emotions one feels with this disorder.

The paintings I have chosen for this exhibit use the landscape as a metaphor for life. Landscapes are shaped by weather, geography, man's interventions, and time. We also weather storms in our lives, as well as joyful, peaceful events and emotions. It is up to us to create and allow time to shape our own beautiful and wondrous landscapes.