

Ziya Tarapore Artist Statement

The timelessness and spirituality of Nature inspires my work. My background in woven textiles informs my paper practice, as I manipulate wet paper as though it were fabric.

To begin, I layer, meld, wet and dye recycled paper or freshly pulled handmade paper, to form shapes. I then scrape and tear the surface to create texture, adding intense color, and sculptural depth by combining the wet paper with pulp, encaustic, acrylic paint, matte medium and sometimes wax crayon.

My artwork challenges the viewer to consider the irony of my subject matter and chosen media, as the trees and natural forms I evoke, are displaced to make the paper medium itself.

While my art references trees and other natural forms like water and fire, it is ultimately paper, in all its sumptuousness, pliability and aesthetic possibility that becomes my primary statement.