

## Artist's Statement

Space exploration has always fascinated me. Orbiting the earth, landing on the moon, it all made me realize that our planet earth was special, fragile and beautiful. The more I learned about art and the artists who came before me, the more I became immersed in imagining and creating worlds of my own. The diversity of our tiny planet is the background for my creations. I began collecting things that were old, used and unique. Old photos, prints, dolls, feathers, maps, bird nests, skeletons, etc. These objects had histories, objects that were owned and used by others and discarded. At one time, those objects meant something to someone. Now they meant something to me and I wanted them to mean something to others, again.

The process I use is somewhat accidental. By displaying as much of my vast collection that I have room for on shelves and walls, I find something that interests me, as if it's the beginning of a story that wants to be told. I find other objects that begin to add to the story, then it comes together. I try many different backgrounds, adding color and finally the size and shape of the box the story wants to be in.

Spheres are prominent elements in all of my work and, at times, black for the overall color or background represents space, emptiness and vastness. It helps to show off how special the objects are. Just like planet earth.

### **Bill Pilling**