

ArtStory

Pursuing quality of life.

Erika Binns

Pastel Artist

Medium:

Pastel on canvas

Notable

Exhibitions/Competitions:

Smoky Hill Art Competition,
Hays, KS

Colorado Springs Art Guild,
Colorado Springs, CO

Collections:

Hallmark Fine Art Collection -
Kansas City, MO

The Trust Company of Kansas -
Lawrence, KS

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Moments of ‘wow!’...
and...‘egads!’”***

—Erika Binns

Age cannot confine a true artist, especially those rare gems like Erika Binns.

Binns calls herself a “late bloomer”. She didn't touch a canvas until well into retirement. A flickering interest borne from boredom became a passion as she learned pastel painting at her local senior center. As her feverish hands smudged ochres, crimson and blues, an artist emerged.

“I prefer pastels because of the practicality of the medium. There's nothing in the way, no brush, no thinner. Just your hand between the canvas and the brain,” says Binns.

With some gentle prodding from her instructor, Binns hung her own art show. Over time she submitted work to juried exhibitions and galleries all over the nation - mixing triumph with defeat.

“That's when I learned about rejection. In the process of acceptance and rejection the only thing that matters is ‘to thine own self be true’. Figure that out and then the inevitable rejection becomes bearable,” says Binns.

Binns represents one of the finest virtues of the arts -- that they affect every person uniquely, unpredictably and without warning.

“For me, it's like being in a different world. There is an absence of time, it's a good place to be,” says Binns. “The struggle within is very personal. Moments of ‘wow!’...and...‘egads!’”



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