
FULL CIRCLE



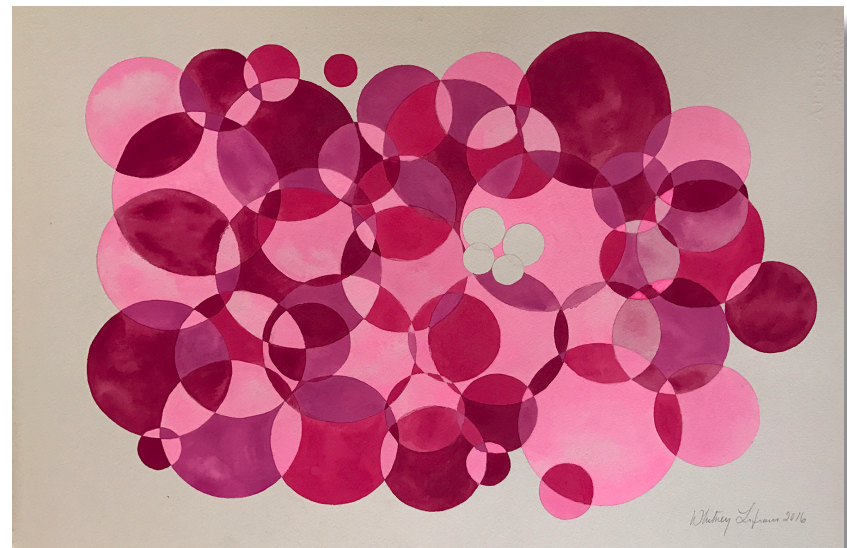
“I’m Right Where I Should Be”

A NEW FRIEND LOST HER SON IN THE SUMMER OF 2016. I WAS NOT SURE IF I SHOULD GO TO THE FUNERAL. BUT, I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM ANOTHER FRIEND WHO WAS GOING, I PICKED OUT FLOWERS FROM THE STORE, GOT ON A BLACK DRESS AND SHOWED UP AT THE JEWISH CEMETERY.

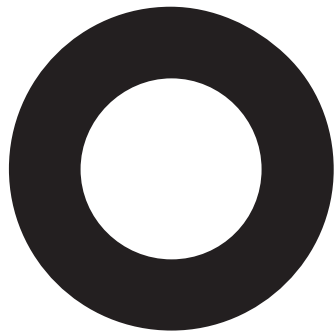
WONDERING LOST, TRYING TO FIND THE FUNERAL, I KEPT WONDERING, “SHOULD I BE HERE?”

I FINALLY FOUND THE RABI, SOME FAMILIAR FACES AND SETTLED MYSELF. A WHITE BUTTERFLY LANDED ON MY BOUQUET OF FLOWERS AS IF TO SAY, “YOU ARE RIGHT WHERE YOU SHOULD BE.”

2016 - 15 x 23 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



"Visiting July"

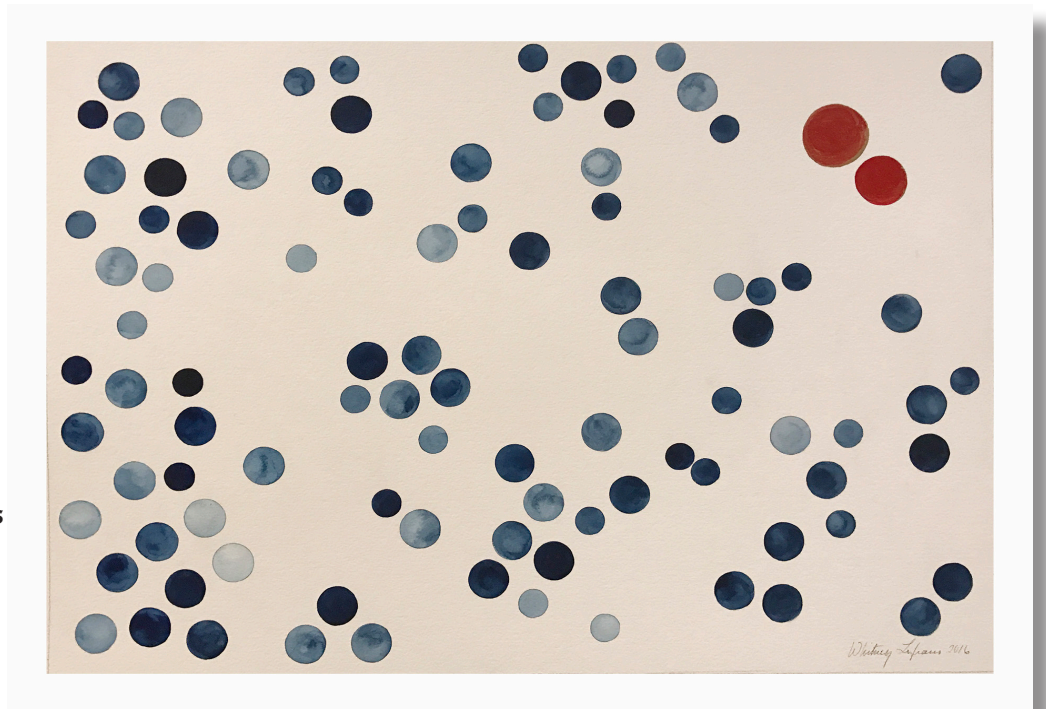
JULY WAS ONE OF THE FIRST LADIES THAT I MET IN RECOVERY. SHE GAVE ME THE **BIG BOOK OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** AND WROTE INSIDE "**BE GENTLE WITH YOURSELF.**" AFTER FIVE MONTHS I STARTED DRINKING AGAIN. SHE WAS HAPPY WHEN I CAME BACK TO OUR MEETING THREE YEARS LATER. QUICKLY AFTER, SHE GOT A TERRIBLE INFECTION. SHE WAS AT UC DAVIS.

