



Tina Mullen
Silver Dog Studio
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Tina Mullen is an artist living in Gainesville, Florida. She is also the Director of Shands Arts in Medicine – a program that brings the arts to patients and families struggling with serious illness.

“I have painted and drawn pictures my entire life. I believe that the arts are a vehicle for transformation and personal expression, and my passion is to help others bring art into their lives in meaningful ways.”

Tina has been a drawing instructor at Santa Fe Community College and the University of Florida, as well as Interim Director of the University Galleries at UF. Tina is also a working artist who has exhibited her work throughout the United States. She has received numerous awards including the Individual Artist Fellowship from the Florida Department of Cultural Affairs. She has been a visiting artist at Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina, the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida and the Ucross Foundation in Wyoming.

Tina has a BA from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. She studied abroad at the Cleveland Institute of Art Program (now SCAD) in Lacoste, France, and has an MFA from the University of Florida.

Tina Mullen: Artist's Statement

I find that I use it often – the phrase “out of the blue” – to describe events, ideas, and the way things strike me. I wonder if I use it more than others, or if I’m just less prepared than others and things catch me off guard. Regardless, I enjoy contemplating the notion that things happen unexpectedly. That some of the best things in life are unplanned, unscheduled, and come to us by chance – out of the blue. The real beauty for me is what becomes of us because of them.

In my work, “out of the blue” represents migration, journey and the stories that happen along the way. Many of the drawings are done on maps. Maps of places traveled, Maps given to me by friends and Maps that come with their own history. Represented are maps of some of the places that I love – Florida, North Carolina, and Oregon.

Other points of departure for my drawings might be a piece of paper found in an old book that contains the owners’ doodles or handwriting. Those marks, the age of the paper, slight rips or tears bear witness to a past unknown to me. I enjoy excavating through those marks, setting off on a new path - a new visual adventure.

Here’s to the journey.

