

Cynthia Mulvaney

Propeller #36: "FLY"

The history of flight is what inspired me for the painting of my propeller. The painting style I enjoy so much is called 'trompe l'oeil' which means 'fool the eye'! I hope you enjoy the paintings I've made of photographs, stamps, coins, pins and toys, painted as trompe l'oeil, which hopefully will make you want to reach out and pick each item up because they look like the 'real deal'!

In thinking about the inspirational work that Angel Flight pilots do each day, I thought of the other brave and inspiring pioneers throughout flight history..starting with the Wright Brothers who took an idea that some thought was impossible, they didn't let anything stop them from believing in their dream of flight and look where it led! From there, Charles Lindberg showed the world that long-distance nonstop flight was possible. With the brave men in wartime, especially those in WWII, who fought for freedom, I honor them in 'photographic form'. Of course, in New Mexico, it's important to have mention of the ultimate in 'long distance flight'... the aliens from Roswell! I've painted tongue-in-cheek alien twins (as plastic keychains held on to the propeller by a pushpin..their mother ship taking off in the distance next to them!) Maybe someday we will have real contact (tipping the hat to the VLA and Jodie Foster!) The brave men who were willing to give all, Colonel Paul Tibbets who completed what was begun here in New Mexico at the Trinity site with atomic bomb development and Chuck Yeager, who did what had never been done before in breaking the sound barrier through flight..wouldn't the Wright brothers have been so amazed by what had been accomplished in the short time from their very first flight!

And today, this heroism and selflessness along with great love, care and compassion, is seen in the work that each and every pilot in the Angel Flight program do in helping others and using their gift of flight to be the wind beneath the wings of so many people in need. I hope my work commends and honors them.