I STARTED VISITING HER EVERYDAY. SHE TOLD ME ABOUT HER LIFE IN **SAN DIEGO** TEACHING **QUANTUM PHYSICS**, **BONFIRES ON THE BEACH** & HER FAMILY.

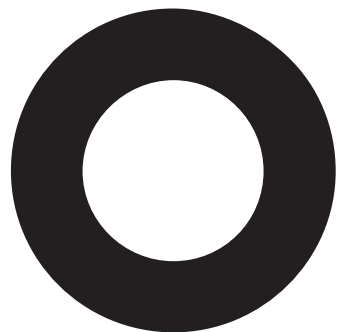
SHE PASSED AWAY IN **JUNE**.

WE CELEBRATED HER LIFE IN **JULY**.

2016 - 25 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“From the Rocks to The Rain”

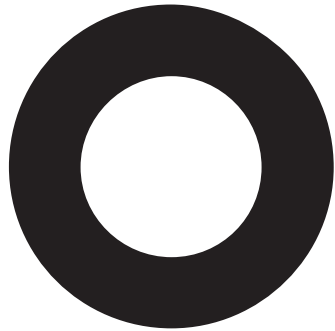
THE MOST DIFFICULT OF ALL MY AMMENDS.

A STORY OF LIFE LONG FRIENDSHIP FORMED
ON A ROCKY PATH. FORGIVENSS FOR PAST
MISSTEPS GIVEN ON A RAINY DAY.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Long Time Between Cocktails”

A JOYOUS EVENT AT ALL MEETINGS, THE BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY MEETING WHERE CHIPS ARE GIVEN FOR CONSECUTIVE TIME WITHOUT DRINKS.

MY FRIEND MARV CONGRATULATES ALL BIRTHDAY CHIP RECIPIENTS FROM 24 HOURS TO 35 YEARS WITH THIS FABULOUS FACT, FOR AN ALCOHOLIC, ANYTIME WITHOUT A DRINK IS A “LONG TIME BETWEEN COCKTAILS.” THIS HOUR GLASS LIKE PAINTING REPRESENTS THE PASSAGE OF THAT TIME. EACH CHIP IS WELL EARNED.

2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Acceptance”

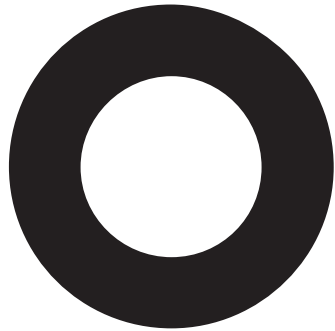
LEARNING TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT I COULD NO
COULD NO LONGER DRINK AS OTHER NORMAL
DRINKERS WAS LIKE SWALLOWING A JAR OF NAILS.
PAINFUL.

