

I have always been interested in the fine arts. When I was 11 years old, I went to the Metropolitan Museum and was impressed by the Rembrandt portraits. I felt like the eyes followed me! This experience remained with me, and became the foundation of my fascination with art.

I was encouraged by my high school art teacher to study art and design in college. I majored in advertising art & design at SUNY for two years, then transferred to RIT to study photography. When I realized that as a graphic artist/photographer I would be required to live in a city, I decided to pursue the life of a craftsman. I became a potter after studying and attending workshops. I was able to move to the beautiful Berkshires and was a successful potter for 17 years. I painted florals and landscapes on white porcelain, so it was a natural progression to paint with oils on canvas when I was ready to explore other areas of artistic expression.

My landscapes are an attempt to capture the effects of fading light. The elusive hours of dawn and twilight, when light is just washing over the landscape, are the most interesting to me. –that intrinsic something that is never definable, but always recognizable when seen.

I rarely paint on location. When I do, it's usually to make color studies to use as reference for future paintings. Since we all have an internal sense of landscape, many of my paintings come from memories of things I've seen and thought to be interesting. I am fascinated by low light conditions when the landscape dissolves into misty half-seen forms.

On any given day, I could be painting from life, my imagination, photo references, or any combination. After my initial inspiration, I rarely refer to my reference. Something internal takes over, and the painting becomes the force which directs me. My still lifes are done from life.

Artists have the gift to make people see the underlying beauty and poetry in everyday life, and to make ourselves and others aware of the wonders of being alive. The joy of being an artist is being able to take the time to explore the things that interest us personally and share that vision with others.

I've had the good fortune to study with talented artists:

David Gray- still life, portraiture

Dennis Sheehan- landscape

Casey Baugh- portraiture

Clayton Beck- still life, figure, portraiture

Susan Godwin- still life

John Lundquist- still life