

**Norman Felix Inc.**

*Art Gallery & Management*

# ARTIST Jill S. Harmer

## biography

Jill Harmer, an ethereal abstract painter creates an alluring captivating presence for any setting. With a history in black and white photography, the use of colour and acrylic paint on large-scale canvas prove to be no match for this passionate and creative artist.

Born March 12 in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, this solicitous woman gives many thanks to her simple upbringing that provided her with the gifts she has today. Jill owes her exceptional values and innovative soul to many summers spent North at the family cottage with her grandparents. Jill's childhood experiences of long walks along the sandy shores of Georgian Bay play a colossal rule in her artwork. You can almost feel her experiences through the canvases; the rustle of tall ancient pines swaying back and forth, ever changing sunsets, script stary nights, and the smell of tree sap, campfires and coffee in the frosty morning breeze.

While attending Ontario College of Art (OCA), most of Jill's time was spent working with acrylic painting or developing film in the resident photography lab. In her last year, Jill was introduced to watercolour and again embraced this medium with ease, however with this new form of expression Jill found it extremely hard to paint realistically within the confines of the class, as did her classmates. It was at the time, instructor, Ms. Catherine Beaudette encouraged Jill to continue her journey with abstract, and to paint what was in her heart and not bother with what everyone else was doing.

Today, you'll find Jill Harmer still painting in her studio, nestled in the heart of Toronto's West End's, "Junction District." She has found success painting commissioned works of art as well as selling her paintings online. Beyond the bravado of Jill's work, she hopes that viewers will also be provoked by the abstraction and psychological tones of each piece. Jill encourages the viewer to enter a personal dialogue with each work. It is her belief that by inviting the audience to shape their own vision of what they see, the composition becomes more compelling. The reward of her work is, knowing that viewers have stepped through their own boundaries and left a little piece of them with the artwork. With newfound focus and determination, Jill is almost ready to show five large-scale, abstract, acrylic pieces. This fresh body of work, entitled "Words without a Song" will be shown in Toronto sometime in early 2009. To this end, Jill is represented and found on display at the Norman Felix Art Gallery, downtown Toronto, Canada.



## artist statement

Being someone that feels my surroundings and often wears my heart on her sleeve. To know that the viewers can overcome their own boundaries and discover a little piece of themselves through my artwork is reward in itself.

[www.normanfelix.com](http://www.normanfelix.com)

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