

About the Artist

Born in Serbia, Dan Petrov spent most of his University summers in Northern Italy studying painting techniques of Renaissance and contemporary painters.

After University, his museum studies extended to France, England and Holland where he copied old masters. Combining Indirect and Direct Painting Methods, Dan arrived at the techniques he uses today in still life, landscape, portrait and figure.

His studies of visual art continued in Canada from 1992 to 2006 where he was associated with Studio of Sergio DePaoli.

In 2006, Dan relocated his studio to Minneapolis, Minnesota. From 2006 to 2010, Dan was the part of The Atelier comprehensive studio art program of Richard Lack.

Dan teaches Renaissance and Flemish Oil Painting Method, courses in Alla Prima Method and workshops in oil painting of different genres for beginners, intermediate and advanced students.

Dan paints and teaches at his studio in Lakeville, Minnesota.

About the Gallery



The purpose of the gallery in Stillwater Public Library is to provide education through exhibits and displays, to increase community involvement in the library, and to provide an enjoyable environment for the library's users.

Visit the gallery space on the upper level whenever our doors are open!



library.stillwatermn.gov



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224 3rd ST N
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Stillwater

Public Library

THE POETRY OF PAINTING



THE WORKS OF DAN PETROV

In the Gallery
November - December 2024
Stillwater Public Library

Artist Reception
Thursday, November 21
6:30 - 7:30 PM

Artist's Statement



“My interest in oil painting formed very early with the realization that painting simultaneously takes me in three different directions: into the world, in the painting process and in the introspective process.

It became obvious that technical skills of observation and application were paramount for visual expression and that is the reason that my painting practice was deeply rooted in Renaissance and Flemish Oil Painting Method combined with some contemporary aspects of Direct Painting Method.

Realism is still the most productive way of conveying the ideas, demonstrates the highest respect to the viewer and provides clarity of articulation of visual language.

My daughter Mia explained that in her school as a five year old: “my dad paints things that look like things and people that look like people”. In Still Life genre objects are not just the forms that receives the light. These paintings are conveying our existential relation to the nature and production that is in function of our sustenance and life. It also elevates our perception from mundane and ordinary to the level of beauty.

If we think about still life painting as a tool of transcendence of daily life, we cultivate higher experience of reality. In genres of portrait and figure I am interested to explore aspects of human condition, individuality, character, themes and feelings of impermanence, loss, grief, uncertainty and choices that are optimistic beyond the shallow feeling of happiness and directed to the meaning of individual and collective.” ~Dan Petrov



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