

Art of Bryan Briscoe Biography

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Works by Bryan Briscoe span from the real to the abstract. In his work you can often find subjects relating to his strong spiritual bond to people, nature, flora and fauna. Bryan paints to the subject and not any particular style. In fact he draws and paints based on a feeling or an emotional attachment to his subjects that he strives to communicate to the public. His most recent work is created based on pure self-expression.

Born in San Diego, California, moving around the country with his close-knit siblings, Bryan had numerous sources of encouragement to pursue his art and especially from his Mom.

Mrs. Condran, Bryan's high school teacher, in Middletown PA, noticed his art talents when he placed finalist, in his sophomore year, in the National Scholastic Art Contest, for his single watercolor entry *Snow Scene*. The same year Bryan also sold one of his first watercolor paintings, *Vase of Flowers*, to one of his Mom's child care clients.

During his junior and senior years, at Middletown Area High School, he received two scholarships to study printmaking, charcoal and pastel drawing. He studied Pastel and Charcoal drawing at York Academy of Arts, (York Pennsylvania). And studied Printmaking at Harrisburg Community College, (Harrisburg Pennsylvania).

Also during his senior year of High school Bryan took a community watercolor class in the Paxton Fire Station, instructed by the late watercolor artist Mr. Petrasic, (Paxton Pennsylvania). Mr. Petrasic's watercolor class enhanced Bryan's watercolor painting skills. He learned better use of color, color mixing and four proven basic watercolor techniques.

Nearing his high school graduation, Bryan placed first, in his art class competition, for his single entry sculpture design, *Reflections*, a three-part freestanding sculpture project. Mrs. Condran, then Bryan's High School art teacher, encouraged Bryan to present *Reflections* along with his classmate, Robin Harry, to the City of Middletown to secure funding for construction. Within weeks *Reflections* was awarded a grant, from the town of Middletown, and Bryan and his classmates completed it during the summer of 1979. ("*Reflections*" was built to enhance the outside front of Middletown Area High School).

After high school graduation Bryan spent three years in the US Army. He was stationed at Fort Lewis, WA, his home base, as a supply clerk. Bryan was also asked to create graphics at the Battalion level, on an as needed basis. In order to satisfy his creative drive, Bryan created original handmade pottery to express his emotions, at the Fort Lewis Arts & Crafts Center

Bryan also volunteered and worked as a theater artist, at the Chinook Theatre for the Performing Arts. He painted large stage set scenes and small acrylic paintings for stage sets, in particular "Three Bags Full." Bryan was later paid for all of his artwork. And in 1982, his last year of servicing the Armed Forces, his work was put in the collection of the Chinook Theatre for the Performing Arts, at North Fort Lewis, WA.

His last year of active duty, (Fort Lewis, WA), Bryan entered the All Army National Art contest and received 2nd place, at the national level, for his watercolor painting, *Alto Dale Farm*, now part of the All Army National Art Museum Collection, in Alexandria Virginia. *Black Bird*, a large acrylic painting, was his first place award, at the Fort Lewis level of competition.

When his tour of duty in the US Armed Forces ended, Bryan studied illustration and graphic design at Massachusetts College of Art, (received a Bachelors of Fine Arts Degree). During his junior and senior years, Bryan worked nights and also produced graphics, illustrations and paintings for businesses, individuals and not-for-profits and art collectors. When the northeastern job market caved in he moved to Sarasota Florida to find employment to continue his creative career as a fine artist, freelance graphics designer and illustrator.

While living in Sarasota, FL, Bryan created pastels and acrylic painting commissions. He displayed his larger acrylic paintings, on request, at Fulton-Burt Galleries, owned in part by his long-time friend and emerging portrait artist, Gale Fulton-Ross. One of his favorite pieces, a large acrylic painting, *Fruit Trees* sold at the gallery the first few days of the show. *Fruit Trees* was created as a tribute to capture the flavor of Florida's fruit groves.

In the late 1990's Bryan moved to the Evergreen State of Washington, where he taught his first watercolor painting techniques class, which was his Mom's idea. He also continued to create artwork and exhibited his paintings.

Bryan's latest work, "*Artist Inspiration*", are miniature modern-abstract watercolor paintings. The *Artist Inspiration* paintings are all differently rendered. The *Artist Inspiration* paintings came to fruition during his struggle with artist block and depression. They have been well received by the public partly because of their abstract quality, color and creative use of space. The *Artist Inspiration* paintings fuse watercolor technique with Bryan's inner thoughts and feelings about nature and spirituality in an abstract presentation. In order to paint during his depression and artist block, Bryan translated his emotional attachment to nature onto paper from within his inner spirit in a spontaneous method of painting without reference to visuals. He painted what he cherished.

In December of 2008 Bryan made the trek from Bremerton Washington back to the east coast, where his family originated. Bryan now lives, creates and gardens organically in the town of Saranac, in Northern Adirondack Park area of northern New York.

Art Juror Positions:

Chosen as one of the jurors for the upcoming-juried Art Show, "FarmScapes", at Lake Placid Center for the Arts, (January 2010)

One Man Art Shows:

Conroy's Organics, Wine Room Gallery, Route 9, West Chazy NY, (August 2009)
Adirondack Soup Company, One Man Show, Plattsburgh NY, (Spring 2008)

Group Art Shows. 2008-2009:

Friends of the Library Group Art Show, in the Hale Walter Gallery, Plattsburgh Library
Plattsburgh NY, (Spring 2009)
Advocacy Resource Center, Group Show, Plattsburgh NY, (Fall 2008)

2009 Juried Art Auctions:

work entered: *Artist Inspiration No. 8*, SOLD
2009 Mountain Lake PBS Live Televised Arts Auction, Plattsburgh NY
selected and auctioned to support local PBS station shows

Recently sold art work: "Nun at the Market Place"- limited giclée print; "Artist Inspiration No. 5"- original watercolor; "Abstract Landscape #2"-original watercolor; "Abstract Flower and Sun with Earth"-original watercolor; "Mt. Arenal Volcano"-original watercolor; "That Orange"-

original watercolor; “Haymarket Yellers”- limited giclée print and “Stephanie’s Dolls”, limited giclée print.

Art Affiliations:

- Member North Country Cultural Center for the Arts 2008-Present
- Member Seattle Art Museum (SAM) 2006-2007
- Member Seattle League of Arts (SLOFA) 2005-2007

Art Commissions Welcome.