

Christy Olsen
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Artist Statement

“We live in an overly stimulated world, constantly bombarded with news, noise & nonsense. Our modern fast paced lives are filled with nuisances, hassles, deadlines, bureaucracy and extreme demands. Stress is common place and multitasking is now a way of life for us.

As an artist in the 21st century, my goal is to create soft, soothing and harmonious works of art which invite the viewer to slow down take a breath, contemplate or unwind at the end of the day. Inspired by my study of the Old Masters and my background in Art History, I use the effects of chiaroscuro lighting, a neutral palette of earth tones and my drawing skills to create classic representational style paintings in oil or pastel.”

Background

Olsen is a third generation representational painter from Memphis, Tennessee, who played under her mother’s easel and developed a deep passion for art at an early age. She now lives in Tucson and her paintings have appeared in the pages of Southwest Art magazine and are shown in art galleries around the United States.

Education

B. A. Art History, University of Tennessee Knoxville
B. A. Anthropology, University of Tennessee Knoxville
A. S. Computer Science, Pima Community College
Artist-in-Residence (Assisi, Italy province of Umbria)
Studio Art & Atelier Education, Scottsdale Artist School
Teacher’s Certification, The Drawing Studio

Body of Work / Media

Oil painting, pastel and drawing

Awards in 2013

- 2013 Award of Merit in the Richeson 75 Still Life Competition for “Buddha Under Bodhi Tree”
- 2013 Award of Merit in the Richeson 75 Still Life & Floral Competition for “Kwan Yin”
- 2012 Finalist in the Richeson 75 Small Works Competition for “Dahlia Flower”

Teaching Experience

- OATS program, Teaching Artist 2011, - present
- The Drawing Studio (TDS), Faculty, 2013 - present

Courses Taught at TDS

Head and Figure Drawing
Head and Figure Painting
Landscape Painting
Strength Training for Painters
Art of Summer - Figure Drawing

Carnation Clippings
oil on board
16 X 20

