

DONALD NEFF

American Artist

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Over El Capitan, 48x36, oil on canvas

Lumen* Aqua * Terra

“I paint the places where I love to be. I paint the freshness of eternal nature, icy lucid streams, thunderous waterfalls, and soaring granite crests over silent lakes. I paint the descriptions of John Muir, the echoes of Ansel Adams, the American West of Albert Bierstadt and Thomas Moran. I paint luminosity filtering through the landscape, reaching to the foundation of a stream, bouncing off rocks, and illuminating the shadows.

Using oil and acrylic, painting realistically is merely my means to an end. I want the viewer to connect with the places where I love to be. I hope the observer will want to walk right into my painting and maybe even drop a line in the water to catch a trout.

My published works include both “plein air” and studio paintings, which helps me translate the dynamic experience of the moment and communicate in a more personal way of what I am trying to say.”

Light * Water * Earth

Artist Statement



Jayge



Jarvis

Early Thaw, 30x40, oil on canvas



Jarvis

Truckee, 30x40, oil on canvas



East Shore Cove (Tahoe), 40x30, oil on canvas



Dunes Sunset, 24x18, oil on canvas

Large



Medium

"On the Road to Telluride", 22x28, oil on canvas



Clarke Bridge, Yosemite, 15x30, oil on canvas



Capitol Reef, 12x36, oil on canvas

Medium



Medium

Late, 18x24, oil on canvas



Master of His Domain, 28x22, acrylic on canvas



