

**Hilda Green Demsky** is an artist who was born on the banks of the Susquehanna River near Forty Fort, a small town in the anthracite coal mine region of Pennsylvania. The Susquehanna flooded her childhood home several times, and the water was so polluted that the fish were often dead or unhealthy to eat. Also, the coal mines under her town caused homes to sink and fouled the air. These conditions had a profound effect on Hilda's art and her thinking about the environment and the conditions of global water.

Hilda studied art with the same art teacher from first through twelfth grade. She went on to study art at the Carnegie Institute of Technology (later Carnegie Mellon University) in Pittsburgh, PA. After the first year of college, she got a summer job as a graphic artist at WBRE Television station in Wilkes Barre, PA where she created advertisements, acted as a co-host for a game show, and made two commercials.

After graduating from Carnegie Tech with a BFA in Painting, Hilda headed to New York City. Her first job was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she sold books and prints. The salary was too small for survival in New York City, so she began to teach art on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. She acquired a fourth floor sky lighted studio and began studying for a Masters degree at Hunter College.

While teaching art in New York City, Hilda married Sy Demsky. They had two children, Bradford and Jordana, and moved to Larchmont. The children attended public schools, and the family became active members of LT. While teaching art at White Plains High School, Hilda was awarded the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship in memory of the teacher-astronaut. She was also awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship to paint in Italy.

Hilda's current paintings are colorful landscapes of water and reflections. She paints in oil on canvas and sometimes, on transparent plastic or metal. The vibrant blues and greens allude to light, air, and water. Hilda presents the flow of life which mirrors the flow of her own life from the Susquehanna River to her family, to her world travels, and back to her life in New York.