

## **Wild at Heart: Recent Work by Rosemary G. Conroy**

Rosemary Conroy doesn't just paint portraits of wild animals – her artwork strives for something much deeper. “My paintings are my way of honoring and thanking these wild beings for being part of our world,” she says. “This work comes straight from my heart.”

Rosemary uses exuberant colors and brushwork to create her soulful renderings of bear, deer, owls, and other local wildlife. If you look closely, you'll also discover layers of textures and partially obscured words, which she says are her words of reverence and gratitude for each species.

“I want to honor each animal by capturing their spirit as best I can, so I strive to observe them in the wild,” says Rosemary. “I've been all over North America to study wolves, black, grizzly and even polar bears in their natural habitats.” After getting a chance to swim with humpback whales off the coast of the Dominican Republic last year, she has expanded her repertoire to include ocean species as well – which are also featured in this show.

As Rosemary points out, we humans are still animals despite the veneer of civilization. She hopes by looking into the eyes of the animals depicted in her paintings, we might rediscover that common bond - and perhaps that will lead us to re-embrace the wild animals that share this planet as part of our family once more.