Santorini, 28x22, oil on canvas

Medium



Medium

Monterey Dunes, 16×20, oil on canvas



Medium

Perkins Park, 16x20, oil on board



Squaw Creek, 16x12, oil on board



Dunes Sunset, 20x16, oil on canvas

Medium

Tahoe Squall, 6x8, oil on panel



Spring Runoff". 6x8, oil on panel,



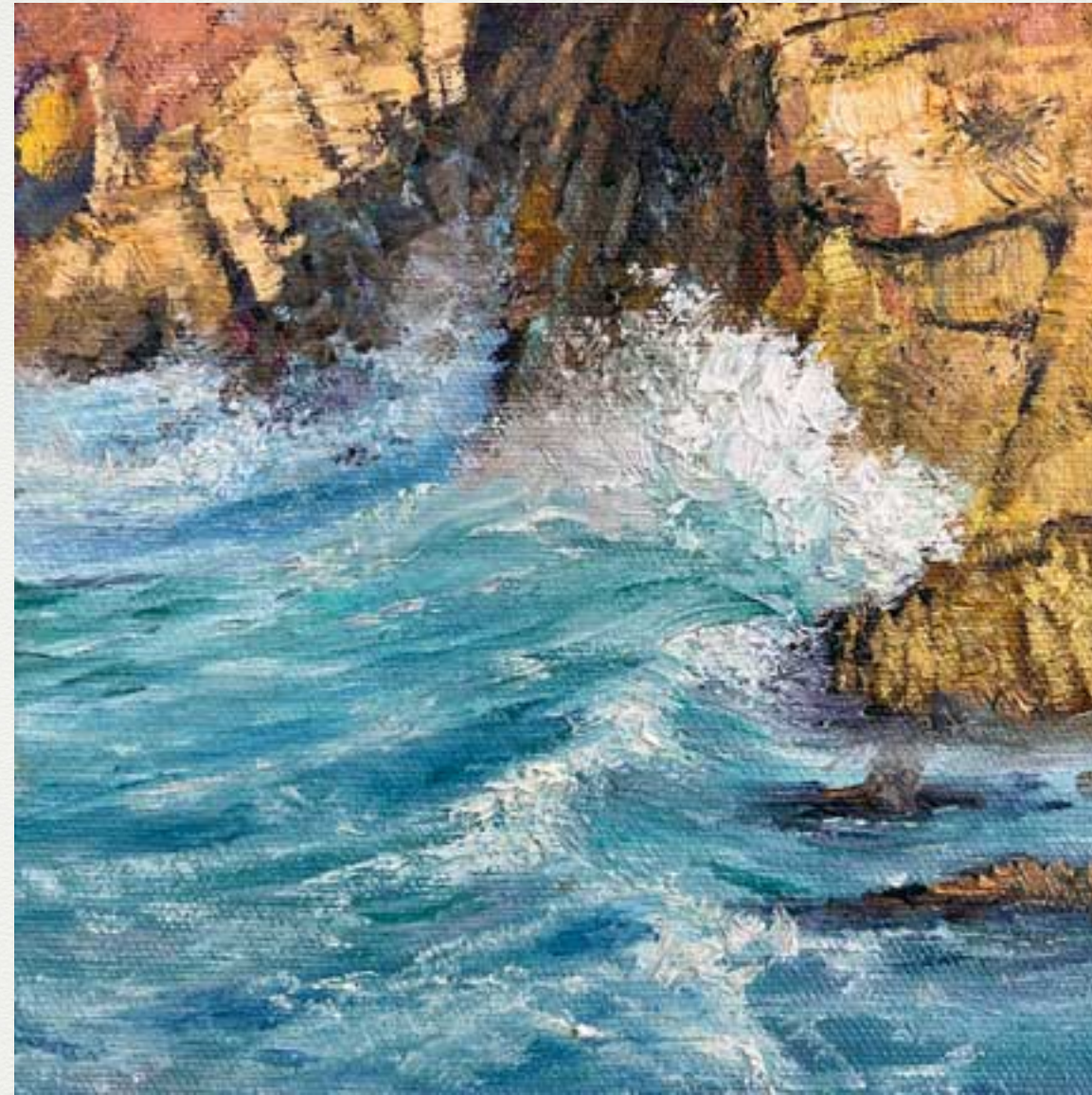
Godafoss (Iceland), 6x12, oil on canvas

Small

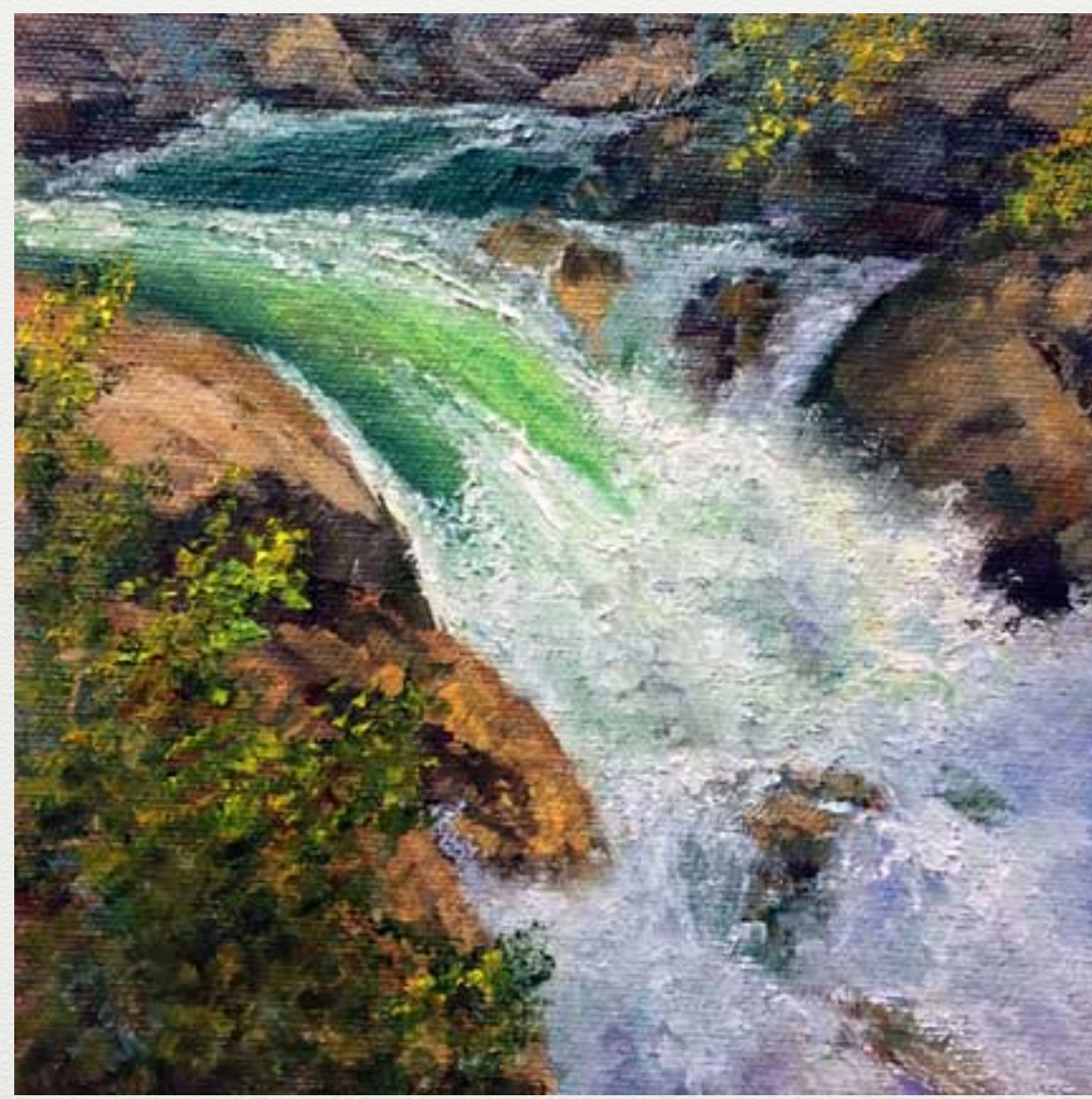
Lobos Splash, 6x6, oil on panel



Rush!, 6x6, oil on panel



Tahoe Squall, 6x6, oil on panel



