

The Livermore Spring Art Show 2023

Judge David Wagner



David Wagner has been interested in art all his life. He studied at Cal Poly, The California College of the Arts, and the New York Academy of Art. He now teaches at Las Positas College in Livermore.

His newer oil works are an extension of his relationship with the wilderness. He is inspired by mother nature, and the search for a new mountain, basin, lake, or valley is never-ending. In

contrast to previous work which described the sublime, new paintings focus on the pastoral. He is interested in communicating the energy of the moment, the feeling of that time and place, and the truth beyond the reality.

Formations: Oil and Graphite

David is interested in the dualities shaping the grand dance of the universe: tragedy and beauty, chaos and order, destruction and creation. The paintings are enigmatic meditations on impermanence and the sublime. His work is heavily influenced by a love of spending time surrounded by mountains, staring at the stars, and considering the epic of what has come before and the potential for the future.

The notion of impermanence, championed by Buddhists, is also a theme in this work. He is mindful that in comparison to rocks or mountains, our time here on Earth is minute; yet everything is in a state of change, including geology. In our lifetimes a mountain, or boulder, or rock, or star may not appear to be changing at all. But everything is in a state of flux, being altered by the stresses and influences of what is near and the physics of our reality.

