



Patricia Priebe-Swanson, Artist

<http://patriciapriebe-swanson.com/Artist.asp?ArtistID=38670&Akey=2RTBE6RB>

After a 28 year career in the legal field, my husband and I moved to the Capitol Reef National Park area in southern Utah in 1999. We built our all-solar powered house and settled in to enjoy semi-retirement. That was when I began to explore a way to express my very emotional attachment to this red rock country and in 2000 for the first time began to draw and then paint the landscape surrounding my home.

The red rock country of southern Utah is my inspiration. My paintings utilize watercolor and ink to capture the detail, patterns and color of the landscape. The detail of an image is what attracts me first: the way shadows in a crevice enhance the form; the shape a curve of an arch takes when sunlight strikes it; the glow a color takes on when contrasted against a deep blue sky. My perception of the scene is that it is a sum of its details and I draw and paint it in a highly realistic style while also focusing on the abstract qualities of design and form inherent in nature. Color and texture also play an integral role in these paintings and are a means to define and unify various elements of the picture.

Exploring the landscape, the process of learning to see and interpret what I see is the artistic niche that is now an essential part of my life..

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