ERINN KENNEDY

San Pedro Chapel
mixed media on panel

From the Tohono Chul exhibition
Sonoran Seasons

This painting is of a place in Tucson that I love and visit often. I have tried to capture the essence of this location at a particular time of day and during a particular season.

While working on this, I explored how contrasting color temperatures can play out in a painting. I observed how cool colors, like cobalt blue and violet, are effected by warm colors. like pink and yellow ochre. I think of these cool/warm color relationships as a metaphor for how during the winter cold snow can be seen up in the mountains while hot, summer-like temperatures can occur down in the valley.

I paint the objects and places that I love and are a part my everyday life. I find inspiration in the Sonoran Desert landscape in and around Tucson, Arizona where I live. I am very interested in its natural beauty, historic manmade structures, and stories left behind. I am equally interested in the atmosphere that surrounds these places and the moods they evoke.

When I see a still life arrangement or an outdoor scene that captures my attention I will make several sketches of it from observation, emphasizing spatial relationships, passages and colors that I find interesting or unexpected. When starting a painting I put these sketches away and work from memory and attempt to capture the beauty and essence of these engaging places and things.

To learn more about Erinn Kennedy and her work, go to http://www.erinnkennedy.com/index.html
JANET WINDSOR

Road to Summer
cotton, silk and wool

From the Tohono Chul exhibition
Sonoran Seasons

The seasons change quietly in the Sonoran Desert. For drama look for the cottonwoods on the horizon. The road leads us to water and to our harbingers of seasonal change.

My work is almost entirely machine pieced and quilted. I piece my works because I like the fact that, while it is an art quilt that would never grace a bed, it still makes reference to the heritage of quilting. I love thinking about the fabrics as I arrange them. I remember the days spent dying and printing and the trips all over the world where I have gathered these fabrics. I imagine our grandmothers must have done something similar as they pieced old garments into new bedcoverings.

I usually begin with photographs. I comb through them looking for colors and color combinations. The subject of the photos is not necessarily what the piece will be about. Sometimes it is just about color. Although, most of the time, I look for photos which present the images I am hoping to convey. Then the fun begins.

To learn more about Janet Windsor and her work, go to http://www.janetwindsor.com/ and check out Janet Windsor's and David Windsor's exhibition, Slices of Sonora, on our website https://tohonochul.org/galleries/entry-gallery/
DEBRA KAY

Summer Desert at Dusk
fiber

From the Tohono Chul exhibition Sonoran Seasons

Summer Desert at Dusk showcases a coyote on the prowl after summer sunset. The moon is rising over the Catalina Mountains in various hues of blue.

The decision to pursue textile art came a few years ago. I taught myself to sew at age 13 and began quilting in the early 80's. I took an artist's workshop to learn a technique to incorporate into my work. That workshop was a turning point for me in becoming an emerging artist and helped me to see endless possibilities.

To learn more about Debra Kay and her work, go to https://debrakay.art/
ANNE GORDON

Ocotillo: Before
fabric and glass beads

From the Tohono Chul exhibition
Sonoran Seasons

The Ocotillo, in its dormant stage, is a beautiful cluster of curved and quirky branches that have a stark beauty. They are also one of the most dramatic examples of the effect of any water on desert plants as within seemingly moments of rain they sprout petite richly verdant leaves, and then when the blooming season arrives....Oh my!

I remember being taught how to embroider by a friend's grandmother when I was in 1st grade and love and use embroidery to this day. I am self-taught in many fabric related arts and have taken many classes through the years. In 1981, I earned an MFA in Weaving and Textile Design from the School for American Crafts at RIT in Rochester, NY. For many years, I wove and sold scarves, shawls and jackets.

I moved to Tucson in 1989, and though I no longer weave, I do continue to work with fabrics creating wall art, quilts, clothing and accessories.

To view more pieces by Annie Gordon, go to https://www.etsy.com/shop/AnnieGFabricArt