

Jim McVicker (b. 1951)

At the age of 21, upon seeing nineteenth century French landscape paintings, Jim McVicker had an awakening to art. The beauty and sensitivity he saw in those works changed his perception of the world. Influenced by the French Impressionists – particularly Monet, Pissarro, and Sisley – he created his first plein air painting in 1973.

After attending art classes at Chaffey Community College in Southern California, in 1975 – at 24 years old – McVicker decided to become a full time painter. He moved from Ontario, California, where he was born and raised, in order to start a fresh life as a painter. He ultimately settled in Humboldt County, drawn there by the beauty of northern California, the art community, and the chance to live a quieter, rural life.

With the exception of a couple adventures elsewhere, McVicker has remained in Humboldt since 1977 and it is where his education and growth as a painter flourished. There were several accomplished artists in the area that he met through a life-drawing group. Three of them, Curtis Otto, James Moore and George Van Hook, became close friends as well as mentors. Working so closely with these talented artists, in combination with direct observation of nature and studying historical and contemporary art, was the way in which he learned to see.

In 1984, McVicker met his wife and fellow artist, Terry. Terry has been another major influence in his development as an artist, a constant partner and companion that broadens his vision and pushes his work. Painting from life, in both a studio on his property and outdoors, he oeuvre contains landscapes, still lifes and figure paintings. He paintings capture the light, atmosphere, space, and mysterious beauty all around us.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 One Person Shows "Diversions" Upstairs Art Gallery, Arcata, CA
- 2013 Recent Landscape Paintings, Sewell Gallery Fine Art, Eureka, CA
- 2011 Jim McVicker, George Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, CA
- 2011 Seascapes, Paintings & Watercolors, Humboldt State University, First Street Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2009 "A Way of Seeing" Morris Graves Museum of Art, Eureka, CA
- 2008 Piante Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2007 Cody Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2005 John Pence Gallery, SF, CA
- 2005 Cody-Petit Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2004 Piante, Eureka, CA
- 2003 "Responding to the Landscape," Humboldt State University First Street Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2002 Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA (also 1999, 1997, 1995)
- 2000 "Watercolors," Morris Graves Museum of Art, Humboldt, CA
- 1993 Orr's Gallery, San Diego, CA (also 1992)
 - Gump's Gallery, San Francisco, CA (also 1988, 1991)
 - Atlee & Atlee, Eureka, CA (also 1989-1992)
 - Foxhall Gallery, Washington, DC (also 1989, 1991, 1992)
- 1988 Capricorn Galleries, Bethesda, MD
 - Candy Stick Gallery, Ferndale, CA (also 1984-87)
- 1981 North Coast Gallery, Arcata, CA
- 1977 Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 California Art Club, Gold Medal Juried Exhibition, Pasadena Museum of California Art (Also 2010-14)
- 2015 Village Galleries, Maui Plein Air, Maui, HI
- 2014 Recent Watercolors, Piante Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2010 Interior Spaces-Peterson Cody Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 2010 Landscape Patterns, Peterson-Cody Gallery
- 2008 Plein Air, Invitational-Fairmont Gallery, Sonoma, CA (also 2009, 2010 & 2011)
- 2008 "The Water's Edge," Humboldt State University, First Street Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2008 Meridian Fine Art - Garden Show, Jim McVicker and Theresa Oats
- 2007 Landscapes: "Rural and Urban Realities," Triton Museum of Art
- 2007 "Yosemite Revisited," Cody Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 2006 "Intimate Landscape," Winfield Gallery, Carmel, CA
- 2006 John Pence Gallery, San Francisco, CA (also 2004)
 - George Stern Fine Art, West Hollywood, CA
 - Cody-Pettit Gallery, Eureka CA
- 2000 "Hackett-Freedman Gallery Artists," Shasta College Art Gallery, Redding, CA
 - "A Noble Tradition Revisited," The Contemporary American Still-Life, Spanierman Gallery, New York, NY
- 1999 "Contemporary Realism," Lisa Kurts Gallery, Memphis, TN
- 1997 "10th Anniversary Exhibition," Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1996 "Still Life," Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 - "Flower Painting," Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 - "Contemporary American Realist Painters," Hall Crown Center, Kansas City, Mo (also 1994)
- 1994 "Art for the Parks Top 100," National Wildlife Museum, Jackson, WY (traveling)
 - "Plein Air Show," The Pink Lady Gallery, Eureka, CA
- 1993 "Landscapes of the West," Phippen Museum of Western Art, Prescott, AZ
- 1990 "25/25: 25 Portraits of Artists by Jim McVicker and 25 Works by the Artist," Humboldt Cultural Center Gallery, Eureka, CA
 - Elaine Horwitch Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- 1989 Elaine Horwitch Gallery, Palm Springs, CA
- 1988 "Landscapes and Figures," Humboldt Cultural Center, Eureka, CA
 - "Mid-Year Show," Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH

- 1986 "Humboldt County Artists," California State Capitol, Sacramento, CA
 "Twenty Humboldt Artists," California Museum of Art, Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa, CA
 City Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- 1983 "Realism, Two Points of View, Jim McVicker and Mike Kopriva," Nicolaysen Art Museum, Casper, WY
- 1982 National Juried Show, Terrence Gallery, Palenville, NY
- 1981 Humboldt Cultural Center, Eureka, CA (traveling)
- 1979 "Four-Person Boat Show," Hobart Gallery, Ferndale, CA

