

DAN GRAZIANO



Dan Graziano is an award winning, nationally exhibited artist whose paintings capture the hidden beauty found in the unexpected places and fleeting moments of everyday life. Incorporating dramatic light, shadow, color and perspective, his urban compositions feature the visual diversity of time worn buildings and multiple layers of decay, renewal and adaptation which proudly display the effects of time as well as the qualities of strength and authenticity.

A native of Chicago, Graziano spent his formative years in Los Angeles where his artistic vision began taking shape. His creative pursuits were heavily influenced by the country's explosive political, cultural and social awakening of the 60's along with a fascination of the California culture of surfing, hot rods and rock music. While he initially focused on a career in advertising and illustration, an unexpected opportunity to engage in architecture and urban planning altered his original direction.

Upon his return to fine art, he was drawn to the rich complexity of the urban landscape captured by Edward Hopper and other urbanist painters. As an accomplished blues guitarist (his other great passion), he found the city streets, time worn buildings and multiple layers of decay and repair a strong visual parallel to the spirit and culture of the music.

"I paint the places and environments I find interesting in my everyday life. I look for unique compositions which involve dramatic contrasts of light, shadow and perspective. I continue to be intrigued by the urban landscapes of inner cities - their active streets, time worn buildings and multiple layers of decay, renewal and adaptation - that proudly display the effects of age and use, which I see as testaments to strength, character and authenticity in contrast with modern society's demand for newness, imitation, disposability and easy duplication. I am also drawn to the natural beauty of coastlines, rural landscapes and forgotten roadside relics.

My work is greatly influenced by the American realists John Singer Sargent, Edward Hopper and the three generations of Wyeths along with California artists Wayne Thiebaud and Richard Diebenkorn."

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Exhibitions and Awards

- National Oil & Acrylic Painters' Society 2016 International On-Line Exhibition
- "6 Inch Square" (2016), Higbee Gallery, Costa Mesa, CA
- "Root To Bloom" group show (2016), Principle Gallery, Alexandria, VA
- Solo Exhibition (2016), Roux & Cyr International Fine Art Gallery, Portland, ME
- 25th Annual Holiday Miniatures Show (2015), Abend Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2015 Bath County Plein Air Festival, Warm Springs, VA
- Solo Exhibition (2015), Roux & Cyr International Fine Art Gallery, Portland, ME
- "Two Sides of the Bay" (2015 two-person show), Camden Falls Gallery, Camden, ME
- "2015 Salmagundi Club Non-Member Exhibition," New York, NY
- "2014 Hilton Head Art Auction," Hilton Head, SC
- "2014 CCCA/Olana Plein Air Festival," Hudson, NY
- "2014 Plein Air Mt. Lebanon," Pittsburgh, PA
- "2014 Piedmont Plein Air Festival," High Point, NC
- "2014 Cape Elizabeth Plein Air Auction," Cape Elizabeth, ME
- "Easels in Frederick 2014 Plein Air Festival," (award winner), Frederick, MD
- Solo Show (2014), The Edward Hopper House Art Center, Nyack, NY
- "American Impressionist Society 14th Annual Juried Exhibition," M Gallery, Charleston, SC
- "CCCA/Olana Plein Air Auction 2013," Hudson, NY
- "2013 Hilton Head Art Auction," Hilton Head, SC
- "Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Auction 2013," Cape Elizabeth, ME
- "Plein Air Richmond 2013" (award winner), Richmond, VA
- "Oil Painters of America 2013 Juried Salon Show," Crooked Tree Art Center, Petoskey, MI
- "American Art Invitational 2012," Saks Gallery, Denver, CO
- "2012 Charleston Art Auction," Charleston, SC
- "Wayne Plein Air Festival 2012," Wayne, PA
- "Contemporary Masters: Artistic Eden III 2012," Pasadena Museum of History, Pasadena, CA
- "Jonathan Art Foundation Auction" 2012, Los Angeles, CA
- "Plein Air Painting" Group Show 2012, Golden West College Gallery, Huntington Beach, CA
- "2011 Charleston Art Auction," Charleston, SC
- "13th Annual Laguna Beach Plein Air Painting Invitational," Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- "2011 Just Plein Fun" plein air invitational, Debra Huse Gallery, Balboa Island, CA
- "2011 Summer Salon" Tirage Fine Art, Pasadena, CA
- "Less is More" 2011 (First Place Award), Laguna Plein Air Painters Assoc., CA
- "6 Inch Square" 2011 (award winner), Higbee Gallery, Costa Mesa, CA
- "6 Inch Square" 2010, Higbee Gallery, Costa Mesa, CA
- "Less is More" 2010, Laguna Plein Air Painters Assoc., CA
- "Small is Beautiful" 2010, So. Cal. Plein Air Painters Assoc., Newport Beach, CA
- "Modern Landscapes" 2009 (First Place Award), So. Cal. Artists Assoc., Laguna Beach, CA
- "Less Is More" 2009 (award winner), Laguna Plein Air Painters Assoc., CA
- "Rialto Visions 2008: Icons and Landmarks of South Pasadena," SoPas Gallery, South Pasadena, CA
- "Contemporary Realism 2004," Fraser Gallery, Bethesda, MD
- "New Directions 2002," Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY
- "Georgetown International Art 2002" (Third Place Award), Fraser Gallery, Washington, DC
- "71st Annual Hudson Valley Art Association Juried Show 2002," Newington-Cropsey Gallery, NY

Publications/Press

- "Kitchen Settings Inspire Maine Painter's Latest Series" February 2016 Portland Press Herald
- "Graziano Wins at Easels in Frederick" July 2014 Cafe des Artistes/Bangor Daily News
- "Dan Graziano Exhibiting at Edward Hopper House Art Center" June 2014 Cafe des Artistes/Bangor Daily News
- 2013 Book of Lists, Philadelphia Business Journal
- "Artists To Watch" June 2012 Southwest Art Magazine

Gallery Representation

- Red Piano Gallery, Hilton Head, SC
- Roux & Cyr International Fine Art Gallery, Portland, ME
- Lucky Hill, Castine, ME
- Soren Christensen Fine Art, New Orleans, LA
- Tvedten Fine Art, Harbor Springs, MI
- Chasen Galleries, Richmond, VA
- Anne Neilson Fine Art, Charlotte, NC

Affiliations

- California Art Club
- Laguna Plein Air Painters Association
- Oil Painters of America
- American Impressionist Society
- National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society