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## Artist Statement

When I was sixteen years old, my family home burned to the ground. Memories of that experience -- both visual and visceral -- have surfaced and found expression in Barn Series. In my new Marsh Series I continue to explore the tension between nature and elements, destruction and regeneration, juxtaposing tranquility with a fire storm. My work is about the power of transformation within nature and ourselves.

I create mixed media paintings on wood panels and use acrylic paint, charcoal, and ink and build on the composition by collaging fabric, painted paper, feathers and debris. My method of layering and juxtaposing disparate materials draws attention to the multiplicities and mysteries of nature and life.

The fire and consequent loss of everything inside my home provided a yearning to attach myself to things that last: earth, water, air, in other words, to nature, as well as to art and community.