

Biography

Deborah Thompson is a visual artist working in paint, drawing and sculptural mediums. Her imagery centers on plant, animal and human forms as she explores generative processes and the poles between death and rebirth. Her imagery is inspired from visual sources, yet emerges from autobiographical consciousness. In this way she experiences in her practice moving between rational and non-rational ways of knowing and between chaos and order.

Thompson was born in Toronto, ON where she attended the Ontario College of Art and Design from 1980-84. She received her B.A. in Experiential Education from Prescott College, AZ in 1989. She spent over a decade teaching environmental leadership in remote regions including Alaska and the NWT. She received her MFA in painting from the University of Montana in 1997 and was awarded the Fell-Oskins Scholarship two years in a row for her studio work.

Thompson moved to Nelson, BC in 1999 where she set up her studio practice, taught for the Kootenay School of Art and co-founded the Oxygen Art Centre. Over that last 17 years she has exhibited across southern BC. She has received many awards for both her studio and curatorial work including, two major project grants from the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance, an Osprey Foundation award and a Canadian Museum Association award. She has taught for the University of Montana, the Kootenay School of Arts and the Oxygen Art Centre. Her most recent solo exhibitions have been **Coming Forth by Day** (2010) at Gallery Gachet, Vancouver and **Tales from the Underworld** (2013) at Touchstones Nelson. Her bibliography includes **Border Crossings** issue No. 124. Public lectures include, “Medieval Mysticism and Contemporary Art”, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC.