

Karen Shaw, Artist, Bio

Karen, a retired vocal music teacher of 30 years, with a Masters in Music from CU, Boulder, grew up as a military brat, moving yearly, living in many states in the USA, as well as Japan, Turkey and Germany. She retired in 1998 from teaching and began the pursuit of art by taking many classes in drawing and painting at the Art Students League of Denver in 1996 to present. She left Denver in 2001 to teach in Thailand, and relocated to Southern CA when returning to the USA in 2002. She continued to study art and grew fond of painting in her expressionistic style, the beautiful scenery, especially seascapes, as well as the figure, and won many awards for her portraits.

Karen was Manager of the Rotating Gallery in Laguna Hills, exhibited in the Sawdust Winter Fantasy, the National Orange Show in San Bernadino, the LPAPA and SOCALPAPA Shows, CA Art Club Shows, the Balboa Art Walk, and was member of several galleries in the area. She was a member of Oil Painters of America, the CA Art Club and SOCALPAPA, plus other area Art Associations. She received numerous awards in juried shows in Orange County.

In 2011 Karen relocated to the Denver area and began the study of abstract painting with Homare Ikeda at the ASLD. She has exhibited her work in various venues and galleries for the past 10 years. She also took three years of monotype printing at the ASLD, still creating abstract images.

Karen presently is a member of the Depot Art Gallery in Littleton, CO, where she exhibits her work in member and juried shows both in the gallery and various other venues sponsored by the Littleton Arts Guild. She also began to paint plein air again, and one of her favorite activities is to sketch in pen and ink, add watercolor, when taking rides on her electric bike on the South Platte trails. Karen has an expressionistic style, painting only from life or from her imagination, and explores all media to include both water media, and oil.

“What better expresses art than the human voice which comes from within our own heart and soul. I have continued to communicate my music of the heart through the expression of my love of painting.”