

RICHARD OVERSMITH

Richard received formal training in Fine Art and Illustration at Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, Michigan. While at Kendall he was invited to study at the Royal College of Art in London, England. There he gained experience in plein air painting and found direction in his work as an oil painter. He graduated from Kendall College with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1995 and moved back to his home state of North Carolina to pursue his dream of becoming a professional artist.

The natural beauty of Western North Carolina has proven to offer infinite inspiration for Richard's impressionistic landscapes. From rolling mountains to abundant waterfalls, the majestic Biltmore Estate to a simple farm scene, this region evokes the artist's muse. Richard finds inspiration not only at home but in his many travels. He has painted all over the USA and has taken several trips overseas to France and Italy. Whether at home or abroad, Richard surrounds himself in the elements of the scene while painting - in true "en plein air" fashion. In the studio, his sense of vision and mood guide him to produce still lifes ranging from the classic to the imaginative.

Richard's purpose in painting is to provoke the viewer to interact with his pieces. His paintings are his voice, and stroke-by-stroke, he composes a whole that relates his vision. Richard works in oil on linen, a medium compatible with the passion he puts into his creation. He strives to achieve a mood in every painting through the use of such visual stimuli as color, edges, value and drawing. He has derived his style from the lifelong study of past masters, the influence of contemporary painters he admires, and elements that have evolved from deep within himself. He allows the setting to speak to him, creating only as many brushstrokes as are needed for the viewer's eyes to understand and connect.

Education

1994 Summer Semester at the Royal College of Art; London, England
1995 BFA in Illustration from Kendall College of Art and Design; Grand Rapids, MI
2001 Week-long workshop with T. Allen Lawson at Scottsdale Artists' School; Scottsdale, AZ

Memberships

1999-present Active member of Oil Painters of America
2007-present Member of Plein Air Painters of the Southeast
2011-present Member American Impressionist Society

Representation

2005-present The Art Cellar; Banner Elk, NC
2010-present Skyuka Fine Art; Tryon, NC
2011-present J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art Bernardsville, NJ and Vero Beach, FL
2012-present Galerie on Broad, Charleston, SC
2013-present Warm Springs Gallery, Warm Springs, VA

Exhibits

2000 Three Person Show; 16 Patton
2001 OPA National Exhibit; Palm Springs, CA
2002 OPA National Exhibit; Chicago, IL
2002 Three Person Show; 16 Patton
2002 OPA Regional Exhibit; Richmond, VA
2003 Solo Exhibit; 16 Patton
2003 Paint-out Exhibit at Hamilton Gallery; Montreal; NC
2004 Best and the Brightest Show; Scottsdale Artists School
2004 Two Person Show; Ella Walton Richardson Gallery
2005 2nd Annual Plein-Air Show & Sale; Germanton Art Gallery
2005 Miniature Show; Germanton Art Gallery
2006 3rd Annual Plein-Air Show & Sale; Germanton Art Gallery
2006 Richard Oversmith: New Work; 16 Patton
2006 Miniature Show; Germanton Art Gallery
2007 4th Annual Plein-Air Show & Sale; Germanton Art Gallery
2007 Plein Air Perspectives; The Art Cellar
2007 France: Village to Sea; 16 Patton
2008 From the Home and Garden; The Wells Gallery
2008 PAPSE Annual Paint-out and Sale; Anderson Fine Art
2008 OPA National Exhibit; Dana Gallery - Missoula, MT
2008 Bold and the Beautiful; ACofHC Hendersonville, NC
2008 Contemporary Visions: Portrait and Still Lifes; 16 Patton Gallery
2008 Group Figure Show; The Wells Gallery
2008 Two Person Show; The Wells Gallery
2008 Miniatures and Pochades; 16 Patton Gallery
2008 Landscapes: Of Hope and Glory; 16 Patton Gallery
2009 Salon International 2009, Greenhouse Gallery; San Antonio, TX
2009 Richard Oversmith: Recent works, Solo Show; 16 Patton Gallery
2009 5th Annual Plein Air Easton Show; Art Academy Museum, Easton, MD
2009 South Lands and Still life, Solo Show; The Crescent Gallery
2009 Paint Wilmington 2009, Group Show; Walls Gallery
2010 Callaway Garden Paint, Show and Sale; Callway Garden, GA
2010 Cashiers Paint Out and Sale; Cashiers, NC
2010 6th Annual Plein Air Easton Show; Art Academy Museum, Easton, MD
2010 Fleeting Glimpses, Solo Show; 16 Patton Gallery

2011 Of Similar Vision, Two Man Show; Campbell House Gallery, Southern Pines, NC
2011 Salon International 2011, Greenhouse Gallery; San Antonio, TX
2011 Solo Exhibit Richard Oversmith 'Recent Paintings', Skyuka Fine Art; Tryon, NC
2011 Summer Show, J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art; Bernardsville, NJ
2011 A Sense of Place, PAP-SE Group Show, Huntsville Art Museum, Huntsville, AL
2011 Peace, Joy, and Paint, A group show, Skyuka Fine Art, Tryon, NC
2011 Impressionist Dreams, A Two Man Show, J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art, Vero Beach, FL
2012 Florida's Forgotten Coast Plein Air Invitational, Apalachicola, FL
2012 19th Annual Carmel Art Festival, Carmel, CA
2012 PAP-SE Returns to Charleston, Group Show, Charleston, SC
2012 Plein Air Richmond, Richmond, VA
2012 OPA National Exhibit, Evegreen CO
2012 Cashiers Plein Air Festival, Cashiers, NC
2012 Ready, Set, Go – Artists on the Move, J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art, Bernardsville, NJ
2012 The Beauty of Observation, An American Plein Air Showcase, John Brown University
2012 Sonoma Plein Air, Sonoma, CA
2012 Blue Ridge Realist Exhibit, Hickory Museum of Art, Hickory, NC
2013 Tranquil Movements, J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art, Vero Beach, FL

Articles

2007 August Issue: From Village to Sea; American Art Collector Magazine
2007 August Issue: In Plein Sight; Bold Life Magazine
2008 June Issue: Richard Oversmith Captures Moments in Light; Rapid River Magazine
2008 December Issue: Richard Oversmith Cover Artist; The Laurel of Asheville Magazine
2009 Sumer issue: Plein Genius; Carolina Home and Garden Magazine
2012 April/May issue: Landscape or Still Life: Similar Process, Different Concentration; Plein Air Magazine

Awards

1990 One year Merit Scholarship, Kendall College of Art and Design
1993 2nd Place in CMYK Magazine Digital Image Competition
2000 Shirl Smithson Scholarship (through OPA) to study with T. Allen Lawson
2004 Judged signature member of Western North Carolina Plein Air Painters
2008 1st Place at the Southern Light Plein Air Paint-out
2009 Peoples Choice Award, Banner Elk Greenway "Paint Out" Event
2010 3rd Place Cashiers Plein Air competition
2010 Best Marine Painting, 6th Annual Plein Air Easton Competition
2011 1st place at the Toe River Art Councils Annual Paint Out Competition
2011 1st Place at the Battle of the Brush Competition, Old Fort, NC
2012 Honorable Mention at Carmel Arts Festival, Carmel, CA
2012 Honorable Mention at Cashiers Plein Air Competition