



ALEX COLE

I have been a painter for over 20 years. I received a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. After graduating in 1995, I continued my painting practice and began to exhibit my work at galleries and art spaces on the East Coast.

In 1997, I moved to Sonoma, California and continued my painting and began working in art administration and teaching at the Sonoma Community Center. After a few years I became the Fine Arts Director, hiring nationally known artists to teach workshops and guest lectures. During this time I found my love of teaching. The most inspired time teaching was encouraging artist and non-artist alike to find the fun in letting go, unplugging and

tapping into their creative selves. I now teach workshops in my home studio as well as out in beautiful locations around the Bay Area. I have solo & group shows throughout the year as well as permanent venues that sell my work. My paintings are in private and public collections around the country. The newest addition to my portfolio is a large scale indoor mural at Keller Street CoWork in Petaluma, CA.

My subject matter has changed, my process has changed but the one constant in my work is the use of mixed media, layers and my love of color.

My landscape paintings has been greatly influenced by my awe of the Northern California landscape around me. The rolling hills of Northern California, the fog softening the lines of the horizon and creating whispers of brush strokes across the valleys, the nuances of each season changing from bright green hills to a beautiful mustard. I paint the memories of these moments.

I begin my paintings with dark color tones and quick brushstrokes. It's a playful time for me and warming up time to experiment and be in the moment. I allow the paint to tell me where to go. Allowing drips, scraping and scratching to create texture and patterns that sometimes only accidents can create. The process is an ebb and flow between adding and subtracting. Always being aware of keeping the energy of the brushstrokes and the energy of the painting moving.

On the days that I'm not working in my studio I am raising my two children Phoebe and Finn with my husband in Sonoma Valley.

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