

**Wendy Lemen Bredehoft, *Into the Woods*, interview with Jennifer Mayer on 10/14/15**

**Birth year:** 1952

**Explanations of process and technique:**

The piece is a pastel I did in 2005. I do field studies and take my own photographs, those are just a reference for me. The advent of digital cameras has helped a lot. After I do the field studies and take photos, I go back to my studio and create the finished piece. In my field studies I try to capture the essence of color I see around me, I play with crosshatch and layers. I keep a record or recipe of colors I use in a certain crosshatch, so I can go back and create the color. There may be 10 to 30 individuals colors in a crosshatch recipe. It is an optical visualization, working with color and my eyes to mix the color. I also take notes in a journal about the weather conditions, the time of day, colors and other pieces of information to help recall the area, and how I feel emotionally and psychologically about the place—that informs my work a great deal. I love pastel for the richness and smoothness of stroke. I was searching for a way to capture texture, when I developed cross-hatching, a layering of colors.

**Inspiration or intent behind the piece:**

The inspiration was the Maine landscape. My work is informed by landscape---in my mind, my landscapes are realistic, but to others they are not—it is my interpretation. I find the woods on the east coast overwhelming, it feels like you can disappear into them.

**Content of the piece:**

This is a view of the Bar Harbor area of Maine from the rocky beach and water's edge, looking back into the woods.

**Notes:**

Needs dimensions.