



Cecy Turner

Traveling the high seas aboard a luxurious cruise ship visiting such enchanting ports as St. Petersburg, Russia and London, England, and while at sea teaching classes on the techniques of watercolor, is an artist dream vacation. Cecy Turner actually lives this life traveling to Italy, France, England, Russia, Egypt, India, and Mexico. Venice being her favorite location, having visited there four times with another trip planned for 2008, provides innumerable picture perfect settings for her paintings. With a lilt in her voice Cecy speaks of Venice, "I love painting the water and reflections. I'm a nut for shadows, and I can't wait to get back there!" For the past eight years Cecy has started to travel in earnest and to paint on location as often as possible loving the immediacy it brings to her work. She feels that it is like a rebirth for her as an artist. "It was a time in my life when I was ready for something completely different. You can get in a rut if you're an artist, painting the same things over and over again, just because they are selling." With a watercolor sketchbook, camera, and paintbox full of brushes and tubes of paint in hand, travel has given new life to Ms. Turner's paintings.



A master plan underlies all Cecy Turner's paintings. Each painting is begun with a well-planned drawing because she feels that the drawing is an integral part of every painting. Her philosophy is that a good painting doesn't just "happen;" rather, it is the result of planning, hard work, and a strong structural beginning with a very accurate drawing. Small compositional sketches are done before a painting is begun, whether she is painting outdoors or in her studio. The more satisfied she is with these preliminary drawings, the easier the painting seems to go, because the potential problems have been worked out beforehand.

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To evoke feelings of peacefulness, calm serenity, happiness, or nostalgia is a major goal manifested in all Cecy's paintings. Her objective is to depict a place where the viewer wants to be; this is accomplished by concentrating on "painting the light" or "painting the mood" throughout the piece. To capture the moment in time when she experienced the subject, it requires constantly thinking about it while painting. For Ms. Turner the best practice is painting on location, and she does this as often as possible. In April 2007, she will participate in Plein Air Texas, sponsored by the Outdoor Painters Society, and in August, she is again an invited artist in the Estes Park Plein Air.

Cecy Turner is a signature member of WAOW and also The National Watercolor Society, Southwestern Watercolor Society, Outdoor Painters Society, Texas and Neighbors and a Fellow of the American Artists Professional League. Her work is represented by Silver Heron Gallery in Depoe Bay, Oregon, and by Fiesta Gallery in Fredericksburg, Texas.



Image Tiff files provided:

TurnerCatchingTheLight.tif "Catching the Light" 24 x 18 oil
 TurnerWinterMemories.tif "Winter Memories" 18 x 24 oil
 TurnerCinRockport.tif