LAURA EQUATED IT WITH FREEDOM. SHE GOT STUCK IN
A “MAYTAG” WHEN SHE FELL OUT OF HER KAYAK ON
THE RIVER. SHE COULD NOT TELL WHICH WAY WAS UP
AND WAS LOOSING AIR QUICKLY. EVENTUALLY, SHE
ACCEPTED THAT THIS WAS THE WAY SHE WAS GOING TO
DIE. PEACE CAME OVER HER AND SHE FELT LIKE ALL
WOULD BE JUST AS IT SHOULD. AND WITH THAT, SHE
GOT PULLED OUT OF THE WATER AND WAS SAVED.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“That Dark Hole”

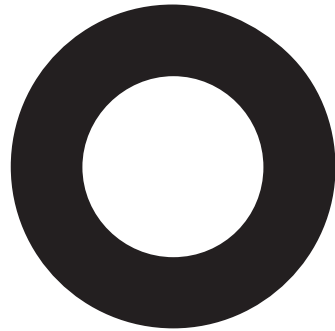
EVENTUALLY I CRAWLED OUT OF THAT DARK HOLE
I HAD BEEN IN FOR YEARS WORRIED ABOUT MY
HUSBANDS HEALTH, HOW WE WOULD NEVER MAKE IT
TO EUROPE TOGETHER AND HOW WE COULD NEVER
ENJOY LIFE AS WE USED TO. BLAH BLAH BLAH.

ONCE I GOT OUT, I REALIZED HOW DEEP I HAD
GOTTEN. GRATEFUL FOR THIS NEW LIFE. LIVING IN
THE MOMENT HAS MADE LIFE EASIER AND MORE
MANAGEABLE. PAINTING IS A HUGE PART OF PULLING
ME OUT OF THAT DARK HOLE. DO WHAT YOU LOVE
EVERYDAY AND YOU WILL BE JOYFUL ALWAYS.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Twelve Steps to Freedom”

LIKE BEING IN A CLOWN HOUSE AT THE STATE FAIR,
DOING THE STEPS ARE SCARY AND BIZARRE.
AROUND EVERY TURN THERE IS ANOTHER SURPRISE. I AM
SO GRATEFUL TO THE OLD-TIMERS THAT SHARED THERE
WISDOM AS I WALKED THROUGH THESE STEPS.

EVENTUALLY LEARNING, LIKE A CHILD,
THAT I WOULD NOT DIE FROM BEING UNCOMFORTABLE.



2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$

FULL CIRCLE



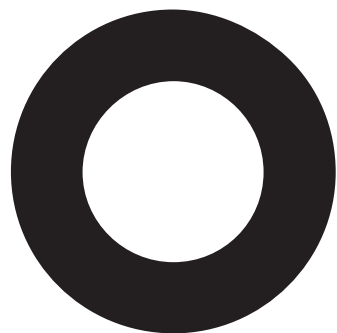
“My Higher Power”

IN ORDER TO NEVER DRINK AGAIN, I HAD TO FIND A
“GOD OF MY UNDERSTANDING.” I WAS GODLESS AND
FLOATING THROUGH LIFE WITHOUT A SAFETY NET
UNTIL I UNDERSTOOD JUST WHAT I WAS PRAYING TO.
TODAY I AM SAFE, MY FAMILY IS SAFE AND MY FRIENDS
ARE SAFE IN GODS CARE.
THY WILL, NOT MINE, BE DONE.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“When Emotions Bubble Over”

NORTH HALL IN OAK PARK IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE
PLACES TO GO ON SATURDAY MORNING.
A PLACE WHERE LOVE IS LOVE. EVERYONE IS EQUAL
AND I GET TIPS FROM FORMER DRAG QUEENS ABOUT
THE BEST WAY TO BACKCOMB MY HAIR.
EMOTIONS RUN HIGH BUT, HUGS ARE GIVEN FREELY.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



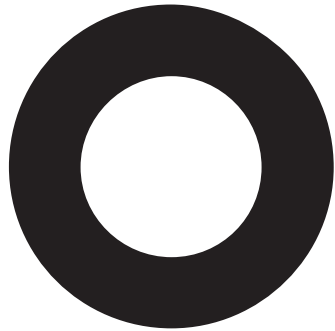
"I Look to the Light"

