



GETTING IN TOUCH WITH MY INNER SELF THROUGH ART

Nancy Topping Bazin

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INTRODUCTION

My development as an artist
is also the story of the discovery
of my “inner self.”



INTRODUCTION

The “inner self” appears to be
what emerges from the unconscious
and subconscious into a painting--
or any other work of art.



INTRODUCTION

As this “inner self” reveals itself,
it is shaped by a multitude of small
decisions by our conscious mind.



MY ART EDUCATION

Pre-school: My mother as teacher



MY ART EDUCATION

Developing my interest in art: Grades 1-12



MY ART EDUCATION

My first college art class: A negative



MY ART EDUCATION

Post-retirement art education:

Art in a supportive environment



MY ART EDUCATION

The transition from locally to
nationally-known teachers



FINDING MY “ADULT” INNER SELF THROUGH ART

Introduction:

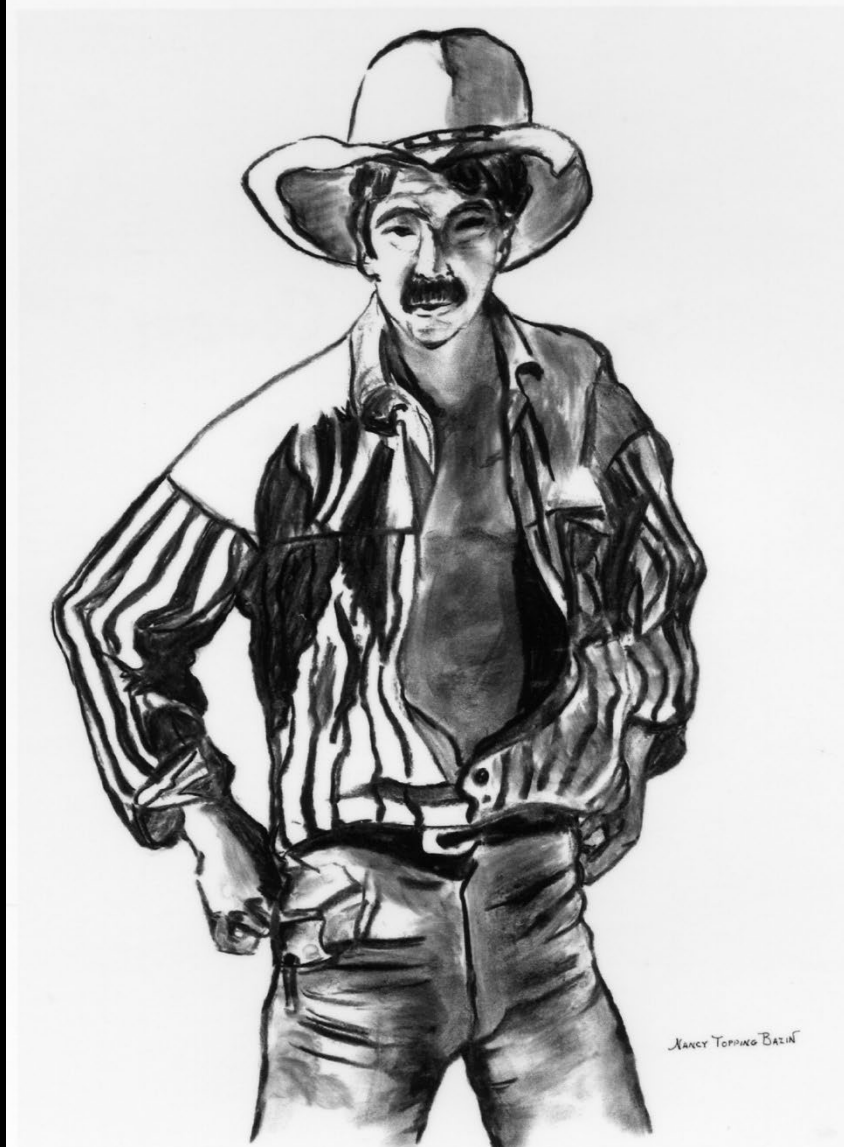
