

Biography: Dixie Salazar

California artist Dixie Salazar was born in Chicago, Illinois and studied art at California State University, Fresno. Also an author, activist, and educator, she has been a working artist and writer for more than forty years. Her work has been described as rich in the color and iconography of her Spanish heritage, with a passion for life. Her paintings are a combination of flowing forms, vivid color, and strong design elements, often imbued with mystery and ambiguity. Her work sometimes accesses found objects and appropriated images from old advertisements, coloring books and other historical sources.

Salazar works in many media including oil painting, acrylics, watercolor, collage, and photography. Her work has been shown extensively on the West Coast, including exhibits in San Francisco, Sacramento, Las Vegas, New York, the Merced Multicultural Art Museum, Arte Americas, Fresno, The Fresno Art Museum and Fresno City Hall.

Dixie is a successful poet and published author, publishing her first novel, LIMBO in 1995, and three volumes of poetry, HOTEL FRESNO, REINCARNATION OF THE COMMONPLACE, and BLOOD MYSTERIES by University of Arizona Press. Her volume of poetry, FLAMENCO HIPS AND RED MUD FEET was published by University of Arizona Press in 2010. ALTAR FOR ESCAPED VOICES is now available from Tebot Bach. Her newest novel is a young adult fantasy titled CARMEN AND CHIA MIX MAGIC. All titles are available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Her recent projects include a photographic exhibit of a homeless encampment in Fresno and serving on the board of the Eco Village Project and the Dakota Eco Garden, which provide sustainable, green housing for the homeless in a community environment. She's also active in Fresno Filmworks. Some of Dixie's awards include a Horizon Award and Award of Excellence from the National Women's Political Caucus. Her work was chosen in a very competitive bidding process to be included in Renaissance Housing Project for the homeless, sponsored by the Fresno Housing Authority in 2012. In 2014, Dixie's work won Best of Show and a First and Second place in the Fresno Arts Council Juried Show. In the Sierra Art Trails juried show, she also won Best of Show in 2014.