

My initial creative pursuits were in the field of photography, having spent more than a decade behind the lens of a 4 x 5 field camera after a year of study in Colorado. I credit that time as essential to my painting work which would come many years later. The world is upside and reverse on a 4 x 5 lens, which allowed the development of my eye and sense of composition. This period was also a time of great self-discovery.

In the late 1980's I started exploring the Maine landscape with my 4 x 5 in tow, having lived in coastal Delaware for many years where I built custom fishing rods. After several long-term trips to Maine staying in car and tent, I moved to Mount Desert Island in the mid 1990's which has been my home since. It was at this time I became interested in painting, initially working in watercolor. After several years of this work, I moved into working with oil, my current medium of choice.

The landscape is at the heart of my interests. It is my philosophy that nature and the experiences we have absorbed within nature are sustaining, essential to our human condition. On a personal level, without this connection I feel unsettled, disconnected from the lifeline of energy that connects all things. As a result, my work explores this connection, examining the landscape by way of transition, movement and energy, through color, composition and application of paint. I attempt to translate the essence of my personal experiences in nature.

While I work largely from the memory, I do use photography to aid in recall and as a compositional starting point. Color decisions are made in the studio as a work progresses and evolves. Of late, my process seems an exercise in meditation as the painting dictates direction. I find the process of creating a painting, a deeply personal journey which resonates more with me than I imagine the finished piece ever could for a viewer. The process enriches my life experience, allowing me to move forward with interest and enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

I am self-taught, inspired by a large group of artists and movements, though with particular affinity for artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, Marsden Hartley, Arthur Dove, The Group of Seven and The German Expressionists. My paintings have been included in such publications as "The Art of the Maine Winter", "Art of Katahdin", "The Art of Acadia" and "The Gettysburg Review". Public collections include The Maine Coast Heritage Trust, The United States Department of the Interior, and The United States General Services Administration, M. C. Smith Federal Building