Understanding creativity



FINDING MY “ADULT” INNER SELF THROUGH ART

STEP #1: REALISM

Copying what I saw from photos



Mexican Cowboy



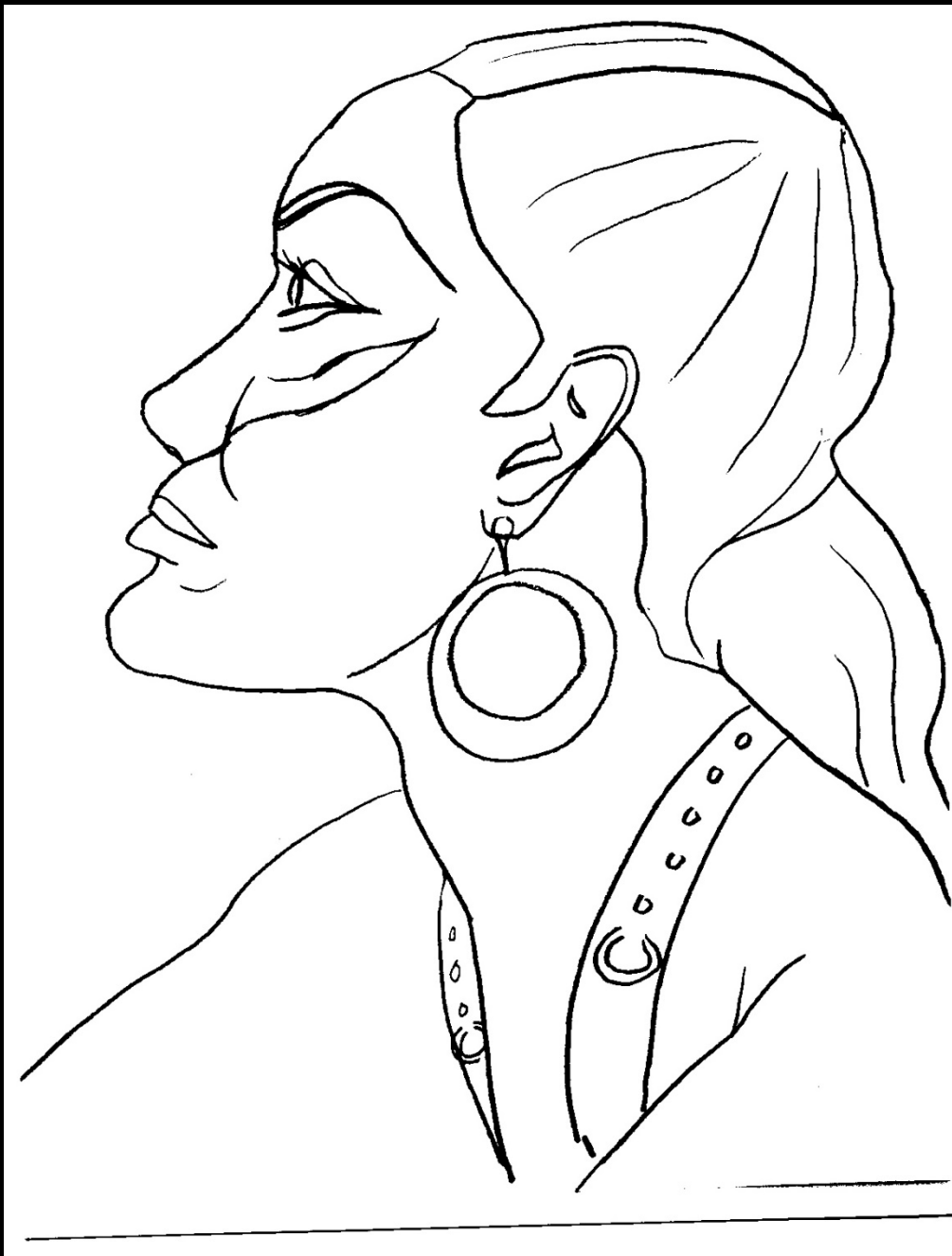
Spanish Pedestrian Bridge



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STEP #2: REALISM

Working directly from real life



**Looking Up:
Hope and Faith**



The Drummer



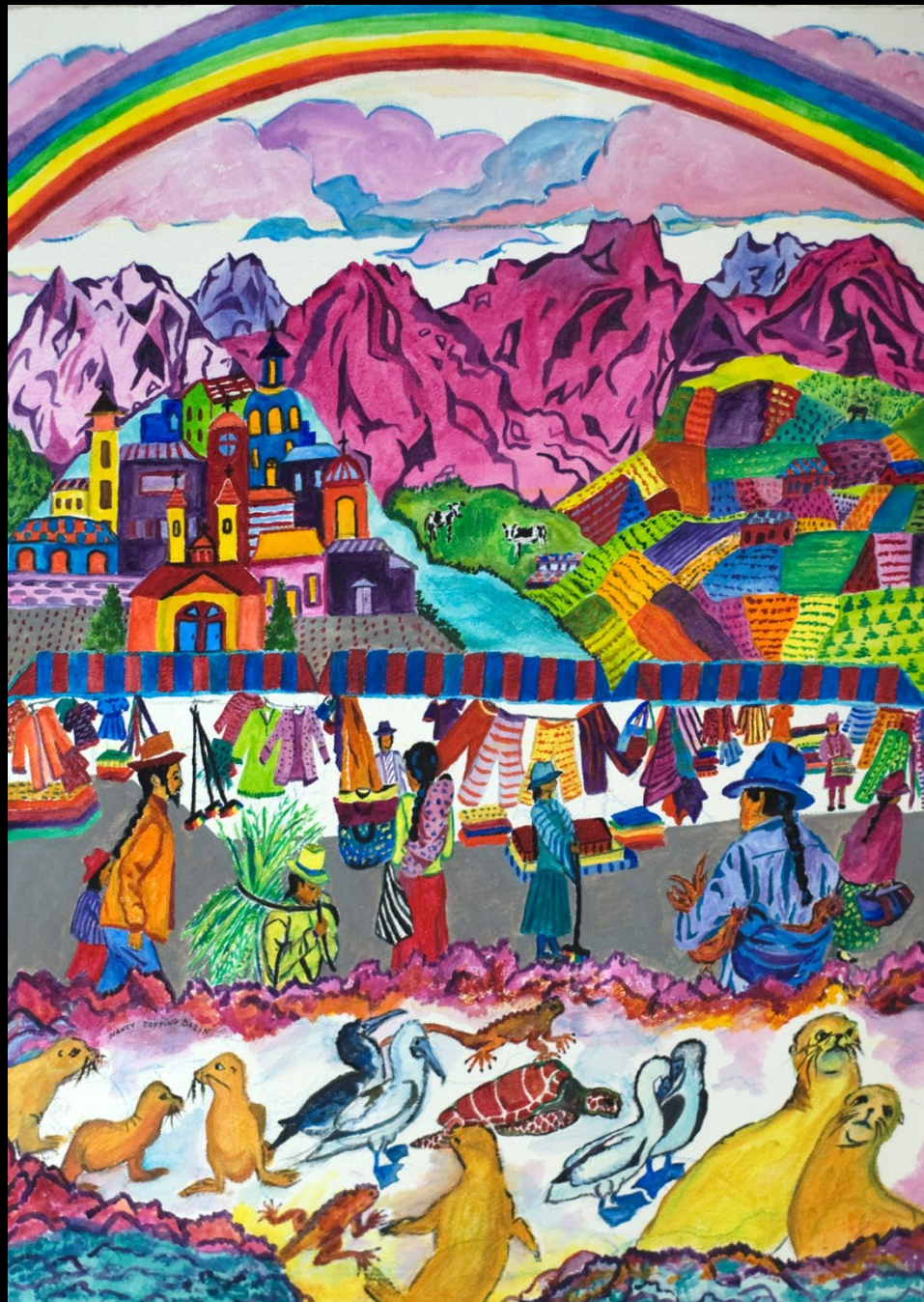
Adam Thoroughgood House in Virginia Beach



