

# Artist's Statement – Marny Lawton



## Edible Gems :: Making a Virtue of Necessity (Chaucer)

*Converting all back to that primal well from which it was derived, 'tis sooth to tell. And against this, for every thing alive, of any state, avails it not to strive. "Then is it wisdom, as it seems to me, to make a virtue of necessity, ...*

*Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales - The Knight's Tale*

An imperative structure for my work is finding subject matter that is both meaningful and challenging. Finding a meaningful subject, and the tactile nature of art, helps me make connections to the difficult relationship between nature and humanity.

I paint what I am close to, what is around me all the time – people, the earth, and its resources that we take so for granted. My focus is on drawing and painting in still life and landscapes observing people and our environment. My influence has been the work of 15th and 17th century Flemish artists for their exquisite clarity, depth and richness of color, light and detail.

The pragmatist has said of my work – there is '*no virtue like necessity*'.

*Marny Lawton*

<http://www.hamptonhillgallery.com>