



Joseph Lorusso

Kansas City, MO

Philosophy-

My philosophy on painting generally revolves around the idea that as part of the creative process, the viewer plays an integral role. I try to give the viewer a starting point, albeit sometimes a very detailed one. The work serves as a trigger. The viewer completes the narrative, one colored by his own experience. For me, this is the fun part about the end result of my work. At exhibition openings I may have people offer many interpretations of the same painting.

I have heard other artists say that they would paint even if they were a hermit or if no one was watching. In my approach, this just doesn't make sense. My work is about others watching. It's about people reflecting their experiences into what I have given them to start.

So examining this phenomenon, I asked myself, what is my role in all this? There is, of course, the immediate personal satisfaction of creating something from nothing. The craft making is a very visceral experience. Taking some oil, pigment and a canvas or panel and turning it into a work of art that has personal meaning is quite compelling. But beyond that, my goal is to create work that triggers a response.

I've often felt that most types of art, from music to poetry, to dance and the visual arts, are one in the same in the respect that they all trigger an emotional response in the viewer. However, in my opinion, this trigger is not unique to "art" or the creative process.

For example, consider experiencing a beautiful sunset or seeing the Sistine chapel for the first time. I contend that on an emotional level both of these experiences are equal. What viewing both of these examples does is to trigger something within us, an emotional response. I believe viewing a moving piece of art, whatever that is to us, must be experiential. Art should speak to that part within us, that part we all share.

Carl Jung called this part that we share the "collective unconscious". It has been called other things in other traditions. The idea that people are connected by certain indefinable forces is quite profound. For me this concept becomes a critical part of the end result. I gain the biggest satisfaction when I see my work resonate with others. I strive for that universality that timelessness. I don't always achieve it to be sure, but when I do, I feel connected.

So, in this sense, when someone looks at one of my paintings and adds their own interpretation, they then help complete the narrative. Ultimately, this completes the painting. As a result, the emotional response to the painting is now part of the viewer's experience, and a new story begins.

Blue Gallery

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Exhibition History and Bibliography

Born	Chicago, Illinois, February 26, 1966
Education	B.F.A. - Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, Missouri, 1993 A.A. - American Academy of Art, Chicago, Illinois, 1988
Teaching Experience	Scottsdale Artists School, Scottsdale, Arizona Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, Missouri Fredericksburg Art School, Fredericksburg, TX

Gallery Exhibitions

March 2010	One Man Exhibition Overland Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
April 2009	One Man Exhibition Albrecht-Kemper Museum of American Art, St Joseph, MO
March 2009	One Man Exhibition Overland Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
February 2008	Figurative Group Exhibition Newbury Fine Arts, Boston, MA
March 2007	One Man Exhibition P & C Fine Art, Georgetown, MD
January 2007	Group Exhibition Galerie Du Soleil, Naples, FL
September 2006	One Man Exhibition Meyer Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
July 2006	One Man Exhibition Howard/Mandville Gallery, Kirkland, WA
February 2006	International Artists Exposition New York, NY
February 2006	One Man Exhibition Meyers Art Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
October 2005	One Man Exhibition- Recent Works Meyer Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
April 2005	One Man Exhibition Catto Gallery, London, England
February 2005	International Artists Exposition New York, NY
January 2005	Expression of Figure and Form- Group Exhibition Gallery du Soliel, Naples, FL
October 2004	One Man Exhibition Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO
December 2003	Joseph Lorusso / Adrian Deckbar, Two Person Exhibition Hanson Gallery, New Orleans, LA
November 2003	Joseph Lorusso- In Person, A One Man Exhibition P & C Gallery, Washington D.C.



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- October 2003 Joseph Lorusso / Seth Winager, Two Man Exhibition
Meyer Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- June 2003 Joseph Lorusso / Kim English, Two Man Exhibition
Howard/ Mandville Gallery, Kirkland, WA
- March 2003 Joseph Lorusso, One Man Exhibition
Meyer Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- February 2003 International Artists Exposition
New York, NY
- October 2002 My People; Joseph Lorusso One Man Exhibit
Meyer Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- June 2002 Joseph Lorusso / Kim English Two Person Exhibition
Howard / Mandeville Gallery, Kirkland, WA
- March 2002 Joseph Lorusso One Man Exhibition
Meyer Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- February 2002 International Artists Exposition
New York, NY

Invitational Exhibitions-

- February 2011 American Miniatures Invitational
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ
- December 2010 American Artist Invitational
Saks Gallery, Denver, CO
- December 2010 Annual Miniature Show
Whistle Pik Gallery, Fredericksburg, TX
- February 2010 American Miniatures Invitational
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ
- October 2009 Charleston Art Auction
Morris-Whiteside Gallery, Charleston, SC
- October 2008 International Masters of Fine Art Invitational Exhibition
Greenhouse Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- August 2007 Fall Classics Invitational
Ponderosa Gallery, Hamilton, MT
- February 2006 American Miniatures Invitational
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ
- October 2005 International Masters of Fine Art Invitational Exhibition
Greenhouse Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- August 2005 Fall Classics Invitational
Ponderosa Gallery, Hamilton, MT
- February 2005 American Miniatures Invitational
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ
- October 2004 International Masters of Fine Art Invitational Exhibition
Greenhouse Gallery, San Antonio, TX



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- October 2003 Renaissance Auction
Morris-Whiteside Gallery, Hilton Head, SC
- February 2003 Invitational Miniature Show
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ
- May 2002 Summer Invitational
Settlers West Gallery, Tucson, AZ

Bibliography – Articles

- Targos, Renee, "Hallmark Boys", Art Talk Magazine, April 2007, pp.24-25
- Lorusso, Joseph, "Everyday Mood", International Artist, October 2006, pp.58-65
- Elliott, Amy, "Joseph Lorusso", American Art Collector, September 2006, pp.145-147
- Smith, Steve, "Act Naturally", The Artists Magazine, April 2006, pp.33-36
- Verbanis, Patti, Emerging Artist, Art & Antiques, December 2004, pp.62-65
- Janicke, Tim, "A Sea of Urban Landscapes", Kansas City Star, September, 2003, pp.8-10
- Blaskey, Joelle, "Following His Bliss", Art World News, April, 2001, p. 70
- McCormick, Tracy, "Top 50 Prints of 2000", U.S. Art, February, 2000, p.29
- McCormick, Tracy, "Generation Next", U.S. Art, October, 2000
- Kolpas, Norman, "Making Connections", Southwest Art, October, 2000, pp. 112 – 115
- Lawson, Kyle, "Lost in Thought", Arizona Republic, 2000, p. 19
- Brown, Margaret, "New Dimensions in Realism", Southwest Art, December, 1999, pp. 44 – 53
- McCormick, Tracy, "Melancholy Moments", U. S. Art, November, 1999
- Busler, Leslie, "Best of the West", Southwest Art, September, 1999, p. 122
- Busler, Leslie, "Best of the West", Southwest Art, March, 1999, p. 78
- Doherty, Stephen, "Scenes that Trigger Emotional Responses", American Artist,

Honors

- 2010 Collectors Choice Award – American Artist Invitational
Saks Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2006 Silver Medal – North American Small Works Invitational,
Greenwich Workshop Gallery, Greenwich, CT
- 2004 Salon International Exhibition, Award for Excellence
- 2000 C.M. Russell Museum Exhibit and Auction, Great Falls, MT

