

BIOGRAPHY AND ARTIST STATEMENT



ORAL CARPER

BIOGRAPHY: Watercolor is Oral Carper's medium of choice because he likes the brightness of pigments in his art without the dullness often presented in oil paintings. He believes that with the tools artists have available today there is no reason they should not produce higher quality art than their predecessors and he works to increase his personal skill level with every painting he completes. As a life member of the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, a member of the Michigan Watercolor Society and a member of the Spokane Watercolor Society this award winning artist seeks to advance and improve his art with every painting he produces. He is a mentor to other artists and provides leadership and direction as a professional in this art form. Born in Charleston, West Virginia, and currently living in Spokane, Washington, Oral's education includes: a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Michigan Technological University, a Master of Arts degree from Central Michigan University and advanced studies in leadership and management from the Air University at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. His successful leadership career as an operational commander and pilot in the United States Air Force for over 34 years provided a far-reaching life experience. As a husband, father and grandfather he finds inspiration from the simple and the complicated things around us that add beauty to our lives. Through his art he shares this beauty and complexity and reaches a wide based audience. His personal observation of people at their best and their worst provides him with a full pallet of material from which to work. As a strong believer in himself he paints because it is his passion and not because it is his hobby.

ARTIST STATEMENT: I believe that great art creates a great emotional response. I work to create clear, clean images by using the best tools and supplies I can find. I want those who look at my work to not just see an image on paper but rather to be transported back to an associated memory of a feeling, a taste, a sight, a sound, or a fragrance not forgotten. I believe that great art (whether realistic or abstract) can give us a means to dreaming and finding completeness. Great art can help us find adventure, purpose and a destination that can be found no other way. I believe art can make the complex become simple and also reveal the beauty in simplicity. I believe it is the artist's job to help us better see and understand life.

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