



“My Art revolves around improvisation, exploration, evolution, a love of gesture, the nature of space, a search for the divine“



Steve Zolin - www.aha-fineart.com

Artist Statement

Artist's Bio or, "How I Learned to Love the Art Industry“

It was two am, and the little desert airstrip reflected the moonlight while I stretched back in our 40-foot truck on the tarmac's edge. I wondered, "How did I get to this place?"

Scanning the night sky for a turbo-prop, I could hear my dad's voice from long ago: "If you want to be an artist, you need to learn the business of art."

This attitude seemed practical for someone like me, a life-long artist who was now trying to "make it" in the art world.

I was currently working for Gerald Peters Gallery and now here I was, learning-about-the-art-industry at two in the morning waiting for a Jim Dine painting the night before the opening, to be delivered like a drug drop in the middle of the New Mexico desert.

My life had been full of strange adventures like this since leaving my New Jersey home in 1990 to study art at Washington University in St. Louis. My Art revolves around improvisation, exploration, evolution, a love of gesture, the nature of space, a search for the divine, and of course, the neverending quest to make something interesting to look at.

“My never-ending quest to make something interesting to look at is aided by the principle of Improvisation, a love of Gesture, investigations of Self, of Space, and a search for the Divine.”

Born in 1972 and raised in West Orange, NJ, Steve Zolin earned his BFA cum laud at Washington University in 1994 and won an MFA Fellowship at Florida State University, graduating in 2005. Between degrees he spent nine years in Santa Fe, New Mexico enmeshed in the art scene there. Married to photographer Robin Noble-Zolin, he now resides in Manhattan where he exhibits regularly.

Zolin was chosen as a featured solo artist at the (E)merge Art Fair in DC in 2012. His work has also been seen at the 24th International Juried Show at the Visual Arts Center of NJ, curated by Susan Kismaric of the Museum of Modern Art, NY. Zolin has exhibited widely including exhibitions in New York, Florida, Santa Fe, and Toronto. His most recent solo installation, sponsored by Chashama and The National Endowment for the Arts, explored space, gesture, and movement, and was entitled “Unstraightness.” Career highlights include a 15’ mural for Senator Joseph Lieberman’s home synagogue in Connecticut, and a 35’ musical mural for the main band room of Santa Fe High School. Zolin has executed numerous other commissions including 13’ and 16’ paintings for restaurants in Santa Fe, a 60’ backdrop of Emerald City for a theatrical production of the Wizard of Oz, and three large mobiles for Florida State University. His work is also represented in numerous private collections.

Awards

2014

Special Award, Lightspacetime.com, Open Competition

2011

Honorable Mention, Lightspacetime.com, Cityscape Competition

2010

Commendation Award, Aesthetica Magazine

2009

National Endowment for the Arts Grant, “Unstraightness” Installation in New York City

2005

Graduated cum laude, Florida State University

2003

School of Art and Dance Presidential Fellowship, Florida State University

1994

The Ida L. Cushing Award for Excellence in Painting, Washington University

1994

Dean’s List, Washington University