

Julie Bradbury-Bennett –Artist Bio.

Featured Artist -Carlsbad Oceanside Art League–October 2020

Growing up in Yarrambat on the rural outskirts of Melbourne AU, I was surrounded by the dry steep rocky hills of re-growth eucalypt and scattered tailings from the late 1800's Victorian gold rush era. Even with cows, chickens and gardens to tend, there was always time to take in the distant views of mountains to the east, ever changing with the constant flux in weather. After the winter rains an array of wildflowers, lichen and moss graced the forest floor.

As a teenager I had the good fortune to be sent by my family to painting classes with Alan Martin in Eltham. Alan was a wonderful artist and an unassuming, methodical teacher, conveying with great clarity and simplicity the fundamentals of black and white portraiture. I hear his words each time I paint. The imprint of that world has stayed with me long after it and I are no longer there. It is that, which tries to reveal itself each time I paint.

While making my living in the US primarily in Manufacturing Engineering, I have continued to paint, mostly landscapes, transitioning from oils to water color and back. Now residing in San Diego, the arid mountains and blue skies of East County have brought me full circle.

Currently I am the Organizer of the San Diego Plein Air Painters Meetup Group (2012-2020). We have painted together every week, learning and sharing ideas as we go. During 2020, the Meetup Group has gone into lockdown. Work now consists of Plein Air in the yard, still life studies in the guest room and solo midweek painting trips to Mission Trails Regional Park. This show includes some of this recent work.

I have been a member of Carlsbad Oceanside Art League since 2017 and would like to thank the League for this special opportunity to be Featured Artist for October 2020. As we all struggle to find our way through this pandemic, I hope a little art may help to smooth the path. For those interested, a larger collection of work can be found at:

<https://www.juliebradbury-bennett.com/>



Winter morning at Heritage Park-San Diego