

An Armchair Chat with M.E. "Mike" Bailey



NWS Armchair Chat: Creativity ... How to "Mine" the Store
Sunday, September 17
10am - Noon

Register now online
nationalwatercolorociety.org
or mail the form below to: NWS Gallery
915 S. Pacific Avenue
San Pedro, CA 90731-3201

Let's lay waste to the obvious to find what is hidden inside of us painters ... But HOW?

Isn't our challenge always finding what to do next or how to open a door to something unique and different in our work?

My guess is that ACCESSING unique ways of expressing an idea in paint is something that stumps us all. Am I right?

I don't know about the rest of you, but my tendency is to report what I see ... and to do it "accurately." Quite honestly, when I see other artists do that, I turn away from it. To me that sort of stuff seems rather mundane. I want to see something unique and different enough to make me want to come back over and over again.

Has anyone here ever been dissatisfied with their work? Can you articulate why? Wouldn't it be nice if you could have very specific answers? Not about whether or not the 'subject' looks real, but about the relationships, the contrasts, the transitions, textures, color harmonies, etc. Wouldn't that be more helpful than I do or don't "like" it?

Wouldn't it be nice to have a "checklist" to go through? So that you could see precisely what was 'right' or 'not right' so you can modify without worrying if the subject is correct?

What does this have to do with "mining the store?"

It is a shift in our thinking paradigm. Stop thinking about nouns: Persons, Places or Things. Slowly, through a process, gradually focus on EDGES or LINE. As we make our paintings, look for ways to emphasize lines in the painting, in order to lead the eye, or stop the eye from being stalled on one spot. Or emphasize the contour of a shape, perhaps add a bit of mystery.

What is this "store?" It's the store house of creative "urges" that are sitting untapped inside of us, and they are untapped because of our fear of being humiliated or embarrassed. Letting those urges manifest themselves is a matter of finding the courage to take a risk.

Easier said than done right? Let's chat more about it on Sunday, September 17!

▼ Cut on dotted line & return with your check. **Thank you.** ▼

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

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Armchair Chat held at the NWS Gallery, 915 S. Pacific Avenue, San Pedro, CA 90731-3201.

Enrollment will be processed in order received. Register online – it's easier & faster!

Further inquiries contact Penny Hill:



760-908-3389



NWSAnnualExhib@gmail.com

Check the event you plan to attend:

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