HEATHER ALWAYS CRIES. AND EVERY TIME SHE CRIES
IN OUR MONDAY NIGHT MEETING, I WOULD LOOK UP
AT THE HUGE WHITE 1960S GLOBE LIGHTS TO KEEP MY
TEARS IN. IT HAS BECOME SUCH A PART OF MY
MONDAY NIGHT ROUTINE THAT I EVENTUALLY FIGURED
OUT A WAY TO PAINT THE CEILING I SPEND SO MUCH
TIME LOOKING AT. HEATHER IS MY STEEL MAGNOLIA.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



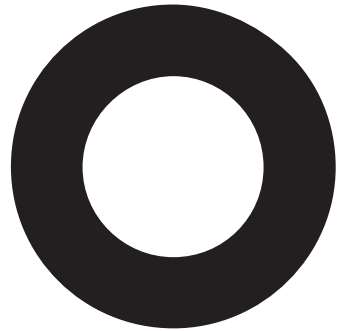
“Bob’s Lemon Tree”

STARTING OUT WITH BOB, MY SPONSOR, IN EARLY SPRING. I WOULD SIT IN HIS HUGE BACKYARD AND STARE IN AWE AT HIS LEMON TREE. I WAS STILL HAVING A MAJOR PROBLEM WITH CRAVING BOOZE. ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS HOW GOOD THOSE LEMONS WOULD TASTE IN A GIN AND TONIC. EVENTUALLY REALIZING THAT EXACTLY **ZERO** OF THOSE LEMONS ON BOB’S LEMON TREE WOULD GARNISH A GIN AND TONIC. TRAGIC.

2016 - 21 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Wally Finds Zen in a Texas Hurricane”

WALLY IS LIKE YODA. HE TALKS SLOWLY AND WITH CARE. EVERYONE LISTENS. MY FAVORITE STORY IS WHEN HE WAS A TRUCK DRIVER. HE GOT OUT OF HIS TRUCK ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD IN TEXAS TO COMPLETE SILENCE. SILENCE LIKE THAT IN A SOUND BOOTH. NO BUGS. NO WIND. NO MOVEMENT. IT WAS SO PEACEFUL THAT HE SAID HE ACHIEVED A REAL ZEN-LIKE MOMENT, AND THEN HE REALIZED HE WAS IN THE EYE OF A HURRICANE AND RAN LIKE HELL TO HIS TRUCK. ONE DAY I WANT TO BE LIKE WALLY. WISE AND ZEN-LIKE IN THE MIDDLE OF CHAOS.

2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



"Let's Meet For Coffee, Again."

THAT IS WHAT WE DO.
COFFEE. WE ALWAYS MEET FOR COFFEE.
MINE BLACK, PLAIN DARK COFFEE... EVERY TIME.



2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$

FULL CIRCLE



“Circles Who Wouldn’t Normally Get Along”

OUTSIDE OUR MEETINGS I AM NOT SURE WE WOULD
ALL HAVE MET OR EVEN GOTTEN ALONG. WE HAVE
COME TOGETHER LIKE THOSE FROM A PLANE CRASH.

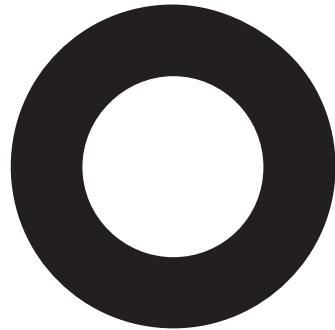
UNITED IN THE WANT FOR A NEW SOBER LIFE.

OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT EVERYONE HAS
SOMETHING TO SHARE AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR
COMMON GOOD. WOULDN’T IT BE GREAT IF EVERYONE
IN THE WORLD LIVED THIS WAY?