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STEP #3: COMPOSITES

Making new scenes by combining various memories and/or parts of various photographs



Ecuador Remembered



The Markets
of Otavalo



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STEP #4: DREAMSCAPES

An imagined reality



Imaginative Kids—Busy Adults



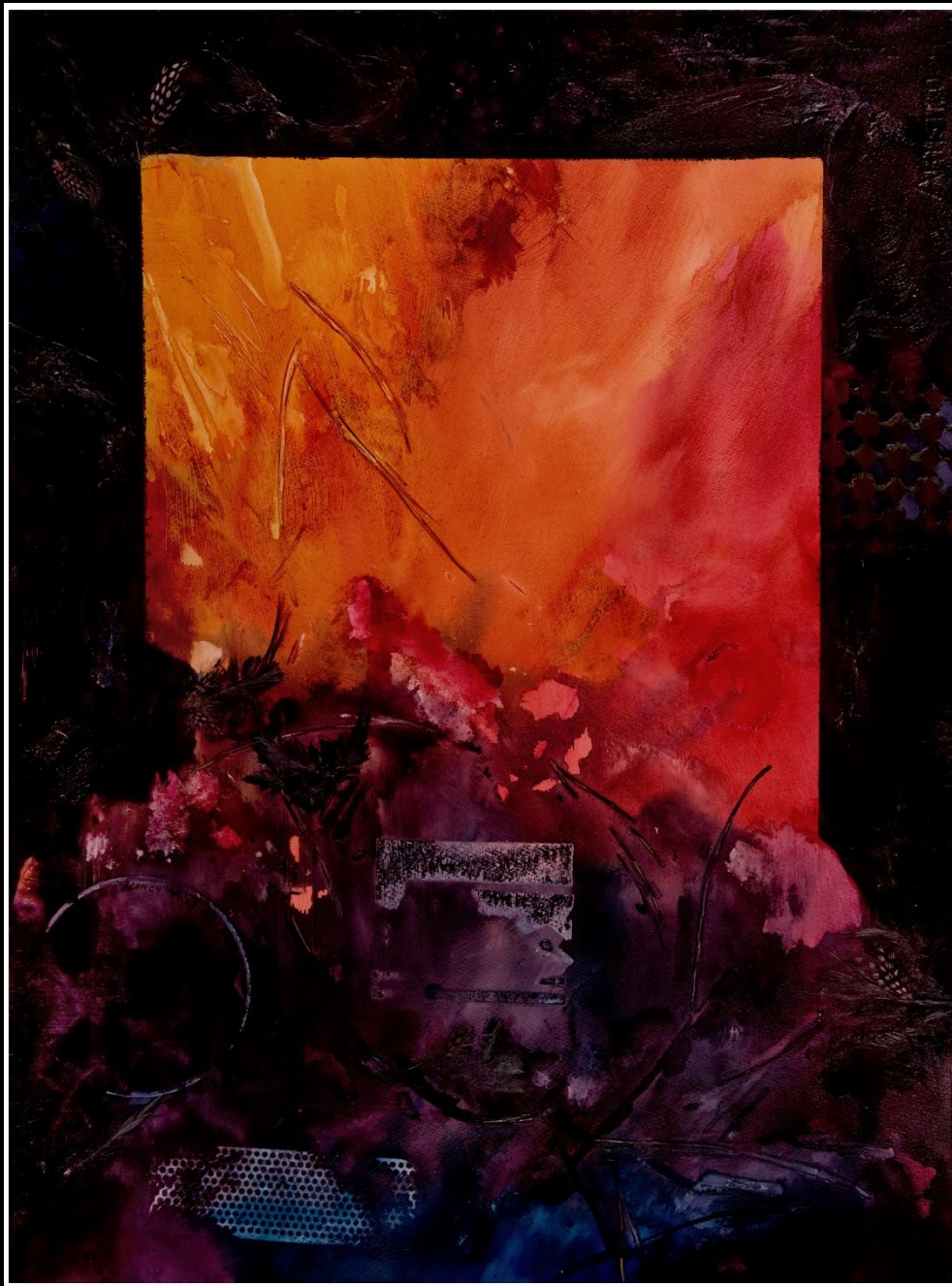
Country Scene



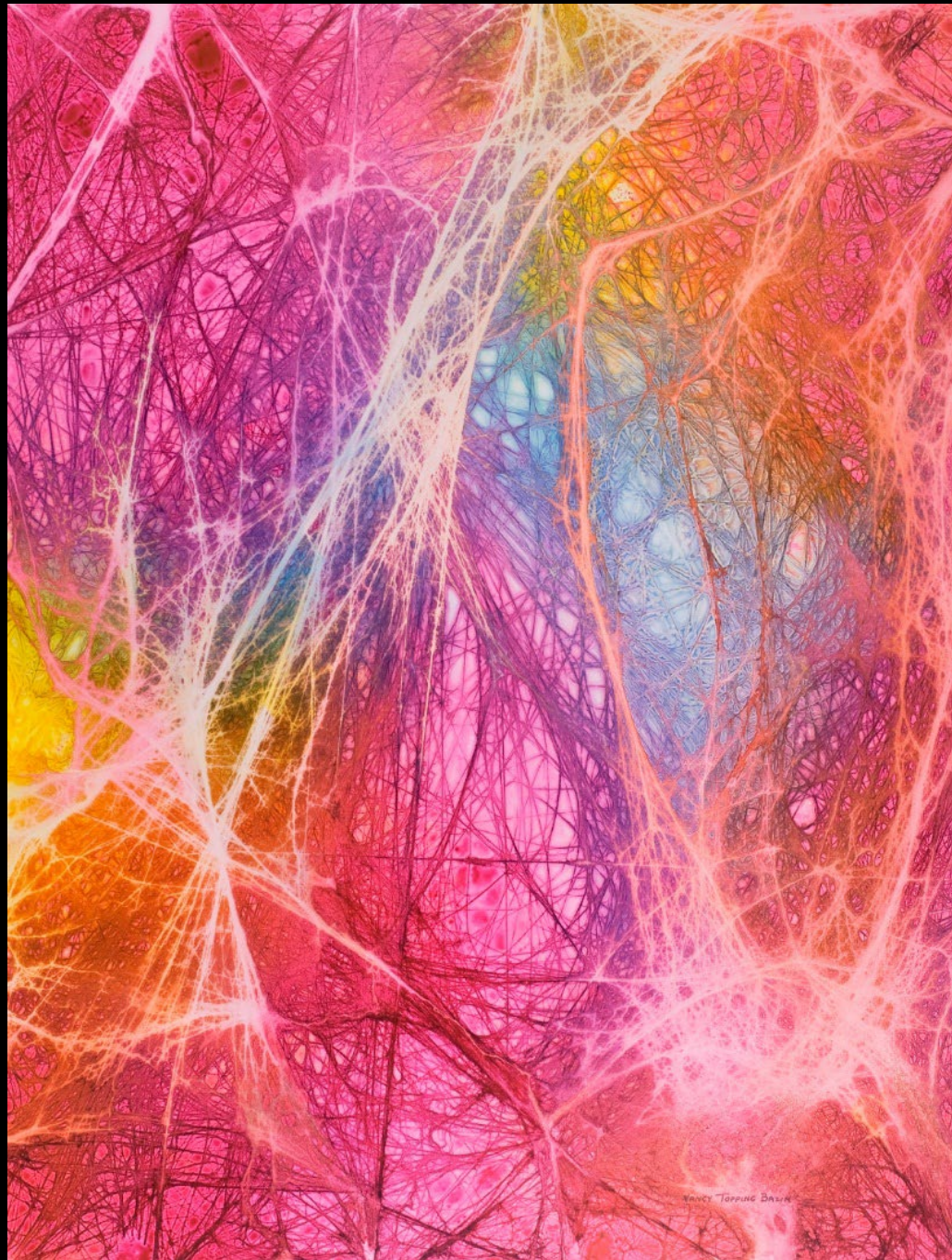
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STEP #5: NON-REPRESENTATIONAL ART

