

Igor Koutsenko

Guest artist - Igor Koutsenko

Igor was born in Evpatoria, a resort city on the Crimean Peninsula on the Black Sea. His father brought Igor to the Children's Art School in his hometown after his son demonstrated artistic ability at a young age. At age eleven, Koutsenko was accepted to the adult art studio directed by the acclaimed artist Zvyagintsev who encouraged his talent. Later Igor was

educated at the Penza School of Art (class of E. Iodynis) and received rigorous training in the old traditions of Russian realist art.

Igor immigrated to the United States in 1992 settling in Oklahoma City where he taught fine



art at the University of Central Oklahoma. In 1995, he was granted permanent United States

residency as an alien of extraordinary ability.

Image: Balboa Park - Spanish Village

In 1999, Igor visited Southern California and was attracted by its beautiful scenery and climate that reminded him of his boyhood surroundings in Crimea.

Since moving to Southern California, he continues to produce original work at his private studio in Fallbrook. Igor also teaches drawing and painting classes at the Fallbrook School of The Arts.

Throughout his career, Igor was featured in numerous articles, newspapers, and magazines as well as on artistaday.com. Igor's work is in the collection of the Riverside Art Museum, Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company, Institute for Specialized Medicine and the Hoffman Trust Collection, as well as numerous distinguished private collections throughout the United States.

Igor says, "I have been in America for over thirty years. All these years I have been looking for

my place here as an immigrant and as an artist. Today I am much closer to finding that place. My influences are in Russian and European cultures. Recently, I feel more of a connection with American culture. I am always thankful to those who encourage me with their interest in my work.