

Sherry Killingsworth



Sherry Killingsworth fell in love with drawing and painting at an early age. A native Texan, she was born in Corpus Christi and moved with her family to the Spring Branch area of Houston when she was 4. She attended both the University of Texas and Stephen F. Austin University, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree 1973.

Sherry and her husband Jim settled in Bryan, TX in 1983 where she worked part time as a pharmacy tech and raised her two children. In 1988, after receiving a box of Rembrandt soft pastels as a gift, she sought out instruction from Bryan pastelist Emma Stark. She has continued her education with nationally known artists including Bob Rohm, Rita Kirkman, Karen Margulis, Christine Swann, Richard McKinley and Albert Handell. Sherry is primarily a landscape artist who paints in a realistic/impressionistic style. Her work has garnered many awards in both local and national juried art shows, including

Best of Show 2017 in the Pastel Society of Southeast Texas', Art of the Pastel, Honorable Mention in 2018 and second place in 2019.

She is a current member of the Brenham Fine Arts League and the Pastel Society of Southeast Texas and was active in the Brazos Valley Art League for the past thirty years.

My medium Pastel:

I work almost exclusively in the medium of pastel. Pastels, being a dry medium, are the closest to pure color of any the painting mediums. Pastels have a long history dating back to the Renaissance. Pastel portraits and still life paintings done by masters in the 18th century still look vibrant and luminous today.

Surfaces for pastels must have a "tooth" for the pastel crystals to cling to. Most of the time I use sanded paper that is made by coating archival paper with a fine abrasive material, similar in feel to the sand paper you can purchase at the hardware store. I always use the best materials I can find so the resulting paintings will be archival and will not discolor or decay over time.

To avoid accidental damage to the surface of the painting, a pastel must be framed under glass or high quality acrylic glazing. I almost always frame with museum quality glass, which has UV protection and a non-reflective surface.

Personal Statement:

I am happiest when surrounded by the beauty of the natural landscape. I find inspiration for my paintings in the forests around my home, stunning landscapes around the country and the gulf coast bays and marshes of the Rockport/Fulton area.

I look for subjects where the light creates an emotional impact. I'm drawn to striking contrasts between the lighted areas of the subject and the shadows. I also love to paint dramatic skies, especially at dawn or sunset.

I enjoy painting "en plein air" but when I cannot I take photos to remind me of the scene and lighting. Recently I have enjoyed painting the woodlands of east Texas, immersing myself in the presence of the forest, and getting the feeling of something the naturalist John Muir called the healing power of nature.

Whether I am painting outdoors or in the studio, I'm always in awe of the infinite beauty there is to behold in this world. As an artist, it is my intention to bring to the viewer a moment to remember, and to experience the landscape as I have – with reflection and wonderment.