



46th
Gala
2024

FINE ART AUCTION

Keith Burgess

I am a fine artist working primarily in oil. I have received numerous one-man gallery shows, commissions, and awards. I am also a teacher and show juror. My formal art education began at Valdosta State University and continued at Georgia Southwestern State University where I earned a B. A. Degree. After college I began a long career as a graphic artist/illustrator for a major publishing corporation in Atlanta. Though I set aside painting during the early part of my corporate career, the urge to paint again lead me to pursue a fine art career on a serious level in the early 1990's. I then began studying with nationally renowned artists from the Art Students League, NYC. In 2003 I left the corporate world to pursue my passion for painting full time. I reside in the mountains of north Georgia, USA.

I paint because I have to. Art is the only thing in life I have ever been any good at and it is what I was born to do. Though I have spent many years painting and drawing in front of the Human form, the landscape is my true passion. I find in the landscape a kind of spirituality and primal truth. I feel most alive and in tune with nature when I am out in the open air painting ("en plein aire", as the French say), which I first began as a teenager. I am honored to place myself among those representational painters before me who have carried on this honored tradition. From a young age I have been attracted to the early Impressionists, especially Monet, and continue to be influenced by their methods and theories. What attracts me to a particular scene is a pleasing arrangement of shapes and color created by the play of luminous light and shadow, usually found at the beginning and end of day. The best advice I ever got as an artist was to 'squint' at my subject.

Education:

A.A., Norman College, Norman Park, GA (now Brewton-Parker College) Summa Cum Laude, Phi Theta Kappa

B.A., Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, GA

Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA

Two Year Certificate/Graphic Design, Southeastern Center For The Arts (now The Creative Circus), Atlanta, GA

Atlanta College Of Art

Workshops with instructors from The Art Students League, New York City: David Leffel, Gregg Kreutz, Jerry Weiss, Burton Silverman, Albert Handell. Others: Anita Louise West, L. Diane Johnson, Michael Chesley Johnson, Roger Dale Brown, Dawn Whitelaw

Long term study: Marc Chatov (6yrs), Nancy Honea, (5yrs), Joan Tysinger (1yr)