

Lori Rothstein
BIO

Lori graduated from a high school in the northern suburbs of Chicago that provided a wide array of art opportunities. She took classes in the fundamentals of drawing and painting and experimented in techniques of etching and sculpture.

She attended the University of Michigan School of Art (now the Stamps School of Art & Design) in Ann Arbor for two years, where she enjoyed introductions to ceramics, watercolor, color theory, figure drawing and graphic design in a new state-of-the-art building, inspiring her interest in architecture and interior design.

Formally leaving UofM after attending a one year program in intensive interior design study at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, Lori transferred to Pratt and matriculated as a Junior, graduating with a BFA in Interior Design with honors in 1982.

At Interior Contract Furnishings (ICF) in Manhattan from 1981 to 1987, she worked as a graphic artist on their catalogs and as a designer and draftsman creating residential and commercial spaces using the company's kitchen and bathroom cabinets and their furniture line. She also designed the company's furniture display showrooms around the country. Her work at ICF offered the opportunity to create and supervise installations in apartments and offices, both simple and celebrity, in Manhattan and the surrounding area. Designing and supervising the installation of presentations at national and regional furniture fairs and supervising installation of product displays in the company's showroom displays, she traveled to cities across the US.

After a short period working in Manhattan at a different kitchen cabinet company, selling custom wood cabinets built in England (and during which time she married her husband, Dan), Lori also worked as an office systems designer and installation supervisor for WB Wood, a furniture procurement and project management organization that installed Herman Miller office systems in the Time-Life building in Manhattan and Chemical Bank branches throughout the NYC and suburban area during her tenure.

After working freelance intermittently, always sketching, raising a family with Dan, and helping him to grow their CPA business, she finally returned to fine art in earnest a few years ago. Starting with figure drawing sessions on Sunday mornings and taking a variety of art classes offered in the area, Lori worked to find her visual "voice".

Working in watercolor, acrylic, collage and multi-media, she currently paints primarily en plein air (in the open air) in oil.

Her signature "LJAR" stands for her full name, Loretta Jean Armstrong Rothstein.