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*Framing the Garden Landscape*

Artist: Carole Carrera Davis  
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Split bamboo pieces mixed with some artistic reed-like materials marked "Clearance" were more than this artist could resist even without a single idea for their purpose. These colorful bundles have stood propped in the corner of my studio for over a decade until this project was announced. This artistic "frame" was an easy idea conceptually but trickier to execute because painting is my forte. Weaving with rigid material was a bit of a challenge. This frame is suspended with fishing line and I have tied colorful threads and yarns in the corners to offer a playful element and create more movement in the breeze. This fanciful see-through sculpture helps frame a garden landscape from both sides. I conceived the idea from my many visits to the garden to paint and sketch the endless compositional possibilities. Look around and take time to find your own garden landscape with or without a frame.

#### Biography

Ms. Davis graduated with a BA in art from Virginia Tech in 1978, and has painted primarily with watercolor and other water media throughout her career. Her interest in plants, flowers and gardens came from occasional childhood responsibilities of weeding, picking flowers and harvesting vegetables in her mother's small garden in Arlington. Best known for her very colorful, larger-than-life images of flowers and plants, she has always enjoyed painting what she cannot grow in her garden. The idea to "plant your walls" came when she discovered that local deer enjoyed feasting on all manner of flowers and bushes in her garden landscape. Deer must eat, so it became easier and far less frustrating for her to create beautiful images of flowers on paper and canvas for indoor enjoyment year round. She continues to paint strong compositions using flowers and plants as some of her favorite imagery.

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