

# Dave Dittman

## Artist Statement

### “Gratitude”

My overall attitude is one of immense gratitude! I love my homeland—*America!* I’m eternally grateful that I was blessed to be born here! I’m grateful for my Church, the beauty of our earth, and the courage and strength of our nation’s Founders and Pioneer forebearers.

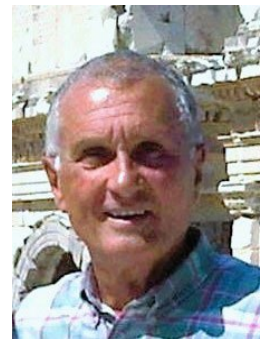
I’m grateful for the inspiration I receive daily from great art! I’m also thankful for having been recognized at an early age for what some adults at the time called a “good eye.” I benefitted from talented public school art teachers, and later graduated from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Science degree with concentration in Statistics, Accounting, Economics and Art.

Although I have never taken advantage of opportunities to receive formal art instruction (so far), I still could never say I was “self-



Diocletian’s Palace  
Split, Croatia

taught.” I appreciate that I’ve been blessed to be able to spend many hours in some of the finest fine art museums in the United States, and throughout Western and Southern Europe.



Ephesus, Turkey

In terms of technique, I particularly appreciate “chiaroscuro,” an Italian term combining “chiaro,” (meaning “bright or clear,”) with “sucro,” (meaning “dark or obscure.”) It produces striking and strong contrast effects that remain evocative and engaging each time they are viewed.

Through my “*every picture tells a story*” historic AMERICAN FRONTIER ART today, I try to encourage viewers to respect and remember the heroism, hardships and previously untold stories of the courageous men, women and children among our Pioneer forebearers “Along the Oregon Trail.”

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