

EDDIE KENT TALLENT

Artist Statement

An introvert by nature, I have always had a deep affinity for locations and objects which embody a sense of mystery, solitude, or isolation, and these are recurring themes in my artwork. I am attracted to what's hidden, private, quiet, contemplative, and perhaps even spiritual. Whether the visual elements in my art are recognizable images or simply abstract shapes, I strive to render the ephemeral or obscure--my goal is to coalesce contrasting literal and symbolic views of the human experience. I want my viewer to feel that their eyes are being opened to something that is all too often overlooked or ignored.

My approach often necessitates arranging, rearranging, or introducing compositional elements, colors, textures, and values that are arbitrary to casual perception. Recognizable elements—stones, water, plants, and indeed the human form—become surrogates for a more allegorical expression. As a result, my paintings are intended to transcend superficial or facile depictions of nature. It is my hope that viewers will be compelled to find their own state of solitude or serenity as they observe the works, and experience a renewed sense of individuality inside such moments.