

Barrie Leigh—Artistic Background

Who Is This?

These original paintings are by Barrie Leigh, and were created using a variety of pastel mediums, which are known for their ability to shine with lively color.

We all enjoy images, color and texture in our lives. The paintings you live with become a collection of love, a personal gallery of your own, that you collect on your path through life.

Will you enjoy these pieces? Will they stir your imagination? I hope so, but read about my story as you follow along through the Projects on the www.BakerArtist.org website.

About the Artist



Barrie Leigh was born and raised in the heart of the English Lake District. Views of mountains like Great Gable, Scafell, craggy Seat Allen, and their nearby rivers and lakes, created his love of landscapes and nature. The colors and patterns of the mountain scenery changed their moods as seasons passed by.

Barrie lived only a couple of miles from the tallest mountain, by the deepest lake, with the smallest school, and the smallest church in England. The colorful flower beds in nearby gardens and the distant fiery mountainsides of bracken instilled his love of vibrant color combinations.

Like many artists in America, Barrie started painting later in life. Like so many others, he has learned from the techniques and experience of excellent art teachers and coaches.



His preferences lean towards the natural world around us. That scenery and its elements provide combinations of colors and textures that influence his paintings. The media he uses are known for their ability to give intense colors, as well as soft subtleties, when needed.

Themes & Subjects

An artist needs to explore new techniques and artistic styles to make a contribution to the paintings in exhibitions or on the walls of your home.

Land & Sea

Barrie's view of landscapes develops unique color palettes, by using a greyscale view of the subject to enable a vision of colors for each picture's moods and feeling. It's not a matter of an artist setting his view of the landscape, but a matter of letting the landscape more freely show its own moods.



Birds & Bees

Winged creatures provide much of the beauty in our world, and a lot of detailed texture in our visual lives. Barrie applies a 3-fold painting method that involves a full underpainting, overlaid with a second layer of traditional pastel paints for higher value colors, and a final burnishing coat that glazes and blends as well as etches the final tiniest details into the picture. This produces paintings with dense reality and rich colorations.



Flowers & Trees

The delicate structure of a flower's petals rely on shadows to shape the bloom. Barrie begins by creating an underpainting of all the shaded areas, as a negative foundation from which the shadows will emerge.

Painters & Their Paintings

Who makes painters successful? Van Gogh, Cezanne, Monet, Renoir, Sargent, Degas, Turner all have something in common. Shockingly, to our modern sense of "education", they have no art degrees—not a one. It is you, who appreciate art that determine the value of any painter. When the subject, the style, or the message in a painting brings out a strong feeling or memory, you may want it for yourself. It's you who determines the value of a painter's work. So, contact him if you like his paintings.

As you look through these paintings, realize that each one has a message or a theme (what the painting is "about"). Each painting has a focal point, or sometimes two, with natural curves and shapes that invite your eye into the scene. You travel with the artist on a short journey through color, shape and texture.

In person, you can see Barrie's paintings live, and on display at the Artists' Emporium in Havre de Grace. Also, over the internet at www.BakerArtist.org and his website www.JBL-Art.com.

