

THOM SURMAN

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Laguna Beach
California CA
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thomsurman.com

Artist Information

Thom Surman/Painter
b.1958, New York

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Artist Bio

Thom Surman has lived in Orange County for 56 years. As a lifetime painter who was trained as an advertising designer at the Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California, Surman delivers his unique perspective to the canvas.

Integral to his art are local themes of earth, sky and water. His paintings are intended to record the interactions and constant fluctuation between these components, blurring the divide of landscape painting and abstract fields of color. Surman works exclusively in oil, applying a great many layers of varying opacity onto canvas. The resulting images convey a luminosity that constantly change in different lighting conditions. Luminous and enlightening, Thom Surman paints vistas that meld the natural world from real to mystical.

In the year 2000 Thom began to develop specific direction for his painting. He planned an on-going series of works titled 'Puddles and Ponds'. This body of work currently comprising over 50 paintings proved successful and continues to evolve. These works have been represented by numerous galleries throughout the country and are currently represented at Newbury Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts. They are collected by private estates and also represented through designers and architects to their respective clients.

Artist CV

2000 - Current

- ~ Begins to paint full time while seeking representation
- Troon Vineyard, Applegate Valley, Oregon -
 - ~ First works of 'Puddles and Ponds' series appear on wine labels
- Le Kaye Gallery, Scottsdale, Arizona -
 - ~ Group Shows / First paintings of 'Puddles and Ponds' presented to public
- James Gray Gallery, Bergamot Cultural Center, Santa Monica, California -
 - ~ Solo/Group Shows / 'Puddles and Ponds' first introduced to the public as a full series
- HOAG Hospital, Newport Beach, California -
 - ~ 'Puddles and Ponds' used for quarterly palliative communications for the 'HOAG' Community
- Joanne Artman Gallery, Laguna Beach, California -
 - ~ 'Puddles and Ponds' specific works offered to the public
- Newbury Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts -
 - ~ Group Shows / Ongoing works from 'Puddles and Ponds' series offered to the public
 - ~ Evolution of 'Puddles and Ponds' as a new series titled 'Water Above and Below' offered to the public
- John Wayne Airport -
 - ~ Featured Artist for Community Arts Program

1984 - 2000

- ~ Operated corporate communications design firm while developing his painting method
- ~ Begins selling paintings to private estates and interior designers/architects
- ~ Received recognition as an illustrator from professional organizations and publications:
- ~ Awards of Excellence from major graphic and advertising institutions,
- ~ Communication Arts,
- ~ Graphis Publications,
- ~ National Investor Relations Institute,
- ~ Society of Illustrators, LA/NY
- ~ First abstract landscapes appear on award winning Troon Vineyard labels

- ~ Attended Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA – Advertising Design
- ~ Attended Fullerton College, Fullerton, CA – Advertising/Arts Program