



Dena Kirk

Humble beginnings are often the story of even prodigious artist. Dena Kirk had her humble artist beginning as she hurriedly cleaned off the Post Toasties and milk to transform the kitchen table into her first studio. Later, she expanded her talents by joining the local art league, taking painting classes and workshops. Setbacks, stumbling blocks, and three active children consumed much of her time, but she continued to paint and took it very seriously. Soon, Kirk gained recognition and praise for her work, winning awards in national shows and exhibiting in galleries.

One of the highlights of Dena Kirk’s career came in 2004, when two of her works were juried into the Women Artists of the West show at the Ronald Reagan Memorial Library in Simi Valley California. Short on cash, but long on determination to attend the show, Dena had a garage sale to raise the money for a motel room and gas. It was long drive from Colorado to California, but a short trip home. Her larger painting sold to Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce President!

Dena’s is “impressionistic realism”, with a focus on the simplicity of shapes and values in overall design, express a feeling of emotion without sentimentality. Dave Santillanes, a well-respected plein-air painter and juror, who recently awarded Kirk a first place, described her brushwork as “bold and confident.”

Dena has exhibited in such prestigious plein-air events as the Rocky Mountain Plein-Air Painters Winter Park and Estes Park paint-outs and the San Luis Obispo Plein-Air Show and Exhibit, where she sold out in two days. Most recently, she was invited to be a featured artist for a local art show, exhibited in a group show at Gallery East in Loveland, CO, and was a finalist in the Landscape Category for the Artist Magazine’s 2006 Annual Cover Competition. Dena is a member of Oil Painters of America, an associate member of Women Artists of the West, and a member of Plein-Air Artists Colorado. August 2007, she is looking forward to painting alongside Kevin MacPherson with En Plein Air Masters in Canada. Dena currently shows her work in Gallery East, Loveland, CO, LIW Cargo Gallery, Manitou Springs, CO, and Lincoln Gallery, Loveland, CO.



For more editorial information about this artist, please contact the artist directly:

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