2016 - 22 x 29 Watercolor on Paper - \$

FULL CIRCLE



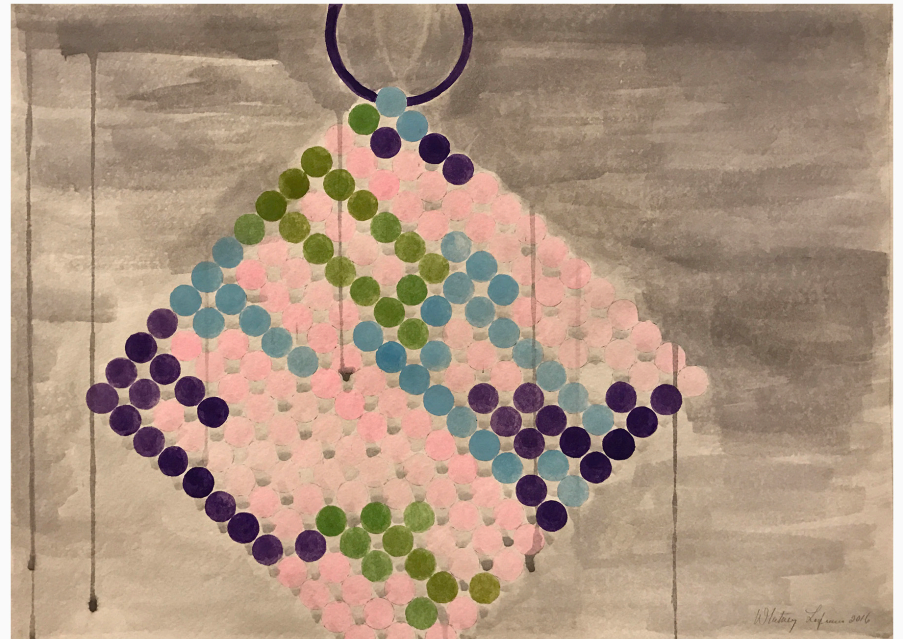
“Loretta’s Prayer Square Found Me”

YEARS AGO I MET LORETTA KNITTING AWAY IN MY HOME GROUP. SHE GAVE ME A SMALL KNIT SQUARE TO KEEP.

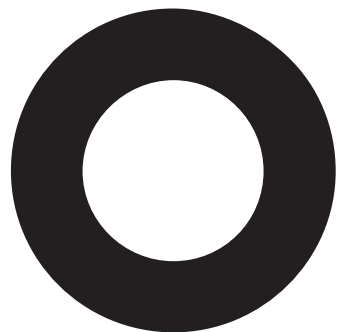
TO HOLD IF I NEEDED TO PRAY. NEEDED AN EXTRA BOOST IN MY DAY. AFTER THREE MORE YEARS OF HARD DRINKING, I FOUND THE 2x2 INCH PRAYER SQUARE IN MY MAKE-UP DRAWER ONE HUNGOVER MORNING.

THAT WAS THE MORNING I WENT BACK AND STARTED OVER. SHE WAS STILL THERE. NOT KNITTING. NOT JUDGING. JUST HAPPY I WAS BACK. IT DRIES MY TEARS AND I HAVE WASHED OUT A LOT OF MASCARA.

2016 - 22 x 29 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



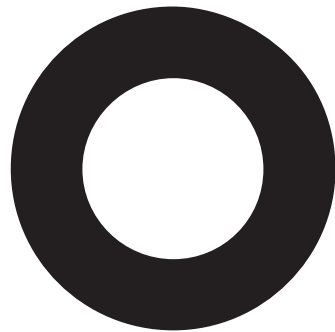
“Holes in Her Story”

I AM TRYING NOT TO JUDGE OTHERS. IT IS HARD TO
TURN OFF MY JUDGMENTAL MIND WHEN LISTENING TO
SOME STORIES. IF I JUST SIT BACK AND LISTEN TO THE
STORIES WITHOUT TRYING TO POKE HOLES IN THEM,
I WILL LEARN FROM THOSE THAT ARE SO FREELY
SHARING. CHARACTER DEFECTS LOOM LARGE.

