



HOWELL GALLERY

## DAVID McMURRY

A painter of the outdoors searching for a better understanding of the natural world, McMurry creates many on-site or plein air paintings as a basis of reference for larger works.

“You spend as much time observing as you do painting if not more; the only way to create a good piece of work is to go into nature with no preconceived ideas. Nature is the best teacher because it holds the most accurate information; it’s all there...right in front of you.”

All artists benefit from nature because everything has already been created. It is the artist’s job to paint what he sees and not to take his ability for granted. He believes every piece he does should be better than the last, so the responsibility becomes greater as the consumer deserves quality work.

McMurry enjoys all the outlying areas of the Texas panhandle and has a special interest in landscape and its various times of day, the evening being his favorite time as all the rich color falls on the land, and there is a certain peacefulness to that time. Raised in farming and cattle, agriculture and the preservation of our land and its resources have a special interest for him.

“A hundred years from now, I don’t know how much people will be afforded what we have enjoyed. It is my job to put down and record these great places on canvas for others to enjoy. We have a magnificent history.”

“Bettina Steinke most influenced by painting from the standpoint of laying in the very basics of drawing. From drawing come all the elements that produce very good representational painting, and you just can’t ignore a painting that has all the correct elements in it...that’s what you strive for.”

McMurry has been an invited guest member of the Northwest Rendezvous Group, the Oil Painters of America, the Amarillo Fine Art Association, and the Moore County Art Association. He has studied with Carolyn Stallwitz, Emilio Caballero, West Texas State University, Scottsdale Art School, Jim Wilcox, Jackson Art Institute, Scott Christensen, Skip Whitcomb, Tony Eubanks, Quang Ho, Jim Morgan, Ralph Oberg, Matt Smith and Russell Case.