

Louis Escobedo



Louis Escobedo was born in Sweetwater, Texas, where his interest in art as a youngster was inspired by colorful finger paint. At age six, his painting “Horseback” was selected as the best painting at his elementary school.

Louis went on to receive a BFA in Advertising Art from the State University in Huntsville, Texas. After graduation he began his career as a technical illustrator and then a freelance illustrator. As a freelance illustrator in 1981 he received a gold medal from the Society of Illustrators in New York and several other awards from many organizations in Texas.

In 1985, he shifted his professional focus from illustration to fine art. He became adept experimenting with composition, values and design, and seeing life and objects from a philosophical point of view characterized by beauty, and thoughtfulness. Around 1990 his new career in fine art took off.

Louis and his wife moved to Colorado in 1990, putting him within close range of the rugged landscape which helped build his reputation as a fine artist. Louis exhibited in galleries across the country including California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Illinois, Virginia, and in 1994, Louis was awarded the Gold Medal from the prestigious Oil Painters of America (OPA), an organization that champions the highest standards of representational art. The Gold Medal Award is OPA’s top accolade in its Juried Exhibition. In 2013 Louis returned to OPA and began receiving many awards, including another Gold Medal from the National Juried Exhibition for his painting in 2014. He is one of only two artists to have received the OPA Gold Medal award twice in the last 27 years.

Louis and his wife moved to Santa Fe New Mexico in 2017 and finished building his new studio in March of this year.

Artist Statement:

Whether its people walking down the street, a kitchen sink, or a beautiful landscape, I strive for my paintings to have imagination, color, and insight of all that I see and feel. I’m always striving to master my use of color, values, tone and texture.

Color is like a person’s signature, if it’s the right color, I have to have it. And when I find the right colors I feel it immediately, like hearing music so beautiful that I have to stop whatever else I’m doing and listen. My paintings are from my point of view which is composition, value, color, and emotion.

Education:

Bachelors Degree Advertising Art Sam Houston State University

Awards and Honors:

[Recent Awards](#)

2016 *Award of Excellence* Oil Painters of America Online Show

2016 *Award of Excellence* Oil Painters of America Salon Exhibition

2014 *Gold Medal* (\$25,000.00 Award) from the National Oil Painters of America Exhibition
2013 *Summer Salon Award* National Oil Painters of America Exhibition in Michigan
2012 *John Young Hunter Memorial Award*, Allied Artists of America 99th Annual National Show, NYC
2012 *Most Original Award of Excellence* from the National Oil Painters of America Exhibition, Colorado
1994 “*Gold Medal*” Award National Oil Painters of America Exhibition

Selected Publications:

Southwest Art, “Postcards From the West” preview, November 2016
Southwest Art, “Vibrant & Eloquent”, January 2015
American Art Collector, “Color At Play” September 2014
Southwest Art, “Honoring the Inner Voice”, November 2002
Best of Portrait Painting, North Light Books, 1998
Southwest Art, “OPA Winners”, May 1997
Art Talk, “An Artist Worth Watching”, June 1994
Artist’s Magazine Cover, “Seeing Beyond Your Subject”, February 1994

Selected Exhibitions:

Coors Western Art Exhibit & Sale 2019

Oil Painters of America National Exhibitions
Hermitage Museum in Norfolk, Virginia
Colorado History Museum
Denver Art Museum
Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio
Phippen Museum, Prescott, Arizona

Representation:

717 Gallery, Santa Fe New Mexico
Thunderbird Foundation for the Arts, Mount Carmel Utah



“Taos Arches”

12X12

Oil