2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$

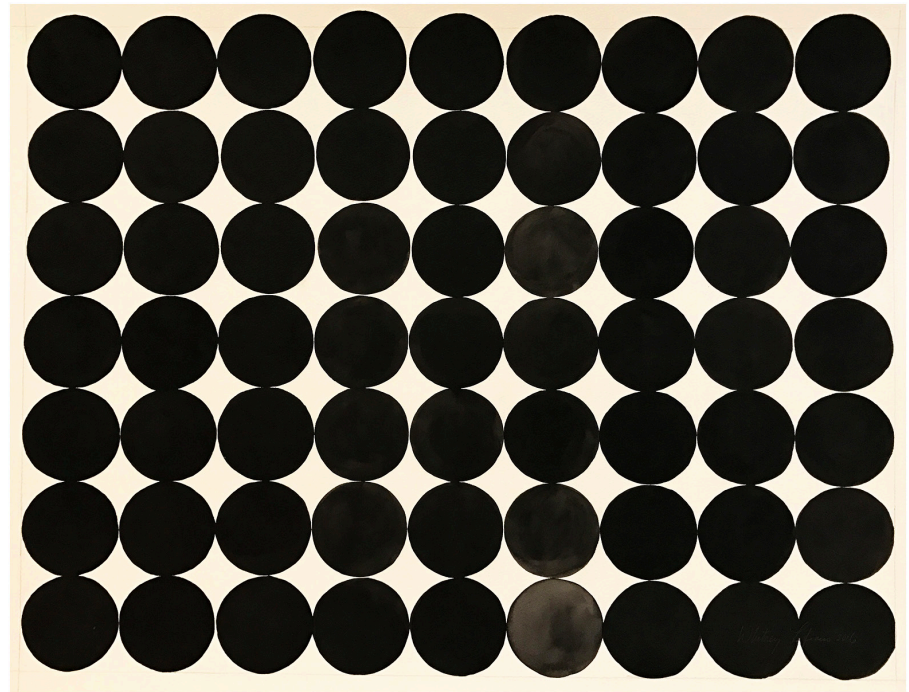


FULL CIRCLE



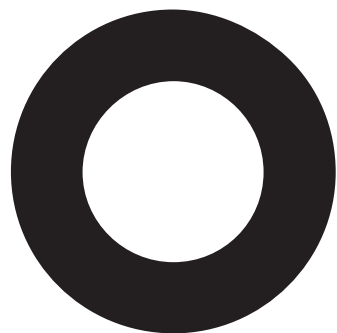
“Over Served”

THIS IS WHAT THE MORNING AFTER FEELS LIKE.
IT HURTS MY EYES TO LOOK AT HOW THE DRINKS
LINED UP, ONE BY ONE, TO CREATE MY HEADACHE.



2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$

FULL CIRCLE



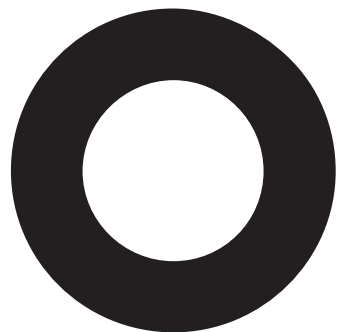
“Dance Party in the Kitchen”

MUSIC IS TURNED ON THE MINUTE THE CHILDREN
SHUT THE FRONT DOOR ON THEIR WAY TO SCHOOL.
THIS PAINTING WAS INSPIRED BY ONE EXTRA LONG
DANCE PARTY WITH TOM PETTY AND A FOURTH
CUP OF COFFEE.

2016 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



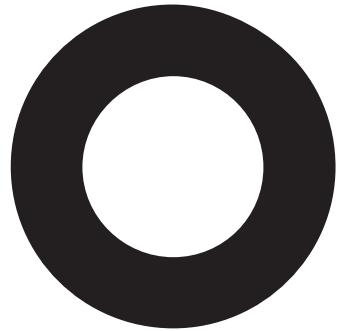
“Half Truths”

NOW THAT I AM PRACTICING RIGOROUS HONESTY,
I REALIZED LIVING WITH HALF TRUTHS OR LIES WAS
A DAILY PRACTICE. IT WAS SO COMPLICATED.
DIFFICULT TO KEEP IT ALL STRAIGHT.
HALF THE TRUTH IS NOT THE TRUTH.

2016 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



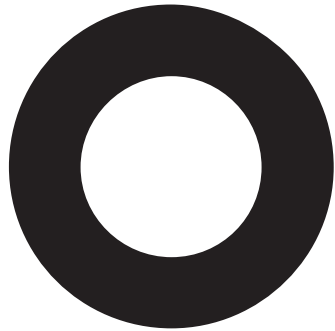
“Letting Go In Tahoe”

THIS SUMMER I WATERSKIIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS. AND WHEN I WAS READY TO END MY RUN, I LET GO AND I WAS ENVELOPED BY TAHOE. MY CHILDHOOD CAME FLOODING INTO MY MEMORIES. THE TRUST THAT I HAD FOR THE BOAT DRIVER TO COME BACK AND GET ME REMINDED ME OF SUMMERS SPENT DOING THE SAME WITH MY FATHER. LETTING GO OF THE ROPE IS A FAITH. YOU CAN BE SUSPENDED BY THE WATERS AND LIVE IN THE TRUST THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY AND THAT BOAT WILL COME PICK YOU UP EVENTUALLY.

