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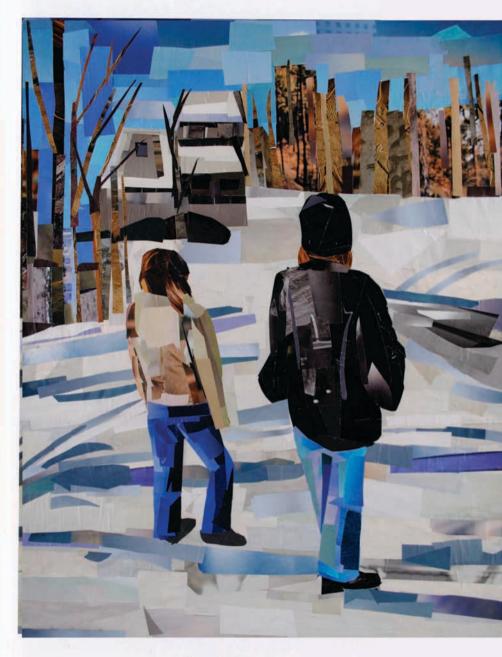
Megan Coyle

"The Hikers" is part of a series of figurative collages created for my upcoming solo exhibition. The series depicts scenes from everyday life, focusing on how individuals interact with their surroundings.

This piece also exemplifies my unique style of "painting with paper," a versatile collage technique where I recreate the look and feel of a painting through the manipulation of paper and magazine strips. Utilizing this method allows me to create pieces that capture the essence of a painting, but broadens my palette to include textures, patterns, and fragments of photographs from magazines.

Although collage is my exclusive medium, my formal training is in painting. I was once told that when I draw or paint, I shouldn't draw objects or people as I see them in my mind. Instead, I should pay attention to every detail in front of me—focusing on the shapes of colors that make up different planes. Over the years, I've continued to follow this advice and it has become a central idea behind my work.

I believe that my attachment to collage is rooted in the way that I approach every subject as an artist. I'm constantly breaking down what I see into smaller pieces, piecing together each area bit by bit, occasionally stepping back to see the work in its entirety.



The Hikers Collage, 24 x 18 inches, 2009 By Megan Coyle See commentary on page 66