

## **KEN RESEN**

### **Artist Statement**

I have a lifelong passion for visual communication and expression. Painting, drawing and design have been the outlets for that passion.

Color interaction is an important element in my work. The ways in which color defines space, form and motion have always fascinated me as has its' ability to evoke emotional response.

Line replaces color in my drawing. I use repetition, spacing variation, line direction and weight to describe space, form and motion.

Landscape space anchors my thinking . . . ambivalent space sets it free. Horizon, clearly separating land from sky . . . the real from the dreamlike, is powerful and reassuring. Blurring or visually contradicting the horizon, creating a transition or suggestion of uncertainty can be even more powerful, albeit disturbing. The forms of nature often appear in my work; grass trees, hills, mountains. Usually apparent but at times abstracted.

"Constellation", the tendency for the viewers' eye to seek and connect similar shapes and colors is an important compositional and symbolic element for me. Circles, discs (suns & moons), triangles, squares, letter forms and calligraphy often appear in my work as elements in constellation. Intense glowing blues, reds, oranges and yellows also function in this manner.

Important influences on my work are my teachers and heros; Josef Albers, James Brooks, Bernard Chaet, Alvin Eisenman, Paul Rand, Herbert Matter, Gabor Peterdi, Douglas Wilson, Van Gogh, Cezanne, Klee, Prendergast, my wife, Gail Resen and Mrs. Miles, who suggested that I try out for the High School of Music and Art.