2016 - 30 x 22 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Spring in Chicago”

TWO OF MY DEAREST COLLEGE FRIENDS AND I MET UP IN CHICAGO TO SPEND A MUCH NEEDED WEEKEND TOGETHER WITHOUT HUSBANDS OR CHILDREN IN TOW. TRACY’S HUSBAND GOT US TICKETS TO A CUBS GAME AND WE SPENT ONE AFTERNOON AT WRIGLEY. IT WAS OUR FIRST TIME BEING TOGETHER SINCE MY WEDDING 11 YEARS EARLIER. PAST ROOMMATES AND DEAR FRIENDS, WE WERE FREE TO BE OURSELVES AGAIN. AND OF COURSE WE FEEL WE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CUBS WINNING THE WORLD SERIES.

2017 - 22 x 50 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



"I see what she feels"

I HAVE TAKEN ARTISTIC LICENSE TO TRANSLATE THE
WORD "SISTER" FROM BRAILLE TO WATERCOLOR.
STEPHANIE WALKED INTO OUR GROUP. BLIND FROM
BIRTH, SHE WAS READING OUR BIG BOOK IN BRAILLE.
OF COURSE, SHE LITERALLY FEELS THE WORDS THAT
I SEE. BUT, SHE ALSO UNDERSTANDS ME. AND I
UNDERSTAND HER, AND FEEL THE PAIN SHE WAS IN,
ONLY LIKE A SISTER IN SOBRIETY CAN UNDERSTAND.
SHE CAN SEE WHAT I FEEL. I SEE WHAT SHE FEELS.

2017 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



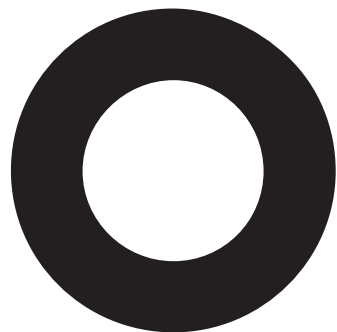
"Romancing the Cocktail"

DREAMING OF DRINKING. MY DREAMS ARE REAL AND
FREEQUENT. PAINTING THE DREAM SOMEHOW GIVES
THEM LESS POWER.

2017 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Pussy Power”

MUCH LIKE MY FIRST PAINTING OF THIS SERIES,
“CIRCLES THAT NORMALLY WOULDN’T MIX”
I WAS INSPIRED BY THE WOMAN’S MARCH IN D.C.
THAT TOOK PLACE JANUARY 21ST 2017.
“TAKE THAT BROKEN HEART AND TURN IT INTO ART.”
ALL DIFFERENT SHADES OF PINK UNITED AS ONE.

2017 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Piecing Together my Pink Cloud”

THE PINK CLOUD DISCUSSED IN SOBRIETY COMMUNITIES REFERS TO THE FEELINGS OF ELATION AND HAPPINESS THAT ARE USUALLY FELT BY SOMEONE IN EARLY SOBRIETY. THESE FEELINGS ARE USUALLY THE RESULT OF THE ALCOHOLIC OR ADDICT COMING TO THE REALIZATION THAT THEY HAVE AVOIDED DISASTER AND HAVE NOW SET COURSE FOR A NEW WAY OF LIFE.

THE STORM IS BEHIND. MY PINK CLOUD IS FORMING.

2016 - 5' x 6' Oil on Canvas - \$



FULL CIRCLE



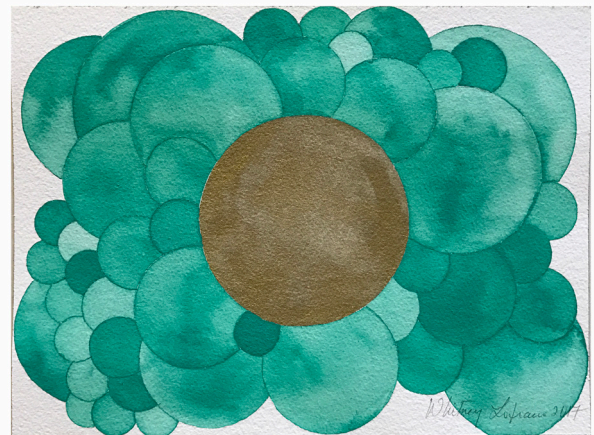
“Walking With God #1, #2 & #3”

SOMETIMES SNEAKY. SOMETIMES OBVIOUS.

