

Encarstic Care
SUSAN WEEKES

Encaustic paintings are made with melted beeswax and dammar resin, to which oil pigments have been added. These paintings are extremely archival, but, as with any fine art, care should be given to them. There should be no fear of the work melting in normal household conditions. The wax and resin will not melt unless exposed to temperatures over 150 degrees Fahrenheit. Leaving a painting in a car on a hot day would not be advisable, or hanging a painting in front of a window with direct desert-like sun. They are also sensitive to freezing cold temperatures.

Some encaustic colours tend to "bloom" or become cloudy, as the wax cures during the first year. If your painting appears cloudy or has lost its shine, simply rub the surface with a soft cloth or nylon stocking. After buffing a few times, the painting will develop a beautiful high gloss finish that will last.

No glass is needed on the painting, and if used, you will not be able to see how the light reacts on the surface of the painting, or the beauty of the luminous layered wax that is unique to encaustic paintings. If you decide to frame your painting, a float frame is recommended.

NANCY JOHNS GALLERY & FRAMING 4755 WYANDOTTE ST. E. WINDSOR, ON. N8Y 1H8

WWW.NANCYJOHNS.COM