ArtProv gallery > expression

David Witbeck

Although the Hudson River is tidal for over 150 miles, all the way to Troy, NY, a few miles from the suburb where I grew up, in the first 18 years of my life, I probably spent no more than three or four weeks, on family vacations, anywhere near salt water. Yet I always drew pictures of fishing boats, lighthouses and stormy seascapes and read every sea story I could find in the school library.

Having been a photographer for more than three decades, the greatest joy I have as a painter is freedom from "reality." While subject matter is still important to me, I can bend, twist, stretch, exaggerate and simplify the things I see. I can put things in and leave things out. I can even completely make things up.

As a young art student, I took myself and art way too seriously. Having come back to painting relatively late in life, I now understand that few artists have anything earth-shaking to say. In the paraphrased words of the late Edgar Whitney, a respected art educator and watercolorist, an artist is a shape-maker, a symbol-finder and an entertainer. I still take my art seriously, but my serious intent is to create something that's well designed and entertaining to look at.

"I can paint how things make me feel instead of simply what they look like."

ArtProvgallery

150 Chestnut Street, 3rd Floor Providence, RI 02903

401 641 5182 info@ArtProvidence.com ArtProvidence.com

HOURS

Wednesday – Friday, 11am-2pm Evening and weekend appointments welcome





David Witbeck

Exhibitions

DeBlois Gallery, "Creatures," Invitational Three Person Show, Newport, RI – 2009

Newport Art Museum, Juried Members' Show, Newport, RI – 2009

Newport Art Museum, Juried Members' Show, Honorable Mention, Newport, RI – 2008

Firehouse Gallery, "Coming to Maine," Group Show, Damariscotta, ME – 2007

Donovan Gallery, "By the Sea," Solo Show, Tiverton, RI – 2007

Charlestown Gallery, "Big Sky, Big Fish," Two Person Show, Charlestown, RI

RI Watercolor Society, Open Juried Show, Honorable Mention, Pawtucket, RI – 2007

Provincetown Art Association, Juried Members' Show, Provincetown, MA – 2007

Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, Invitational Figurative Show, Pawtucket, RI – 2007

Providence Art Club, Solo Show, Providence, RI - 2006

Providence Art Club, Small Works Show, Frederick Sisson Award, Providence, RI – 2006

Providence Art Club, Two Person Show, Providence, RI – 2003

RI Watercolor Society Summer Show, Award of Merit, Pawtucket, RI – 2003

Brooklyn Coffee House, Solo Show, Providence, RI – 2002

Providence Art Club, Members Show, Providence Art Club Award, Providence, RI – 2002

RI Watercolor Society Summer Show, Second Prize, Pawtucket, RI – 2002

Providence Art Club, Members Show, Providence, RI – 2001

RI Watercolor Society, New Members' Show, Pawtucket, RI – 2001

Donovan Gallery, Group Show, Tiverton, RI – 2001

Galleries

Charlestown Gallery, Charlestown, RI
Cove Gallery, Wellfleet and South Chatham, MA
Devon House Gallery, Stonington, CT
Donovan Gallery, Tiverton, RI
The Field Gallery, West Tisbury, MA
The Gallery at Somes Sound, Somesville, ME
Gleason Fine Art, Boothbay Harbor & Portland, ME
Maine Art Gallery, Kennebunkport, ME
Providence Art Club

Education

Rhode Island College, MAT Elementary Education, Providence, RI – 1992-1994

Rhode Island School of Design, BFA Photography, Providence, RI – 1980-1982

Rochester Institute of Technology, Photojournalism, Rochester, NY – 1970

Pratt Institute, Graphic Arts, Brooklyn, NY – 1965-1968