Turgid Merced, 6x6, oil on panel



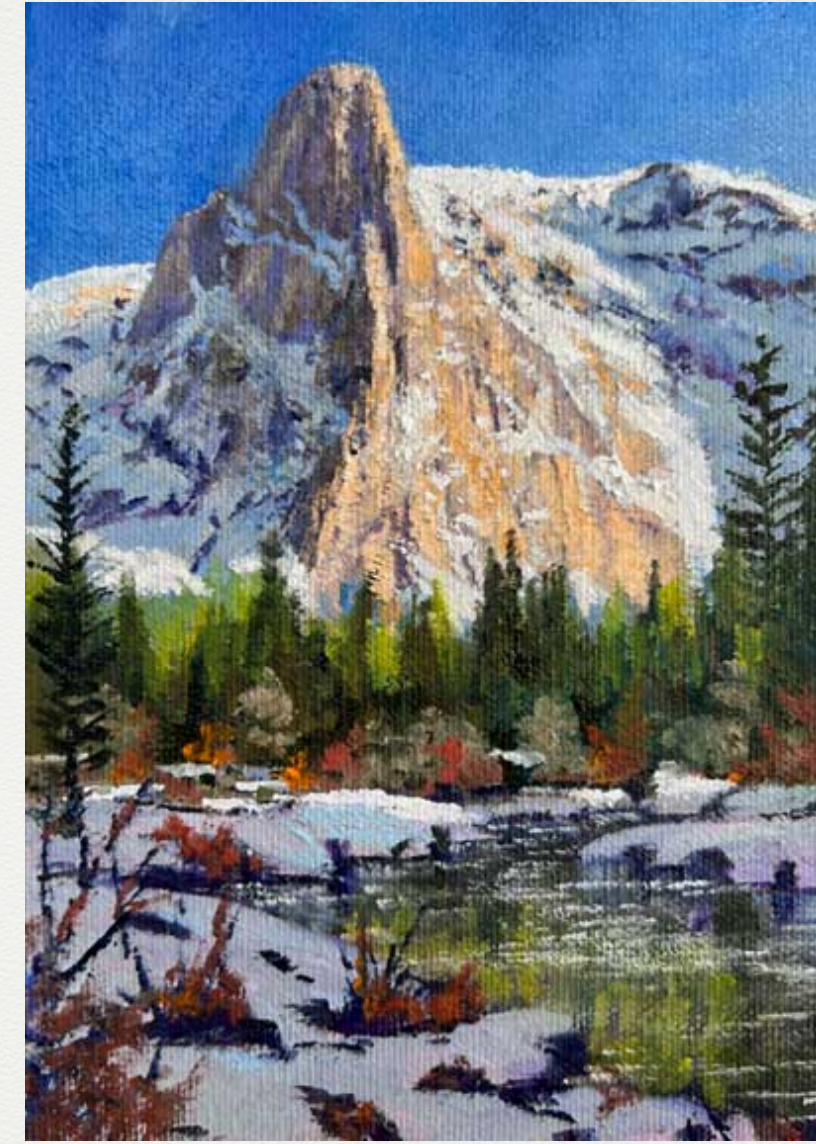
Misty Redwoods, 8x4, oil on panel

Small

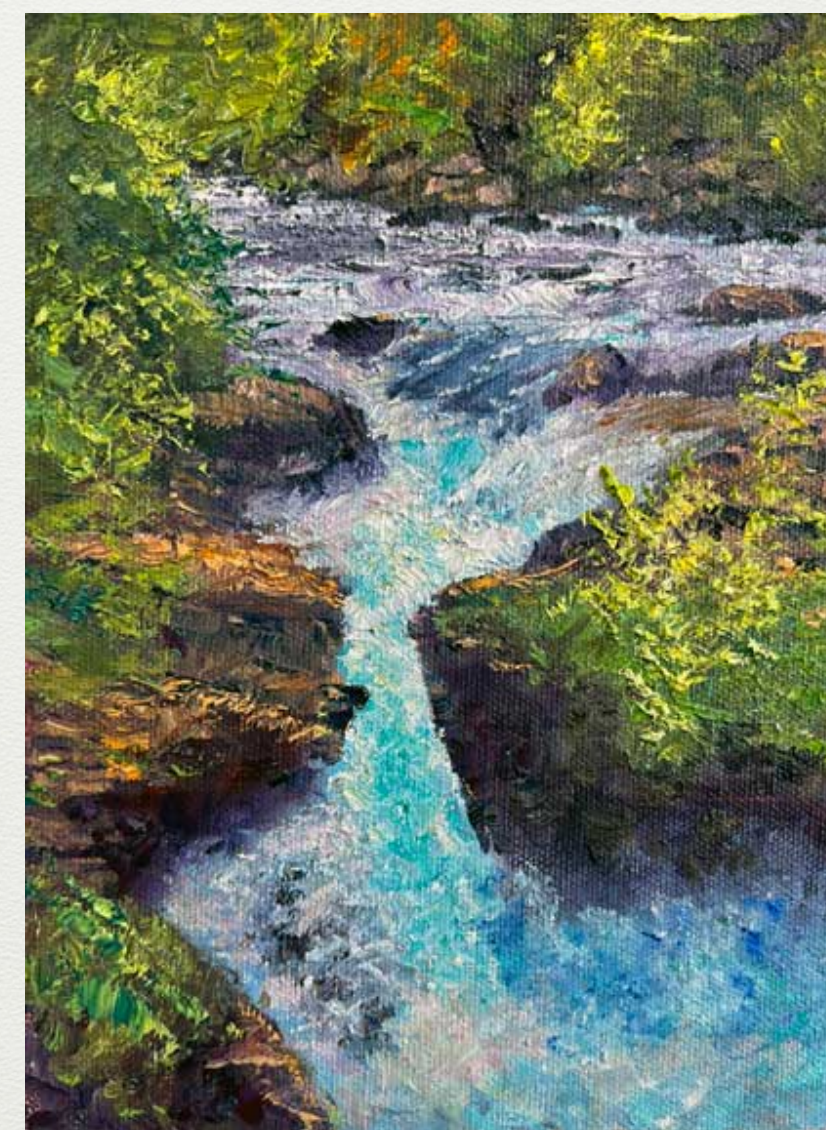
Yosemite Morning, 12x24, oil on canvas



*Sentinel Afternoon, 7x5,
oil on panel*



"Tee Time", 15x30, oil on canvas



*Gudbrandsjuvet (Norway), 8x6,
oil on panel*

Heinrich



Tahoe Inlet, 12x16, oil on panel

Thunderbird Overlook, 12x16, oil on panel



Hein Air

Elkhorn Morning, 12x16, oil on panel



Sobranes View, 12x16, oil on panel