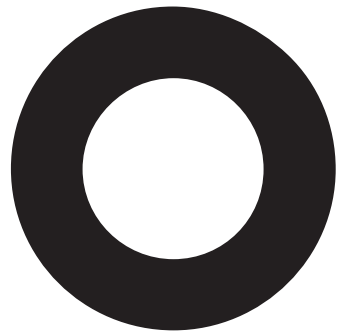
I FIND GOD IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE.

CREATIVITY AND LOVE ARE THE HEART
OF THE GOD I TRUST WITH MY LIFE
AND THE LIVES OF THOSE I LOVE.

2017 - 9 x 12 Watercolor on Paper - \$



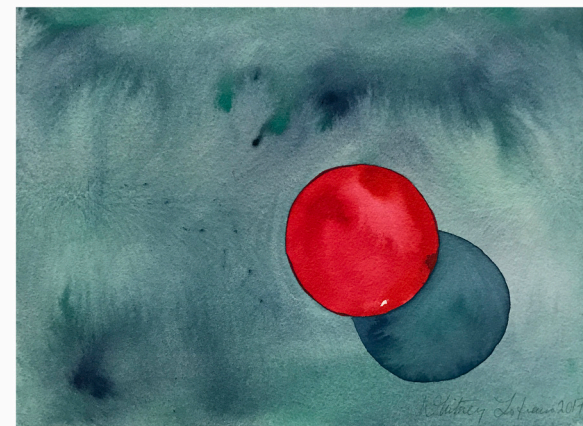
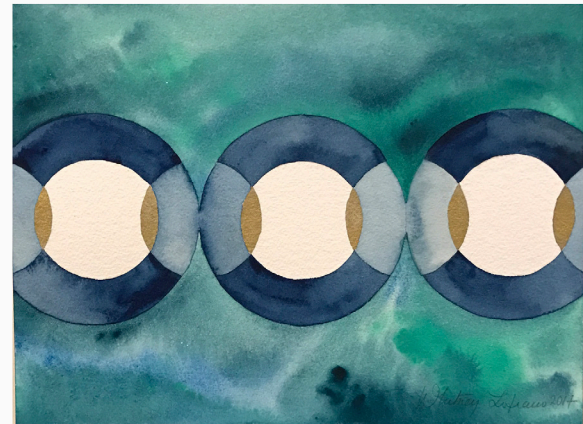
FULL CIRCLE



"The Deep End #1 e3 #2"

SINK OR SWIM?
THE CHOICE WAS CLEAR FOR ME
GOING INTO THE SUMMER OF 2016.

2017 - 9 x 12 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Days Into Years”

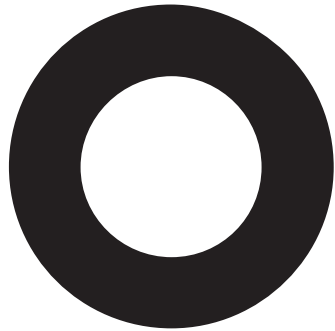
AS MY SPONSOR AND SO MANY OTHER PEOPLE
IN MY GROUPS COME INTO THEIR 20 OR 30+ YEARS
OF SOBRIETY, IT IS ASTONISHING TO ME THAT THEY
NEVER TOOK A DRINK AND NEEDED TO START THEIR
TIME ALL OVER AGAIN.

JUST LIKE WHEN WE ARE TAKEN BY THE RINGS OF A
FELLED TREE, IT IS AMAZING WHEN TIME MAKES
SOMETHING STRONGER AND MORE ROOTED. WE ARE
NOT USED TO STORIES OF PEOPLE BECOMING
STRONGER OVER TIME. BUT, THESE PEOPLE SHOW US
THE POSSIBILITY. THE WONDER OF POSSIBILITY.

2017 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$



FULL CIRCLE



“Primary Purpose”

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF AA IS TO STAY SOBER AND
HELP OTHERS TO ACHIEVE SOBRIETY.

USING PRIMARY COLORS I HAVE PASSED ON THE COLOR
TO ANOTHER COLOR. SOMETIMES THE COLORS BLEND
TO COMPLIMENT. SOMETIMES THEY DO NOT. THE WAY
WE STAY SOBER IS BY SHARING OUR STORY AND BY
BEING OF SERVICE TO THOSE IN NEED.
IF WE ARE LUCKY EACH PERSON ENDS UP WITH MORE
COLOR AND DEPTH THE LONGER WE STAY AROUND.
(L.L. - R.O. - W.L.)

2017 - 22 x 30 Watercolor on Paper - \$

