

JIM MCVICKER

At the age of 21, upon seeing nineteenth century French landscape paintings, I had an awakening to art. The beauty and sensitivity I saw in those works changed my perception of the world.

I started studying art history, painted copies of French impressionist landscapes and enrolled in life drawing and painting classes at Chaffey Community College. In 1975 I decided to become a full-time painter at 24 years old. I moved from Ontario, California, where I was raised, to the northern part of the state. After a year I settled in Eureka, California. I was drawn there by the beauty, the art community, and the chance to live a quieter more rural life.

I met and worked with several very accomplished artists, painting landscapes everyday on location, or painting in the studio always working directly from the still-life set up or models. I learned from direct observation of nature, by looking at and studying great art from the past and working alongside artists more developed than myself.

In 1984 I met my wife and fellow artist, Terry. We live a wonderful quiet life in Loleta, California. It's a small rural town just south of Eureka. We have studios on our property and I continue to paint daily, following my passion for painting from life, trying to capture the light, atmosphere, space, and the mysterious beauty all around us.

Awards:

First place plein air category, Art Renewal Center International Salon Competition 2017 and Honorable mention Plein Air in 2019

Best in show Laguna Beach 18th Plein Air Invitational 2016 and Best in Show Laguna Beach 16th Plein Air Invitational 2014

First Place Plein Air Salon Competition 15,000 award plus cover story, September 2015
Gold Medal for Best Painting 104th Gold Medal Exhibition, California Art Club 2015