

Artist Statement

Rhonda Egan

Over the years, I have dabbled in several mediums, but have always come back to oils. I like the buttery consistency and its versatility. With oil I can get smooth, blended colors or rich, thick texture. Originally, I used brushes but now primarily paint with a palette knife. I love the easy clean up and the fresh, unmuddied look I get. My passion is to paint in plein air (painting outside) landscapes. There is nothing like capturing the mood of a day, whether it is cloudy, sunny, windy, or threatening rain. I love the challenge of developing the contrasting images in the rapidly changing light. It forces me to work fast and loose, which keeps my work fresh. I also enjoy using the small plein air pieces to create larger more complicated paintings.

I am a member of the Northern California Arts (NCA), through which I have earned Master Artist status. I regularly enter juried art shows and have won several awards. My most recent awards and honors include acceptance into several prestigious exhibitions including the 2016 Santa Cruz Art League **California Land and Sea Show** and California Art Club's **Quintessential California, The Romance of Europe, and Beauty of the Seasons**. My painting, **Summer Sun II**, won the Past Presidents Award at NCA's 2016 Bold Expressions Open Show. **Morning Cool**, was awarded "Best Oil" at the 2015 NCA Membership Show and I won the Frank Bette Award at the 2014 Alameda Plein Air Festival. I have been accepted into the State Fair, Napa Valley Museum, Hilton Head Art League in South Carolina and Ironstone Winery, to name just a few. My work has regularly been accepted in both the Crocker Museum and KVIE annual auctions. I participated in Plein Air Festivals in Alameda, Winters, Los

Gatos, CA and Victor, CO. Images of my work appear in **Capturing Radiant Light & Color in Oils and Pastels**, by Susan Sarback and **Finding Your Visual Voice**, by Dakota Mitchell with Lee Haroun. Both were published in 2007 by North Light Books. I regularly teach classes to both adults and children in the Sacramento Area.



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