

Artist's Statement
Sandra Davison
sandy@pastelfish.com
517-487-8892

I respond to the energy of nature, light and change primarily through pastels outdoors. The work is most often done on site, en plein air, and whenever possible is done at a single location over the course of repeated opportunities. This often translates to months at a single location and since 2005 has meant the locations are primarily swamps.

My passion is to paint dynamic life-force wherever it occurs. It calls often through form, a quality of light or where water catalyzes life. My interpretation of this life-energy is through bold color, stroke, mark and spark.

Life forms are great metaphors of life; giving, taking, dying, changing, growth wild or slow. Expressive directions in growth create amusing and sculptural shapes.

There are personalities and great metaphors for our human condition that nature holds out when I'm surrounded by the daily business of eat, live, fly, die. Trees are figural and as they loosen their bark become beautiful limbs leaning against another for support or rising above the surface allowing their form and memory to remain long after the life force has left.

The greater whole that humans are a part of unfolds in an ordinary way.

The pieces painted on site are enlivened by the unpainted interactions with curious green herons, complaining other mammals and the persistent attempts by other creatures to use me as furniture, food, and home. I am part of the life system and they the painting process. Painting en plein air, each color and selected mark is contained in the whole of life at that spot in that moment.

As new subjects are included in the work, a search for life force and flow, the spirit and energy remain my primary subject.

I pursue painting my "Jewels In the Landscape" series with dedication and drive, collecting additional painting environs. The work will continue to be my vehicle for conveying the chaotic, reassuring, exceptional quality of life on this planet. **Sandra Davison**