



# Mindy Green *Expressing a new order*

By Stephen Sawicki

**M**indy Green resisted her passion for years. She had loved art since she was young and long harbored a dream of being a portrait painter. But going ahead and actually becoming an artist was something she denied herself. On some level she felt undeserving of such a life. “I think I had a warped view of what I should do versus what was in my heart and soul to do,” she says.

After working for years at a research and consulting firm, marrying, and starting her family, Mindy took a class at the Silvermine Guild Arts Center in New Canaan. That led to some of her paintings being exhibited in the student gallery. And that, in turn, prompted a telephone call from a couple in Weston who had seen her work and asked if she would paint a portrait of their family.

“I’d been pushing it aside all those years,” Mindy says of her

artistic impulse. “Then the minute I got out there to paint, a couple months later, I had a commission. I don’t know if you look for signals in your life, but I kind of said, ‘Hello,’ that maybe it was time.”

Of Mindy’s strengths as an individual, artist and teacher, the most telling may be her ability to recognize and welcome the gifts that life offers. Her palette includes a spirituality that serves to heighten the creative process. “She’s open to all the forces in the universe and she’s inspired by them,” agrees Paula Fortuna of Rowayton, one of her adult students. “It’s typical to think of an artist as someone who’s not thinking in the box, but she embodies that in her entire life. She’s always thinking of ways to accept — it’s almost pure acceptance of everything and everyone — and how to incorporate it into her scheme of life.” »