

THE POTENTIAL OF ART

BY DENNIS CURRY

ART IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL. FROM PAINTING, DRAWING, printmaking and sculpture to dance, music and theater, art allows us to explore our reality, imagination and impressions in a personal and creative way. Art can engage and inspire its viewers and transform their understanding of themselves and our world.

My art is pictorial in approach, with nature as my inspiration and subject matter. For 37 years I primarily focused on wildlife, utilizing various forms of printmaking. As a printmaker, I utilized etching, engraving and lithography to create my images. I found the graphic qualities of original print ideal for capturing the patterns, textures and colors of birds and animals. About 20 years ago I turned to oil painting to explore the landscape.

Oil paint is a wonderfully flexible medium, well-suited to my efforts in capturing the lighting and atmospheric qualities of a scene. I am drawn to the versatility of oils, as well as their portability. I can paint on location wherever I can haul my gear. My paintings tend to evolve layer upon layer, facilitating the development of the subtleties and nuances I love to explore in nature.

A quote from Rebekah Joy Platt describes well the often overlooked significance in the acquiring of a work of art:

“When you buy something from an artist you’re buying more than an object. You’re buying hundreds of hours of errors and experimentation. You’re buying years of frustration and moments of pure joy. You’re not buying just one thing, you are buying a piece of a heart, a piece of a soul ... a small piece of someone else’s life.”

To view my work, as well as many other artists, or to take a class, please visit Studios on the Park, 1130 Pine Street, across from the park in downtown Paso Robles. Hours are 12:00 – 4:00, Monday through Wednesday; 12:00 – 9:00, Friday and Saturday; and 12:00 – 6:00, Thursday and Sunday with artists on site Thursday thru Sunday. The website is www.StudiosOnThePark.org and the phone number 805-238-9800. You can reach me through my website www.denniscurry.com. ■

