

BETHANY ARTS

JEFF BENESI

EAST MEETS WEST



Artist Statement and Bio

As Bethany's new Arts Elder, I am introducing myself by exhibiting this series of collages entitled, EAST MEETS WEST.

The inspiration for this series was from a trip to Turkey, that my wife Kay and I took in 2013. The sights, sounds, smells, music, food, architecture, landscape, and people of that country had a profound impact on me. The long history of Turkey has been interlaced with layers of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. I found it fascinating. In making these collages I was remembering my impressions of what I experienced in Turkey, by arranging shapes, colors, and patterns. The collages are an assemblage of recycled paper material collected over many years of making art.

Besides assembling collages, I also enjoy drawing, painting, printmaking, and making metal sculpture. Along with Kay, we have been operating Colorwheel Studio, a children's art school, since 1990. In my day to day professional life I have been a practicing landscape architect and urban designer for the past 50 years. Currently I am working at Hewitt Architects in downtown Seattle.

As Arts Elder, I would like to encourage anyone from the congregation who has an interest in exhibiting or sharing their work, to please contact me at jeffb47@q.com. This could be any type of visual arts, writing, poetry, improv, dance, or whatever creative endeavor you are pursuing. It would be wonderful to have more people share their gifts and talents with our Bethany community.



Beneš 20x









Exhibit 0014