

Hong Shen

Bio

Hong Shen was born in Beijing, China. During the beginning of her life, China was in the midst of the Cultural Revolution and all schools were closed. Her parents could not take care of her since most adults had to participate the Revolution, so she stayed at home by herself. To occupy her time while her parents were away, they bought her drawing pads and pencils to create art. From that moment on, she was hooked. She made artwork and wrote stories to create her own “Children’s books”. Sometimes she could finish a book in one day.

When she was able to return to school, Hong created art and wrote stories for her schools’ newspaper. As the Cultural Revolution ended and China reopened Colleges, Hong wanted to go to Art Schools. However, her parents were afraid that the Culture Revolution might return, and they thought being an artist was very risky work under that environment. So, Hong applied to Tsinghua University, the best engineering university in Beijing. She studied Aeronautical Engineering and Major in Fluid Dynamics.

After Hong received a BS degree in Engineering, she came to US and continued her engineering studies, earning her master’s degree and a PhD Degree in Engineering. Hong got a job in the Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science field and worked for many years. However, she still had a burning to create art. So, she enrolled in CCM’s Visual Art program as a part time student and for the next 5 years, she took art classes at CCM while working full time for a computer science company.

Hong’s work includes group shows in Morris County Art Association, Boonton Art Association and New Jersey Chinese School Art Association.