

ArtStory

Pursuing quality of life.

Hugh Greer

Landscape Artist

Genre: Acrylic

Awards & Honors:

Grand Prize, Arts for the Parks
Mini-100 (2006)

Award of Merit, Estes Park Plein Air
Painting the Parks (2004)

People's Choice Award and Clifford
Stone Award, The Fine Art of
Living Well Regional Show (2004)

Excellence in the Arts "Individual Artist"
Award, the Arts Council
(Wichita, Kansas) (2004)

Grand Prize, Arts for the Parks
Top 100 (2003)

Winner and "People's Choice Award",
Region III, Arts for the Parks (2002)

Best of Show, "Art from the
Heartland" (2001)

Best of Show, Kansas 7 State
Watercolor Exhibition (2000)



Creating art purely for enjoyment is one thing. Making a living at it is something else. That takes not only talent, but marketing savvy, a feel for public tastes. Foremost, it takes discipline. No one understands all this better than Hugh Greer.

"I paint like my life depended on it," he jokes, then adds, "And like my wife depended on it. And we do."

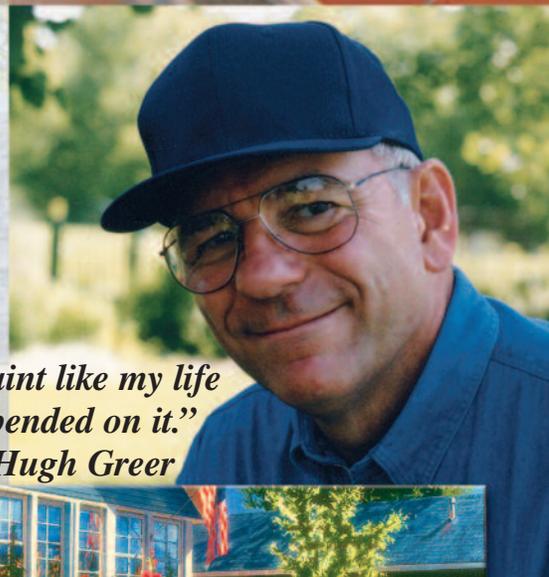
Over the past 30 years, Hugh **"I paint like my life depended on it."**

has gone from full-time architectural illustrator to full-time fine artist. "At first, I would spend maybe 90% of my time on renderings, 10% on fine art," he explains. But as his works gained exposure and acceptance, the balance shifted. Today he does fine art exclusively. "I was lucky, my art was selling."

While the detail and precision in his works sometimes betray his architectural roots (such as his painting of the Truman House, Grand Prize Winner of the 2006 Arts for the Parks Mini-100), Hugh stresses the distinctions in his chosen careers. "When you'd do a rendering, you couldn't see it, it didn't exist. You had to make it all up. But doing fine art, it's something you see and enjoy." And unlike renderings, "when you do fine art, you put it out there and just hope and pray someone comes along who likes it." For Hugh, that's never seemed a problem.

In addition to his paintings, Hugh has several books and videos to his credit, and is in constant demand for workshops. But as he nears retirement age, (he'll be 65 next year), he says he's ready to slow down a little and spend more time fishing. "My wife says, 'You're not retiring -- you're not fishing every day.' I tell her, 'Yeah, but we can eat the fish!'"

For now, he continues to create some of our area's most prized (literally) paintings. Does he still find the process energizing? "There are always surprises," he says, "particularly in trying to develop new ways of



-Hugh Greer



accomplishing the painting." But then, assuming the role of marketer, he cautions, "But the end result needs to be consistent. Galleries have developed a clientele for your work, and they expect you to give them what will sell."

Few artists do that better than Hugh Greer.



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