



Women Artists of the West

Women's Fine Art in Numerous Subjects & Mediums . . . Across the United States

Karen Vance

Karen Vance has achieved what most artists only dream of: a sold-out solo show—ten of them since 1999. Collectors feel like they are present in the landscape when viewing her work, but they recognize her skill, honed over many years of study, hard work, and determination, that allows her to interpret her feelings onto the canvas. With all of this notoriety, Karen remains a humble and grateful soul, expressing that she felt, “truly honored when WAOW invited me to last year’s show along with the other invited artists. I just didn’t expect the same honor to come to me. It was a wonderful surprise!”



Karen was born in Chicago into a family of artists and received her education at the Art Institute of Chicago, Village Art School with the late Joe Abbrescia, at the Illinois University in Skokie, and the Art Students League of Denver. She has also studied with Carolyn Anderson, Clyde Aspevig, Scott Christensen, Mark Daily, Quang Ho, David Leffel, Michael Lynch, William Reese, Richard Schmid, Burton Silverman, Michael Workman, and many of the Plein Air Painters of America. Her career includes nearly twelve years as a graphic artist. Her paintings are in the permanent collections of The University of Denver, Wells Fargo Bank of Denver, Winter Park Resort, and in many notable private collections. Vance is a member of the prestigious National Arts Club, California Art Club, a signature Member of the National Academy of Professional Plein Air Painters, and is an Emeritus Member of Rocky Mountain Plein Air Painters. Shows and awards include several People’s Choice Awards, Best of Show Awards, a Publisher’s Choice Award, and many others.



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Karen Vance (continued)

She has been featured in *Art of the West*, *Southwest Art*, *Wildlife Art*, *Artist's Magazine*, *InformArt*, and in the books, *Enchanted Isle: The History of Plein Air Painting on Santa Catalina Island*, and *Landscapes of Colorado*.

Vance has been awarded a 2007-2008 Residency and Exhibition at Yosemite National Park that will also include a painting for the National Park's permanent collection. In February, 2007, Karen received a painting commission that will depict over 125 images of Grand County, Colorado and will be permanently installed at the five-star Devil's Thumb Ranch Resort. A book of this collection will be published and available in 2009.

Karen once stated, "I feel like I've been given so much with this talent that it is so gratifying to give back." She donates as much as 15% of her sales to raise funds for organizations that benefit the arts, the disabled, and victims of domestic violence. A very fitting recipient of the 2008 WAOW Award of Excellence.