Moving toward “Non-Representational” or
“Non-Objective” paintings
popularly called “Abstracts”



**Destruction and
Rebirth**



Intricacy



FINDING MY “ADULT” INNER SELF THROUGH ART

STEP #6:
THE DISCOVERY OF WHAT IS UNIQUE IN ME

My signature subject matter and my
signature style



Cat Land



**The Musician and
the Dancing Beast**



NEW SUBJECT MATTER -- BIRDS!



Dancing Cranes

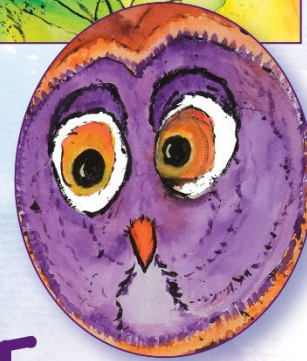


In the Rainforest



**BUT WHY DID I CONTINUE TO CHOOSE TO
PAINT BIRDS AS MY PRIMARY SUBJECT IN
EVERY WORK?**

The mystery and the
search for an answer



WHY I LOVE TO PAINT BIRDS

by Nancy Topping Bazin, Artist





The Kiss



It Takes a Village . . .



**Stockings and
Headdresses**



Who Is the Fairest of Them All?




**Frog Admiring
Feathers**



**MY LOVE FOR BIRDS AS MY SUBJECT MATTER
MAY--ON A DEEPER LEVEL--COME FROM
LONG BEFORE I WAS AN ARTIST**

- From my mother's influence



MY LOVE FOR BIRDS AS MY SUBJECT MATTER MAY--ON A
DEEPER LEVEL--COME FROM LONG BEFORE I WAS AN ARTIST

- From my way of traveling



**Birds and Insects
in Arizona**



THE EVOLUTION OF MY ART



Hurry to Safety



Mating Season



Drama in the Hummingbird World



WHIMSICAL BIRDS AS SUBJECT AND MY TECHNIQUE OF USING ALUMINUM FOIL



The Overseer



THE QUEST FOR THE UNIQUE -- A SIGNATURE STYLE AND A SIGNATURE SUBJECT



THE PERSONAL TAKES ON SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE: A POSSIBLE MESSAGE



**MY ART HAS CHANGED ME – MY
FEELINGS, FOR EXAMPLE, ABOUT BIRDS**



BIRDS AND US: IDENTIFYING WITH OUR COMMON DESTINY



Affectionate Siblings



**Watching over
Friendships**



Display, Mate,
Hatch, Parent,
Repeat



Where Are OUR Mamas?



The Chicken Dance



**THE LESSON THE BIRDS TEACH US is OUR NEED
TO CHANGE THE WAY WE SEE THE WORLD.**



**WE MUST CHANGE OUR VIEW OF THE WORLD
FROM THE CHAIN OF BEING**

**(which is an authoritarian model)
TO THE CIRCLE OF LIFE
(which suggests RESPECT AND LOVE FOR ALL).**



IN OTHER WORDS,

**OUR IMAGE OF LIFE SHOULD CHANGE FROM
THE HIERARCHY OF THE LADDER TO THE
CIRCLE OF EQUALITY.**



CONCLUSION

WHAT MY WHIMSICAL BIRDS HAVE TAUGHT
ME IS THAT WE MUST LEARN THE
OVERARCHING IMPORTANCE OF
KINDNESS
IN OUR ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR.



**THIS, THEN, IS THE LESSON I LEARNED
FROM MY INNER SELF AS IT REVEALED
ITSELF TO ME THROUGH MY ART:**

**THERE MUST BE LOVE
FOR ALL THAT IS ALIVE**



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