

# THE NATURE OF WHOLENESS

Laura Ruprecht



September 5 - October 10, 2025

Benedict and Dorothy Gorecki Gallery Lounge  
Benedicta Arts Center

In *The Nature of Wholeness*, Laura Ruprecht uses hand-cut stained-glass mosaics to explore the fragility, resilience, and evolving rhythms of life. Each piece reflects her deep connection to nature and the human experience, where brokenness and healing coexist. Through luminous surfaces and fractured forms, she invites viewers to find beauty in imperfection and meaning in the act of becoming whole.

## CONNECT

TOPICS AND THEMES THIS EXHIBITION ENGAGES WITH:

- Storytelling
- Symbolism
- Pattern
- Mosaic
- Nature
- Repetition
- Stained Glass

## ONLINE RESOURCES

<https://www.csbsju.edu/fine-arts/visual-arts/>  
<https://www.lauralizmosaicbiz.com/>  
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ets/index.html/>  
@lauralizmosaicbiz

## ENGAGE

A mosaic is more than a method of artmaking; it is a metaphor for life, identity, and community. Each piece may appear insignificant or incomplete on its own, but when arranged with intention alongside others, it contributes to something greater than itself. This highlights the beauty of diversity, collaboration, and the complexity of the human experience. Like people, ideas or memories, each fragment matters because of how it fits into the whole.

- In what ways do you think mosaics, as an art form, reflect ideas about identity, healing, or community?
- Think of a challenge or experience you've had. If it were a piece of mosaic, what larger story would it help tell?

Laura uses her mosaics to tell personal, autobiographical stories. Instead of depicting herself directly, she expresses her experiences, emotions, and personal growth through the use of symbolic animal figures and visual metaphors. The animals often reflect moments in her life where observation, memory, and emotion intersect. By giving these animals halos, she elevates them to a sacred or spiritual status, suggesting a deeper connection between self-reflection and universal themes. Each mosaic becomes a self-portrait but not of her appearance, but of her soul, values, and life journey.

- Why might someone choose a symbolic or metaphorical image instead of words to express themselves?
- Think of an experience that was important in your life. What image, symbol, or animal could represent it?

My journey to becoming an artist has been anything but linear. While I studied painting in college, I eventually discovered mosaic art and found a new vice through the medium. Leaving a job at an arts organization was a leap of faith, but one that allowed me to dedicate myself fully to creating. My art practice is a daily commitment, even if the form varies, where sometimes I'm sketching/researching ideas, preparing materials, or applying for grants. Staying motivated as an artist means continuing to explore curiosity, connecting with others in the field, and finding meaning in the subjects I choose. Networking happens organically through teaching, community projects, and sharing work online, but it all centers on staying authentic to what moves me artistically.

- Why is it important for artists to have a regular art practice, even if they're not creating finished pieces every day?
- What might it feel like to take a risk and pursue a creative path full-time?
- How do artists stay motivated and inspired over time?