

R. McCampbell

Thank you for joining my newsletter where I share current happenings with my art -- exhibits, installations, art classes, workshops, art tips and more.



Rachael Painting Plein at Air Ghost Ranch, NM © 2023

One day a friend asked me, "Do you realize we might only have twenty summers left?" I bolted upright. What?

Family, friends and community are very important to me. And right up there with them is my creative life. Some people say, "You're talented--you have a gift." But I'm here to tell you, I believe God has blessed us all with creative gifts, just different tools to express them. What we do with them, is up to us.

I think that **being creative is a lifestyle**. It's how you see the world. You can look at a sink full of dishes, squint your eyes, and find that the shapes create a gorgeous abstract painting. It's all about searching to find beauty in the ordinary things. I emphasize the importance of REALLY looking at the world to my students which opens up their lives in new ways.

Developing skills takes effort and I work on that every single day. So, do I possess a gift or just the desire to express creative ideas and make things? I think without working on your craft, and learning techniques, no amount of "talent" or "gifts" are going to help you. It takes learning.

Why we create is a question that has always intrigued me. I wrote about it for Nashville Arts Magazine in a column I published with them called "**And So It Goes.**" I create because I'm compelled to do so. If my hands aren't occupied with making something every day, I notably miss it. Sometimes I may make something that will never be seen by another human being, and that's fine. It fed my creative life that day. I was blessed to get to make something out of nothing. For me, to get the chance to create unique things with my hands, is truly gratifying! What are you doing to feed your creativity and your soul?

Count your summers, your months, weeks and days and ponder Mary Oliver's words,

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"



Rachael at KMA event 2023

Join me for a Reception at Knoxville Museum of Art,

April 20th, 5:30 - 9 pm

I will be painting with fabulous artists from across the country for this juried plein air event and exhibition. We will be painting plein air sites from all around the Knoxville area for a week, then having a reception on Saturday night.

Come see what everyone painted--and remember that all sales benefit the Knoxville Museum of Art! Free event with cash bar.



Save the Date:

Come to Centerville, TN for the **Arts & Ag** weekend **June 21st and June 22nd**. My studio on the Town Square will be open for the public 10 am - 6 pm each day.

We will have all sort of things to do in this county. You can get a map of all the participating farms etc.

I will be hosting painter and singer/songwriter **Leslie Satcher** as my guest artist. She will not only display her art, she will perform on **Friday, Jun 21st**. Tickets will go on sale soon for that -- I will let you know. Seating is limited.

Registration Closes April 14th for Plein Air Trip to the Smokies, Don't Delay!

Come Paint with Me

There is nothing like standing in or next to stream or rushing mountain water and painting. Creating art is so relaxing and good for the soul, but when you add chirping birds and the sounds of water...well, it's heavenly! That's one of the many reasons I love to paint in the Smokies.

I also love it because I get to have one-on-one time with the artists who take this workshop. We spend a lot

of time together in a week.



Rachael McCampbell painting in the Little Pigeon River outside of Gatlinburg

ATTEND MY SMOKY MOUNTAIN WORKSHOP

From Demos to Dinners

Every morning we meet for an outstanding breakfast of eggs Benedict, steel cut oats, French toast with bacon or other assorted treats and homemade breads. Then we grab our sack lunches and head about 2 miles away to one of many fabulous locations to paint.

I do a demonstration each day focusing on different aspects of painting en plein air such as blocking in, working monochromatically, color mixing, creating strong compositions, staying loose, abstracting the landscape, atmospheric perspective and more.

Everyone paints what they want to paint in that area. I walk around and talk with each artist individually about their process. I meet everyone at their skill level. After lunch and more painting, we head back for a rest, or, if the artist desires, they can continue to paint at the Inn. We have a large, private area where we can paint both indoors or on a beautiful screened porch. Fresh cookies are brought to us at about 3:30. :-)

Then, we meet for a gathering before dinner to discuss all sorts of aspects of



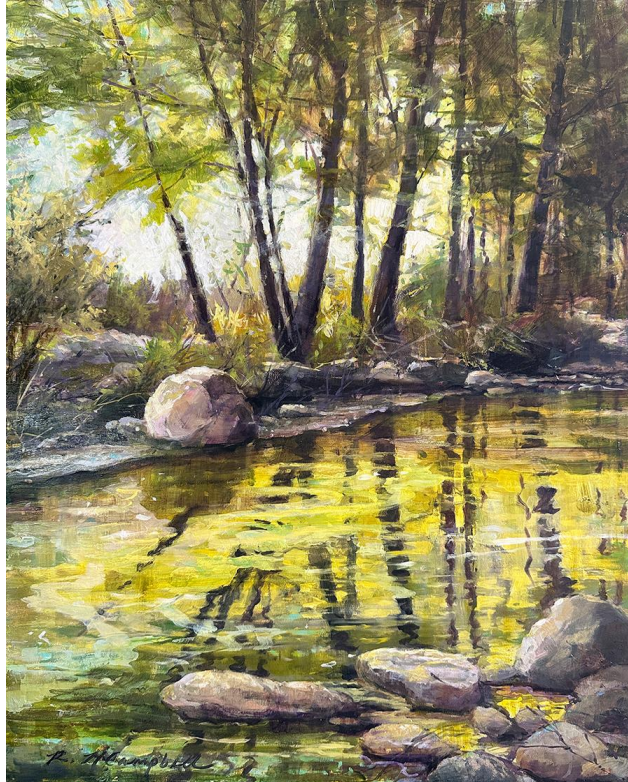
Painting a demo in an obliging field.

art--from how to paint, art supply questions, technical support, the business of selling art, etc. Whatever is on your mind that's art related, I'm there to help. So, you will get a great deal of personal attention.

