



## **Rene Eisenbart**

*Pacific Madrone Arbutus Menziesii*

I sketched this piece referencing a branch snipped from our backyard — which was crucial in getting the color. Years ago I'd spotted this young tree growing along our driveway and transplanted it. I also used photographs of my sons climbing madrone trees when they were young, as we camped on islands off British Columbia. I included the varied thrush eating madrone berries to illustrate the madrone's usefulness as wildlife habitat. Unfinished, it traveled in my suitcase to Italy where I was teaching a painting workshop. There I completed it and sent the image for jurying by email. It is painted in watercolor on a full sheet of 300# paper, varnished and coated in archival acrylic.