

John Angell



Growing up the son of a Professor of Logic and Philosophy, I learned from an early age to question the meaning of things and not to accept the obvious interpretations. My journey into the study of art might seem the opposite direction of my father's life work but as I once put it to him, our paths were much the same. We each dedicated our studies to something most people would consider unnecessary in going about their daily lives but, in fact, our pursuits captured the very essence of what makes us human.

I graduated from the University of Michigan in 1976 with a BFA and a BA in History of Art. While my fine arts degree was in photography, I enjoyed painting, drawing and collage more than time spent in the darkroom. A few years after graduating I moved to San Francisco, thinking I would enter the art scene there, but could not reconcile with the starving part of starving artist or going commercial. I turned my talents to managing the box offices for major performing arts organizations, with some forays into artistic expression along the way.

In 1991, I was reunited with the love of my life, married and moved to Sacramento where I continued my creative journey working as a Programmer Analyst and Project Manager for Fortune 100 companies and major non-profits until retiring in 2012. Throughout this time, I used my art school training to look at things from a different perspective and to envision and realize better solutions while spicing up the workplace with custom trophies, retirement notices and other artifacts. I continued my creative pursuits for my own enjoyment over the years through photography, designing and building furniture, drawings and other art/design work.

After retirement, I took a few encaustic workshops which opened up a whole new world for me. After many years in artistic hibernation, 2021 was a breakout year for me. Since 2021 my work has been accepted into over one hundred exhibitions including 12 solo or small group shows. I have received honors in twelve of the shows I have entered including Cream of the Crop in the 2024 YoloArts Art Farm Exhibition and 4th Place in the prestigious Crocker Kingsley exhibition. I am featured in an article in the Spring 2024 issue of *Encaustic Arts Magazine*. My work is in the Museum of Encaustic Art permanent collection as well as private collections in New York, California, Chicago, Michigan, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, North Carolina, Vermont, Hawaii, Tokyo and Strasbourg. I feel I have found my way home at last.

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