

Kim Rhoney

Artist Bio

Raised on a small farm in rural southern Michigan, I am forever a farmer and an artist. Growing things to paint and painting things that grow is what I do. It's what I know. I used to think that I had to live somewhere urban and hip to find my artist voice only to find that my truest expression was waiting to paint what I knew.

My subjects change with what is growing outside. My palette adjusts to Mother Nature's constantly as I unconsciously use brighter greens in spring and purple shadows in autumn. I am constantly recording images of the rural countryside as I travel about with my camera phone. If I can haul it into my studio, I will. I love to paint directly from the subject. A sunflower field will result from photos, sketches and random sunflowers in vases all over my studio. I get the inspiration and then I want to sketch it, see it, feel it and smell it to get the entire sense of it in my head. The outcome is never photographic and always my personal impression using color and surface to convey my point of view. Adding cold wax and knives to my oil painting process has allowed me to use texture as another tool and I like the way it has changed my work.

I have been a professional studio artist full time for several years after leaving a 20 year career in hospitality sales and marketing. I earned a BFA from Eastern Michigan University in my thirties with the intent that art would become my "work" some day and so it has and I am in love. My young family and rural mini-farm keep me busy and happy which continues to impact my work.