



*THE SPIRIT OF PLACE
NORTH DAKOTA*



Preceding page and above:
North Dakota One
Stoneware 82"x12"x1"

Artist's Statement

My father, John F. Wagner, died on September 1, 2000. During the past year, I've thought about the wisdom he gained during his lifetime and have come to believe that a good part of it was attributable to the North Dakota landscape. He loved to drive those roads and was usually able to find work that permitted it. The endless long views, the moving fields, the big sky, and the quiet rhythms encouraged, I believe, a form of moving meditation that allowed a deeply quiet wisdom to emerge. These pieces are a tribute to him and that landscape. In making them, I found that the openness and simplicity of the landscape demanded a new quiet in me, as well.

R Wagner



Preceding page:
Driving North Dakota
Stoneware 55"x17"x1"

North Dakota View
Detail of tile #3
Stoneware 58"x11"x1"



North Dakota View
3 of 5 pieces
Stoneware 58"x11"x1"

Roberta Wagner

Roberta Wagner began painting in 1986, creating "...images of landscape, places imagined and places remembered ...soft washes of color traced with luminescence become the shifting tones of an evening sky, a marsh at dawn, or a prairie..." said Eleanor Kennelly, who writes for Art and Auction magazine. In 1994 her love of clay and glaze effects lead her in an intensive study of glaze chemistry in order to be able to paint with glaze.



She says, "Many years ago, I found *The Internal World of Gemstones* by E. Gubelin, which contains color photographs of gemstones under microscopes. Their dazzling color, magnificent crystalline structures and fractal imagery has been an inspiration ever since. Those images are also present in many glazes and that is what I love about working with clay."

Ms. Wagner is an avid gardener and recognizes the importance of landscape on the human spirit. Her ability to absorb the essence of "place" and represent it in paintings and clay has led to the creation of *The Spirit of Place* series. She is currently working on Virginia and Cape Cod. She welcomes commissions for both in and outdoors.

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