

Visions of Angels



TODAY'S ARTISTS ARE CREATING
PICTURES OF ANGELS
THAT LOOK NOTHING LIKE
MICHAELANGELO'S CHERUBS.

Cynthia Stibolt

ANGELS OF THE FUTURE

While she's always been a spiritual person, Cynthia Stibolt didn't set out to paint angels. She'd been intrigued by the image, certainly, and had crafted almost cartoon-like angel images with little brush strokes once for a party. But painting angels was not something she was consciously trying to do. Mainly, in fact, she painted landscapes.

But when she began to pray for some newness, some change in her life, she felt a "spiritual prompting" to move to New Mexico. And she did. Then she undertook possibly

one of the most important projects of her life: She had a studio built. Several things make her studio special. It was built, she says, on sacred ground—land that had never been built on. Before breaking ground, she, the architect, the contractor and an Indian elder, a friend, petitioned the land to accept the building, actually going to the site to do this. "We asked permission to build there," Cynthia states. "We asked the spirit world to accept this building, to recognize it, so that they would come to help." The building itself was designed and built according to sacred geometry—a way of aligning a building

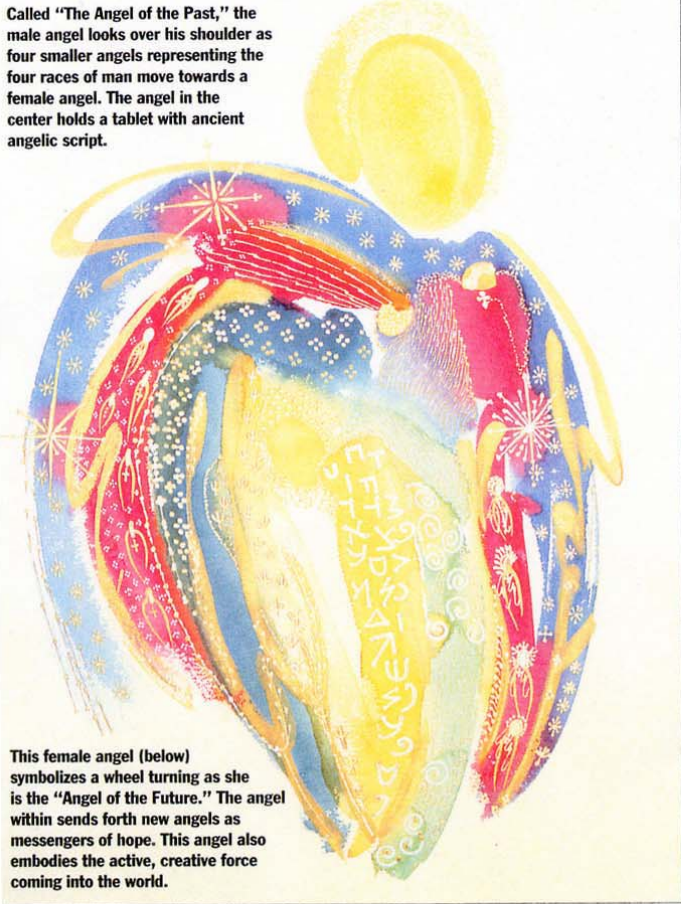
in order to connect it with another dimension, a doorway, if you will, for energy to come through, she explains. The studio has a huge skylight right in the center. It is under the skylight that Cynthia paints.

It's also this building, she believes, that has inspired her to paint her angels. "It was a surprise," she admits, referring to her change in focus from landscapes to angels. "These angel designs started to come in groups of three and then single figures. Now I'm painting them more like clouds or groups. I really believe that the studio has made it all possible."

Cynthia acknowledges another

Contemporary Artists

Called "The Angel of the Past," the male angel looks over his shoulder as the four smaller angels representing the four races of man move towards a female angel. The angel in the center holds a tablet with ancient angelic script.



This female angel (below) symbolizes a wheel turning as she is the "Angel of the Future." The angel within sends forth new angels as messengers of hope. This angel also embodies the active, creative force coming into the world.



inspiration, too, that helps her create: music. When first walking into her studio you might expect to hear an ethereal New Age stream of sounds. Instead, Cynthia chooses to listen to Brazilian jazz—B.B. King and Diane Schorr, for example. "New Age music is too mellow for me," she says, laughing. "The accelerated beat of jazz tunes you in at a higher frequency. I need to get into a state of joy. Then I can really work."

Despite her enthusiasm for her angels now, she was a little astounded by her creations in the beginning, she says, but she had to learn to trust her instincts. That wasn't

The "Angel of the Present" (below) looks directly forward and embodies the strength of the Christ energy with every color of the rainbow. There are also thirteen smaller angels, the number of the Cosmic Christ.



easy, though, because in 1982 when she began painting angels, no one else was doing the same thing. "I had to get over my feelings of awe."

Now she begins each day by asking the angels to help her in any way that they see fit during the day. "It gives them permission to help," she explains.

While she hasn't seen an angel face to face—only in her own paintings—she believes that the angels she paints are real, that they do exist. "People will come into my studio and they'll walk right up to a painting and say that they recognize a particular angel."

Paintings range in price from \$550 to \$3,000. Also available: Serigraphs \$150 unframed; \$250 framed. Nicho boxes (like little altars) ranging from \$250 to \$750. And there are T-shirts in all sizes ranging from \$7.00 to \$14.00. Paintings can be purchased through Angels & Us, Portland, Oregon, 503-239-5330 and Lumina Gallery, Taos, New Mexico, 505-758-7282. For information on T-shirts, contact Cynthia Stibolt and Company at Route 10, Box 136, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501 or call her at 505-471-1673. ❧