



Big Brush stroke by Barbara Bash

I decorated a mailbox for the Stone Ridge Library fundraiser this year with the intention of using one of my brush strokes for inspiration.

The process was trickier than I expected - how to move from two dimensions to three ? I knew I couldn't paint directly on the primed surface with my large brushes - too drippy - so I found a stroke on paper that I had already made and wrapped it around the box to see if it fit. Then I spread charcoal on the back and transferred the basic shape onto the surface. First with black acrylic, which connected with the primer but was not a rich enough black, then with Japanese sum ink on top of that, I followed the path of the actual stroke, building up and re-creating the brush forms.

On one side I added a stroke of vermilion to enliven -
the other side had the red flag .
Here is how it turned out !

