Catherine Basten
Artist biography

Catherine Basten began drawing and painting at an early age. Her grandmother owned The Bee Hive, an office supply store on Main Street in Galena, Illinois, and she graciously supplied young Catherine with all the supplies needed to continually improve her art.

Born in Chicago, Catherine moved in the 1960s to Galena and then later East Dubuque. In the early 1970s, the family moved to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, which was filled with forests and wildlife.

Catherine set aside her art as an adult, focusing on work, family and outdoor activities. Years later she came back to art and began painting on anything she could find from wood blocks and metal to paper, ceramics, glass and furniture. She seemed to hunger to create an artistic style so she enrolled in every adult art class in the area. After attempting many styles, she discovered she enjoyed watching and depicting nature at its best. Her true calling was wildlife painting.