

*Lori Jusino\* Spirit Songs Art Studio \*Assemblage & Jewelry*

Bio

Asheville became a new home choice in 2013 after departing life in New York's Hudson River Valley and a ten-year sojourn in the Caribbean. The natural beauty and art culture of this area impressed us enough to begin a new season in our lives here.

Creating has been an integral part of my being that has taken various forms throughout the years; from decoupage, collage, shell works in boxes and sailors valentine jewelry, to my current love of mixed media assemblage and neckpieces which range from Inspirational to Victorian/steampunk themes. I call them songs that arise from within. Each piece has significance beyond the immediately visible. The knowledge gained from each artistic discipline has proved to be a stepping-stone to the next and has culminated in what I create today.

Yet, I press on to learn more of how to bring forth the gift in my soul from The Creator, and to share the joy of it with others along this beautiful journey of Life. My collage and assemblage work transcends into another place of faith, imagination, and whimsy. Rust or bling, natural elements or metals- all are fair game to me.

Artist Statement

My art is my voice: the expression of songs in my spirit arising into ideas of life and its seasons. To me, this concept of seasons carries an abundance of meaning. There are certain times or phases in life, and transitions that occur throughout each, that bring change from what one begins with to another form. I connect this to my creative process as I take what may appear to be disparate items and combine them to create a new whole. At times, there is a sense of loss of what went before, just as each new season in life has. Change is inevitable. It may be this knowledge that drives us to enjoy each moment, each season and still look forward to the next.

My hope is to encourage others through my art, to contemplate on and enjoy their gifting and their place in whatever season of life they are in... and to have fresh vision of the hidden beauty or possible purpose of the seemingly mundane in life, or the common, regular- even unwanted- items around them-to SEE with new eyes of possibility, the redeeming, recycling, repurposing that creates something new.

Current Affiliations

River Arts District Artists  
Fairview Area Art League

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## CV

### Workshops:

Keith Lobue "Steeling Beauty" online class; forming steel jewelry components

April 2021

Art& Soul Retreat VA. Caging Hollow Forms, Building bezels, wire caging stones, casting resin, all things resin. Susan Lenart Kazmer Oct 1-5, 2018

Jewelry- John C. Campbell Folk School April 2018

Self directed learning on metalworking 2016-2017

Bobbie Polizzi on Assemblage Sept. 2014 and March 2015

### Galleries

Trackside Studios, River Arts District, May 2024 to current date

Marquee, River Arts District, Feb. 2022 - Jan. 2023

Foundation Studios, River Arts District, Nov 2021

Woolworth Walk Art Gallery, Asheville, Upper Level March 2021-current date

Woolworth Walk Art Gallery, Asheville, Lower Level August 2020

Philip DeAngelo Studio, Jan 2020- August 2021

Juried in and waitlisted into Woolworth Walk Art Gallery 2019

Eco Depot Marketplace, River Arts District, May 2018- Dec 2019

Westside Artists Co-op, West Asheville, NC Dec. 2017 to Nov. 2018

Art Mob Studios & Marketplace, Hendersonville Dec. 2015

Jewelers Workbench, Waynesville, NC May 2013-2015

S Reynolds Design Gallery, River Arts District, Asheville, NC Oct. 2012-2013

Fusion Islena, Centro de Bellas Artes, Caquas, PR 2011

Casa Galesa, Old San Juan, PR 2009

### Festivals/Exhibitions

Re.Imagine Gallery & Studios Small Works Show, May 2024

Pop Up Shop Asheville 2016

Open Studio Tour of Henderson County, NC as Guest Artist Sept. 2015

El Portal Visitors Center, EL Yunque National Rain Forest, Luquillo, PR 2008-2011

San Juan Newcomers Small Business Group 2008

Tinglar Festival, Luquillo, PR 2008

Newspaper articles: Puerto Rico Daily Sun Nov. 28, 2008 and Dec. 24, 2008

### Certifications

Pridco- Govt of Puerto Rico, Dept. of Economic & Commercial Development –

Certificacion Artesanal Feb. 2, 2012 (aka Loretta Jusino) "Composition/Mosaics)

