

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Sycamore trees have intrigued me since I was a young child, living with my family in my grandmother's two-flat. We lived upstairs and had a front porch, where I could go out and marvel at the treetops. I loved living in such proximity to them and having that view of them. They were lush with their big green leaves. They made me feel happy.



When we were playing outside in the yard, I used to lie on the grass under those towering trees. As I looked up into the canopies, I would be so impressed with the many large white limbs that looked so strong with the funny, fuzzy-like seed balls swinging in the breeze. They were part of my life every day and still hold a special place in my heart.

Ours were the only majestic Sycamores on our street and I loved that. I went online recently to see that house where I lived for my first 13 years. My Sycamores are still there! That makes me happy, too!

As an adult and an artist for much of my life, I have looked for Sycamores and taken many pictures of these wonderful trees. I should have an "I Brake for Sycamores" bumper sticker on my car! They are truly a passion of mine.

For years, I have wanted to do a series of drawings or paintings of these amazing trees. It never felt like the right time to begin, but ideas for paintings have been collecting in my mind.

About a year and a half ago, I stumbled into painting the first of these images and it reignited my passion. Now is the time! I am consumed with ideas and energy for making Sycamore images.

I am happy and proud to have this opportunity to share my paintings with you. Thank you for coming to see "Odes to the Sycamore." I have loved painting them and hope you have enjoyed viewing them.

Pat Herman