Stein Art

Death Valley View, 12x24, oil

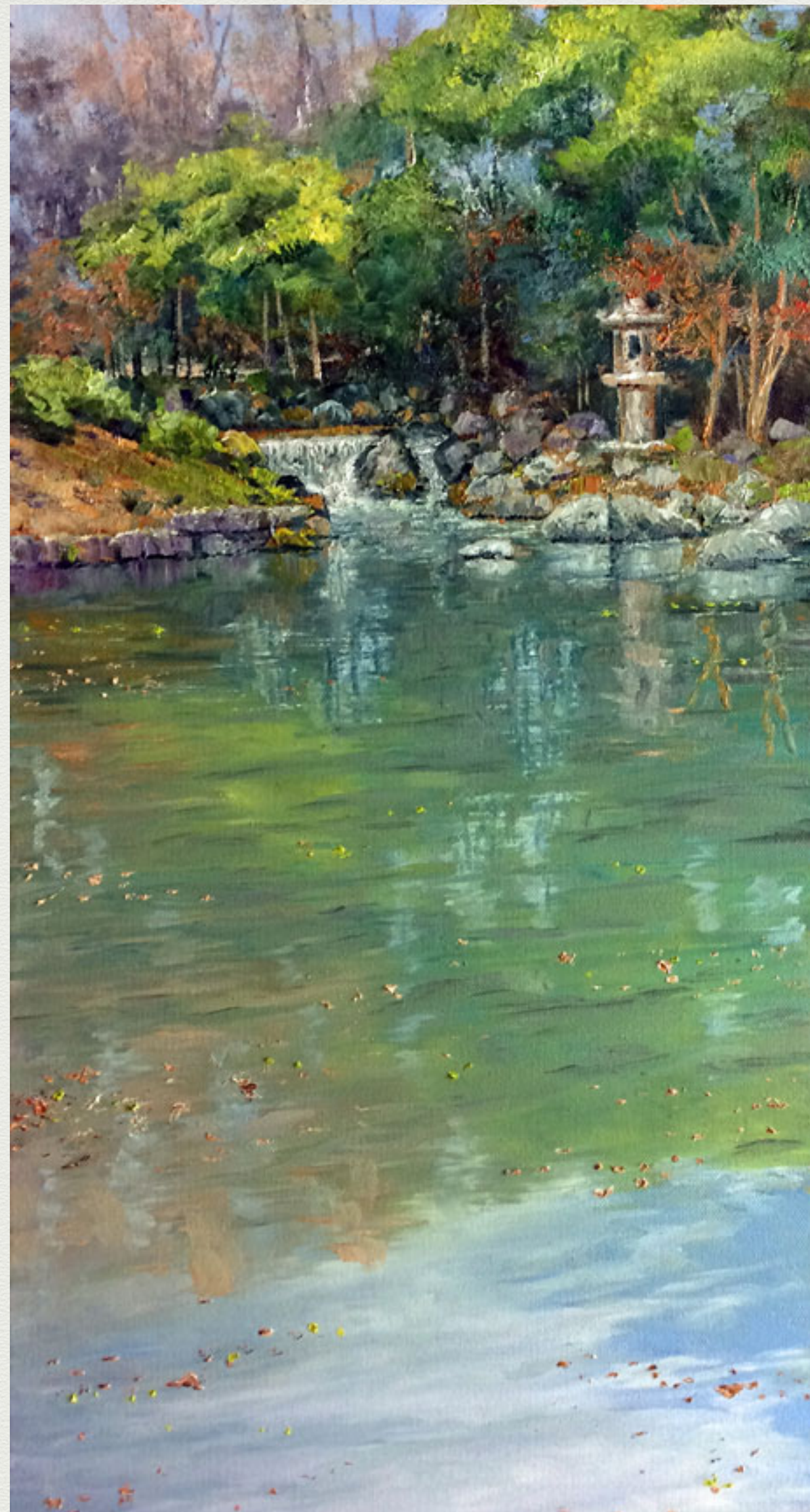


Willow Flats Overlook, 8x16, oil on panel

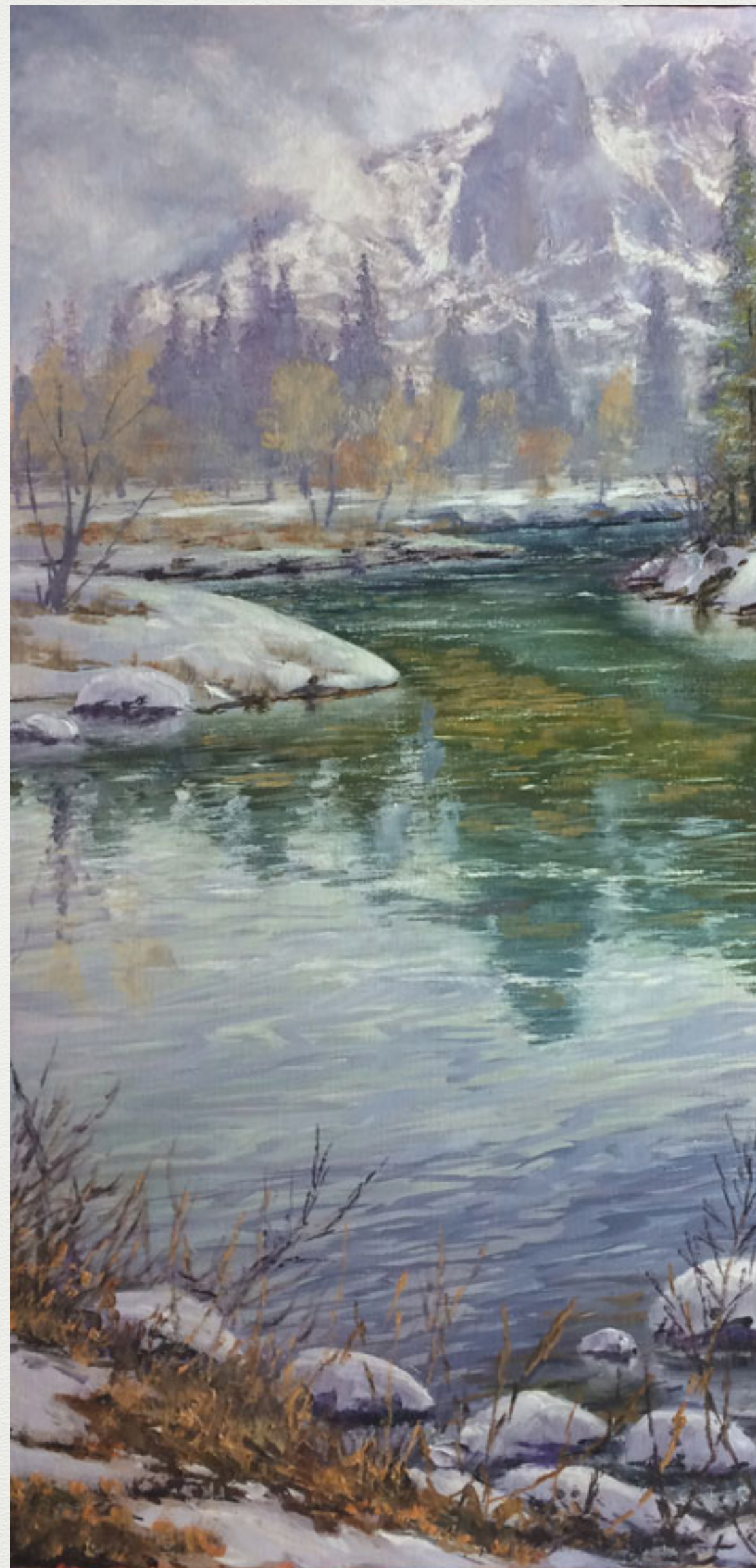


Monterey Squall, 24x12, oil on canvas

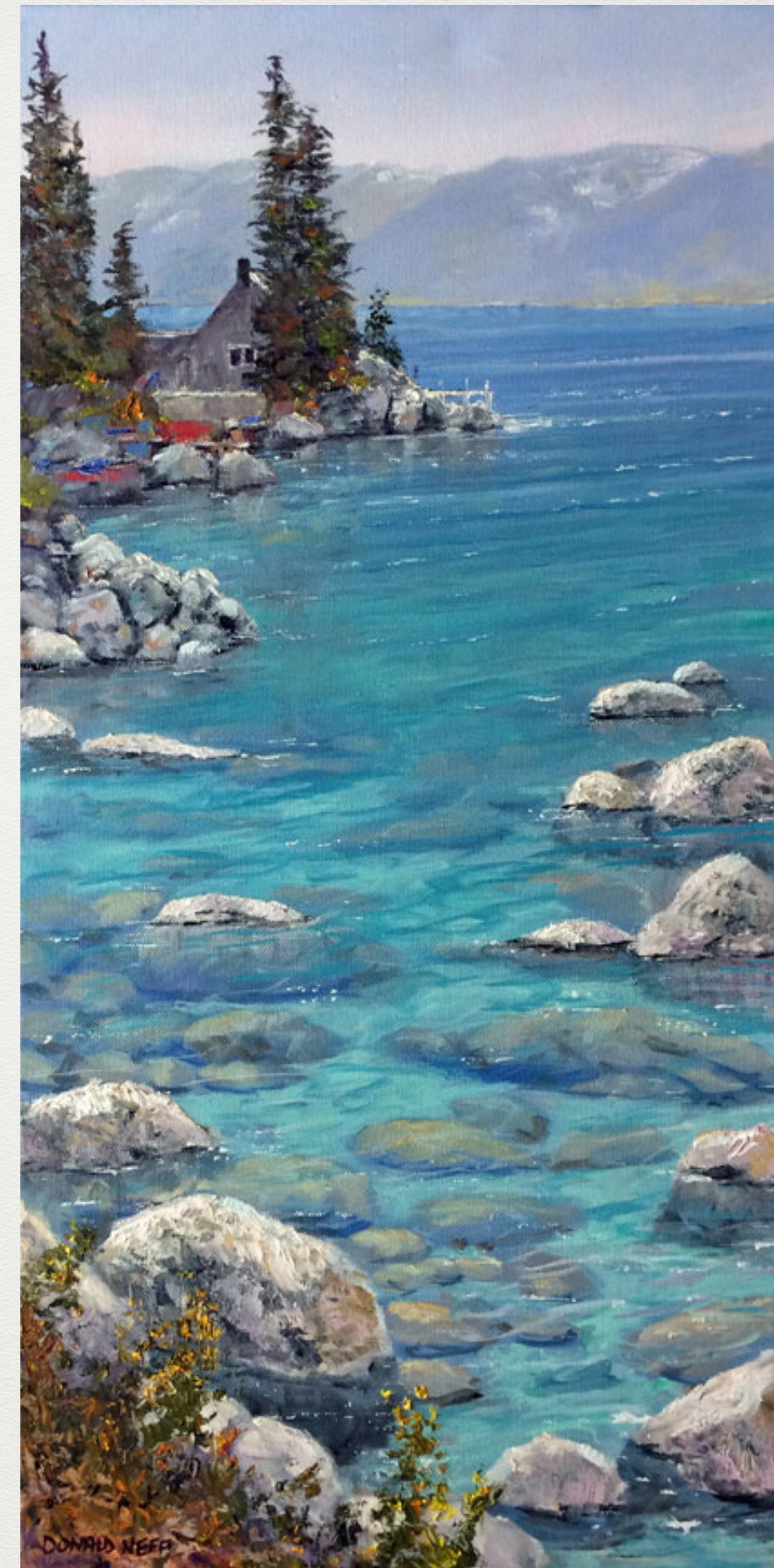
Plain Air



Kako-no-ike, 24x12, oil on canvas



Misty Merced, 24x12, oil on canvas



*Thunderbird Lodge (Tahoe),
24x12, oil on canvas*

Vertical Water Series

Selected History

Solo Shows:

2015,2016 “The Creeks and Rivers of Silicon Valley”

- Santa Clara County Government Center public lobby
- Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR Center
- Milpitas Pubic Library

2009, 2008, 2006, 2016 James Harold Galleries, Tahoe City, CA

2006 Toll House, Los Gatos, CA

2003 Mountain View City Hall, Mountain View, CA

2003 Ago Gallery, Ouray, CO

1982 Carnegie Museum, Oxnard, CA

1979 Ambassador Gallery, Pasadena, CA

Selected Group Shows:

2006-2023, Carmel Art Festival

2004-2019 Los Gatos Art Fest, a plein air event.

