

Jenn Heun & Maura Matthews



Jenn Heun

Cape May Court House, NJ

Survivor

Twist on Cancer: Anyone can be a victim of cancer. This ugly disease can turn your world upside down in seconds. You can have the perfect health, no family history of this disease, yet it still has chosen you. Yet, it does not have the power to control your spirit! Finding the slightest sense of humor during your most difficult times can be the source of your drive and continued perseverance! Laughter, love, and faith can not be taken away from you! You may not know your future in life, but your spirit and perseverance will lead you to a higher and more powerful light!

Maura Matthews

Flourtown, PA

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Artist Statement: Before we spoke or met, Jenn shared with me a Facebook video about her cancer experience. My initial reaction was “she is gorgeous!” Surrounded by friends and family, she looked strong and beautiful. The first time we spoke on the phone, Jenn was very open and forthcoming about her diagnosis and treatment. When she mentioned the “four or five large masses” discovered in her body just shy of her 40th birthday in December, I started imagining four or five areas in a painting. She then shared that she misses gardening and I decided a garden painting would be the right subject for her. The resulting painting is divided into several sections – the four light purple flowers in the foreground stand for Jenn, her husband and two children. Behind these flowers are 7 darker purple flowers, which stand for the teacher friends who have supported Jenn throughout her treatments at Cooper, as well as several other groupings of colorful flowers, symbolizing Jenn’s abundant support system, including her own inner strength. Behind all the flowers in the upper left corner is darkness – Jenn’s rare form of sarcoma – and in the upper right corner is a source of light – her faith and hope for a bright future. I paint quickly with a palette knife, trying to capture a sense of movement and vibrancy in my artwork. This painting is “Radiant”, a title fitting for a woman who amazes me by facing a physical, mental and emotional challenge with strength, optimism and humor.



27.

“Radiant”

Oil on canvas

30 x 24

\$700