



Peter Campbell

Investigating a scene

My approach to painting has never been straightforward and I think that is reflected in my work and my techniques. Finding a “style” seems foreign to me because I see painting as more of a visual and internal investigation than something conjured up to be different or consistently

recognizable. Any subject is worthy of a painting and all things have many ways to be interpreted so I like to let the moment dictate the method.

Only by constant investigation does one add to the arsenal of solutions. Working quickly in plein air is quite different from

working in the studio, so I adjust to technique to capture what is in front of me quickly. Large landscapes, on the other hand, can take months to finish where interpretation and invention lead to a resolution.

“Study everything and make a study of anything” is my motto. I never let my



Still Life with Buddha, oil on canvas, 11 x 14" (28 x 36 cm)

I wanted to make the Buddha a focal point so I started the whole painting with only large soft blocks of color only working sharp edges and sharper brushstrokes at the end to lead the eye through the picture plane.



Winter Barn, oil on canvas, 24 x 24" (61 x 61 cm)
I see this barn almost every day since it is less than a mile from my house. One evening coming home the light play just struck me so I stopped and sketched out the details. Keeping clean brushes and close values are essential when painting snow.

desire to create a painting be stifled by my own perception of what I may consider limitations. Every painting should be a statement of confidence and that is derived by having a concept and a vision. It is a gift to be so utterly fascinated by painting, and over years of work see the progression and

have the reward of satisfaction.

Being curious is probably the best attribute an artist can have. With curiosity, one finds that until you start to paint and draw one really doesn't see the world. Drawing and painting reveals the way things really are with precious insight. 