2010, 2009 Nomadas del Art, Western plein air competition

2008, 2007 Seasons of Martis Plein Air

2005 Oil Painters of America Western Regional, Santa Barbara, CA

2005 Sonoma Plein Air

2022,2019,2017, 2004, 2003, 1987 Yosemite Renaissance, Yosemite Museum, CA

2003 Best in America, National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society, MO

2002 Arts for the Parks Mini-50 Finalist, Jackson, WY

2002 La Petite X, a national small format show, Coburg, OR

1991 Arts for the Parks 200, Jackson, WY

1983 American Artists Professional League, Salmungundi Club, NY, NY

1981 35th Annual San Francisco Arts Festival, San Francisco, CA

Selected Awards

2017 Plein Air Magazine Award of Excellence, Carmel Art Festival

2022 First Place Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Member show, “Coastal Passions”

2023 First Place Plein Air Painting Old Monterey/Monterey Art Museum

2023 People’s Choice award, Carmel Art Festival

2022 Randy Higbee Gallery Award

2004 First Place and Honorable Mention, Los Gatos Art Fest, a plein air event.

2002 First Place, Society of Western Artists Kaiser Show

1981 First Place, Society of Western Artists Statewide Show, Sacramento, CA

2006 Best of Oil or Acrylic, Carmel Art Festival

2017 Second Place and Peoples Choice, Santa Clara Parks Plein Air

2009 Second Place, Los Gatos Museum charity event

2007 Peoples Choice Award, Seasons of Martis Plein Air

2012, 2016 Honorable Mention, Carmel Art Festival

2006 Third Place, Oils, Los Gatos Annual Members Show

1987 Honorable Mention, Yosemite Renaissance II, Yosemite Park, CA

1979 2nd Place, San Gabriel Fine Arts Annual Show, San Gabriel, CA

Miscellaneous

Publications:

[2019 Open Space Authority of Santa Clara County](#)
[2018 Outdoor Painter – A Revolutionary New Painting Technique](#)
[2018 Outdoor Painter – 7 Hilarious Plein Air Moments of 2018](#)
[2018 Outdoor Painter – Watch: Drone Films an Artist Painting Outdoors in Beautiful California](#)
[2017 Outdoor Painter – Art Is a Universal Language](#)
[2017 Outdoor Painter – Decked! With Donald](#)
[2016 Outdoor Painter – Parting Shot: How to Like a Donald Neff Painting on Facebook](#)
[2016 Outdoor Painter – Parting Shot: Catching Clouds](#)
[2015 Outdoor Painter – A Jungle in the Suburbs, A Wild Stream in an Office Park](#)
[2014 Evergreen Spotlight Magazine \(click for article\)](#)
[2014 Outdoor Painter – Think Silicon Valley, Think Streams](#)
[2013 Outdoor Painter – Painting Beauty in Silicon Valley](#)
[2012 December Plein Air Magazine, digital edition](#)
[2012 Outdoor Painter – The Advantage of Using Acrylic Studies](#)
[“How did you paint That? 100 ways to paint Seascapes, Rivers, & Lakes.”](#)
[2004 December Plein Air Magazine \(click for info\)](#)
[Click here for misc publications and articles.](#)
2003 2002 Guidebook of Western Artists

Television:

2018 [NBC Bay Area News](#)
2016 [Silicon Valley TAGS](#)
1998 Featured on “Silicon Valley Business Report” [Click here to see the feature.](#)

2013-2014 Faculty/Demonstrator 2nd Annual Plein Air Convention
US State Department, US Embassies in Mauritania, Nigeria, and Barbados
Who’s Who in America (2003 Edition)
Who’s Who Worldwide
Who’s Who in the West

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