After that, a three-course dinner in a stunning dining room awaits us. The private rooms and cabins are incredibly comfortable and the food is exquisite. The staff is phenomenal too!

One of my favorite parts about this trip is that on the last day, we paint on a private estate that backs up to the National Park. From mountain top views to roaring creeks and waterfalls, we have a lot to paint there. And at the end of the day, we sit in the dark and watch the synchronous fireflies emerge, dance and light up the woods. It's a rare treat as there are only a few spots in the world that have these fireflies. We are so lucky to get to do this!

This is a trip that promotes friendships and camaraderie. Many of my students become painting buddies and end up showing and traveling together and generally creating deep, lifelong friendships. I love that! Email or call me for more details. But do it quickly!



A Plein Air Painting by Rachael McCampbell ©2023



"Smoky Mountain Beehives," plein air painting by Rachael McCampbell, juried into the NOAPS Best of America Small Works Exhibit 2022 ©



Rachael doing a demo by a barn 2022.



Standing on the porch of our Inn, we toasted the Smoky Mountains one night after dinner.



Watch this video to see where we stay, paint and get the feeling of how fabulous this trip is!



Cold wax works on paper

September 9-12th

**Cold Wax Medium Class at
Townsend Atelier in Chattanooga**

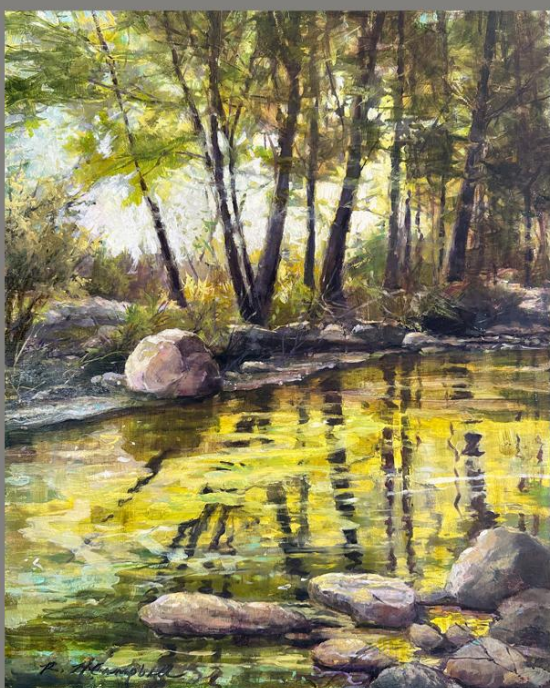
Join me for this 4-Day Workshop learning how to paint using the very popular medium of Cold Wax mixed with oils. It's very versatile and can be used in both abstraction and realism. I will be focusing on abstracting the landscape. Chattanooga is a really fun city full of art and great places to eat...I can't wait for this event!

Workshop in
Chattanooga

ATTEND MY SMOKY MOUNTAIN
WORKSHOP

Rachael McCampbell
R. McCampbell

Fine Artist, Workshop Instructor



2024 Workshops
Plein Air & Cold Wax Medium

Tennessee

4 SPOTS LEFT

**WHY TAKE A
PAINTING
WORKSHOP?**

- Learn New Skills
- Travel Somewhere Exciting
- Get inspired
- Learn About Other Artists
- Try New Materials, Tools & Techniques
- Challenge Your Brain
- Learn About the Biz of Art
- Expand Your Horizons

Plein Air Painting - The Great
Smoky Mountains
June 4 - 11, Gatlinburg, TN
Impressions of the Landscape

Ireland

Plein Air Painting, Co. Mayo
July 10 - 19, Ballinglen Arts
Foundation

Abstracting the Landscape

Tennessee

Cold Wax Med., Chattanooga
Sept. 9-12, Townsend Atelier

Abstracting Nature

California

Cold Wax Medium Workshop
Nov. 12-15, Santa Monica, CA

Abstracting the Landscape

rachael@rachaelmccampbell.com
www.rachaelmccampbell.com

- Make New Art Friends
- Deepen Your Art Practice
- Laugh A Lot! It's Good For You!



EMAIL ME



Artistic Adventures America



Join Artist Rachael McCampbell For 7 Glorious Nights

Plein Air Painting - Tuesday, June 4 -11, 2024

Paint Plein-Air in the Smoky Mountains -- beautiful, roaring creeks, fresh mountain air, gorgeous old barns, views of Mount LeConte, an iconic covered bridge and more. There will be time to paint, hike, explore, see galleries and even nap! Join us for an elegant "art-cation" at an historic Inn with first-class rooms and dining and make friends for a lifetime!

"Rachael taught me to simplify what I was seeing. She broke it down into easy steps that made it where I could follow along. I learned so much!" KN



For more information and prices, please contact Rachael McCampbell

www.rachaelmccampbell.com

email: rachael@rachaelmccampbell.com

telephone: 310-569-8040

MY
WEBSITE

Subscribe to my YouTube Channel

Please subscribe to my channel, McCampbell Art Studio, and get notified about new videos I post. I do **free art instructional videos** and other postings about my life as an artist. I would love to have you follow along on this adventure with me!

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Rachael McCampbell

rachael@rachaelmccampbell.com
Studio: 310-569-8040

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McCampbell Art Studio, LLC | 208 E. Public Square, Ste. 9, Centerville, TN 37033, Centerville,
TN 37033 Studio: 310-569-8040

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