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2015 First Place, Plein Air Magazine Salon Competition
- 2015 Gold Medal for Best Painting, 104th Gold Medal Exhibition, California Art Club
- 2015 Laguna Canyon Foundation Award, Laguna Beach 17th Plein Air Invitational
- 2014 Best of Show, Laguna Beach 16th Plein Air Invitational, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2014 Franz Bischoff Award for Best Still Life, 103rd Gold Medal Exhibition, California Art Club
- 2014 Southwest Art Magazine Award of Excellence, 103rd Gold Medal Exhibition, California Art Club
- 2014 Second Place, Plein Air Magazine Salon Competition
- 2014 Finalist, Art Renewal Center International Salon Competition
- 2013 Third Place, Plein Air Magazine Salon Competition
- 2012 Silver Medal, Oil Painters of America Western Regional Juried Exhibition, Gallery 1261, Denver, CO
- 2012 Honorable Mention in Still Life, Oil Painters of America 21st National Juried Exhibition, Evergreen Fine Art Gallery, Evergreen, CO
- 2012 First Place, 2nd Annual Plein Air Salon Competition (Nov/Dec 2012 and Sept/Oct. 2012)
- 2011 Best of Show, RAA Spring Juried Exhibit, Eureka, CA
- 2010 Best of Show, RAA Spring Juried Exhibit, Eureka, CA
- 2008 Best of Show, RAA Juried Exhibit, Eureka, CA
- 2008 Finalist, American Artist Magazine Self Portrait Competition
- 1998 Best of Show, RAA Juried Exhibit, Eureka, CA
- 1997 Best of Show, RAA Juried Exhibit, Eureka, CA
- 1993 Silver Award, "Discovery 1993," *Art of California* Painting Competition
- 1992 First Place, *The Artists Magazine* National Portrait Competition (also 1991)
 Second Place, *The Artists Magazine* National Still Life Competition
- 1989 Second Place, *The Artists Magazine* National Portrait Competition
 Award of Excellence, "California Works," California State Fair, Sacramento, CA (also 1987, 1986)
- 1986 Arts Council Award, Humboldt County, CA
- 1983 First Place, National Juried Competition, Rock Springs, WY
- 1983 Purchase Award, "Cowboy State Art Spectacular," Wyoming State Fair, Douglas, WY
- 1981 Best of Show, Southern Oregon Arts Competition

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2015 California Art Club Newsletter, Jim McVicker, *The View Up North* by Molly Siple
- 2013 California Light, *A Century of Landscapes: Paintings of the California Art Club*
- 2010 Southwest Art, Inside and Outside, June 2010, p. 62-65
- 2010 American Art Collector, Interior Spaces, July 2010, p. 162-165
- 2000 Wolfe, Rachel Rugin, *Art From the Parks*, Northern Light Books
- 1998 Driscoll, John and Skolnick, Arnold, *The Artist and the American Landscape*, First Glance Books
- 1995 Richards, David P., *How to Discover Your Own Painting Style*, North Light Books
- Hlubek, Jeffrey J. "Continuing a California Tradition, the Paintings of Jim McVicker," *Art of California*, October, p. 33-35
Landscapes of the West, Phippen Museum of Western Art, Prescott, AZ
- 1992 Fregeau, Penny, "Loleta Artist Receives National Acclaim," *The Humboldt Beacon*, January 2
- 1992 "Portrait Competition Winners," *The Artists Magazine*, December
- 1992 "Still Life Competition Winners," *The Artists Magazine*, December
- 1991 "1991 Portrait Competition Winners," *The Artists Magazine*, December
 "Award-Winning Art," *Times-Standard*; November 26

1990 "Preserving Our Natural Resource," American Artist, August, p. 30-69

McDonnell, Bell, "25/25 Show Brings Local Artist to Life," North Coast Journal, February

1989 Feit, Edward, "Nature as Teacher - The Art of Jim McVicker," American Artist, December, p. 38-42, 76-80

1989 "Portrait Competition Winners," The Artists Magazine, December

FILM

2009 "Jim McVicker – A Way of Seeing," Created by Peter Granrud and John Crater

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Hiram Johnson State Office Building - San Francisco, CA

Beverly Hills Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA

Exxon Corporation, Irving, TX

Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, Los Angeles, CA

Bank of Loleta, Eureka, CA

Nagaragawa, Ramada Hotel, Gifu, Japan

Ritz Carlton, Pasadena, CA

Ross & Jowett, Financial Advisors, Eureka, CA

The Sutter Club, Sacramento, CA

Jeff Wissman, Public Accountant, Eureka, CA

State of Wyoming, Douglas, WY

Laguna Honda Hospital, San Francisco, CA

Valley Health Center, Milpitas, CA

Morris Graves Museum of Art, Eureka, CA

Chaffey High School, Ontario, CA

GALLERY REPRESENTATION

J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art, Vero Beach, FL

George Stern Fine Art, West Hollywood, CA

Fairmont Gallery, Sonoma, CA

Astoria Gallery, Jackson, WY

Anne Neilson Fine Art, Charlotte, NC

Chris Clark Gallery, Banner Elk, NC

Strawberry Rock Gallery, Trinidad, CA

Winfield Gallery, Carmel, CA