

Michael Moore Pastel Artist

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I've been drawing and "painting" since taking a few art classes at L.B.C.C. in Albany in 1991. I'm mainly a studio artist, as we have very few good weather days in the Willamette Valley in Oregon during late fall and winter. On occasion my wife, Billie, and I will join a few friends to work en plein air. Being involved in artwork has fostered relationships with others whose work I admire.

I paint/draw because it's fun, it's challenging, and, it satisfies a creative side which I feel needs to be expressed. Usually I begin a work by loosely sketching in outlines of the scene. Next, I'll start blocking in areas of dark and light, gradually working in more detail. Finally, I'll add a few color "surprises".

I use hard to buttery-soft, dry pastel sticks to apply color to paper surfaces with varying degrees of "tooth". My favorite base is sandpaper. Frequently I blend with my fingers (don't lick your fingers!) which tends to give an almost watercolor-like quality to the work.

The bulk of my work consists of landscapes, done from my own photos. Frequently I combine elements from two or more photos, eliminating parts that don't seem to work, and imagining and embellishing colors. I love the drama and mystery of clouds, so they are often included.

My wife and I have spearheaded and participated in three Albany Juried Art Shows, two of which were held at the LaSells Stewart Center Gallery on the Oregon State University campus, with the last one being at Albany City Hall in 2013. We've also given drawing demonstrations at the NW Art & Air Festival, at Samaritan Hospitals in Albany and Lebanon, and a various locations on the Master Gardeners Tour.

Memberships in Art-Related Organizations

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| 1. Corvallis Art Guild, Corvallis, OR | 1991 - 2012 |
| 2. Illustrated Garden Gallery, Corvallis, OR | 1993 - 1997 |
| 3. Northwest Pastel Society, WA | 1993 - 2009 |
| 4. Mid-Valley Arts Council, Salem, OR | 1994 - 1998 |
| 5. The Arts Center, Corvallis, OR | 1994 - 2012 |
| 6. Albany Arts Commission, Albany, OR | 2008 - 2011 |

