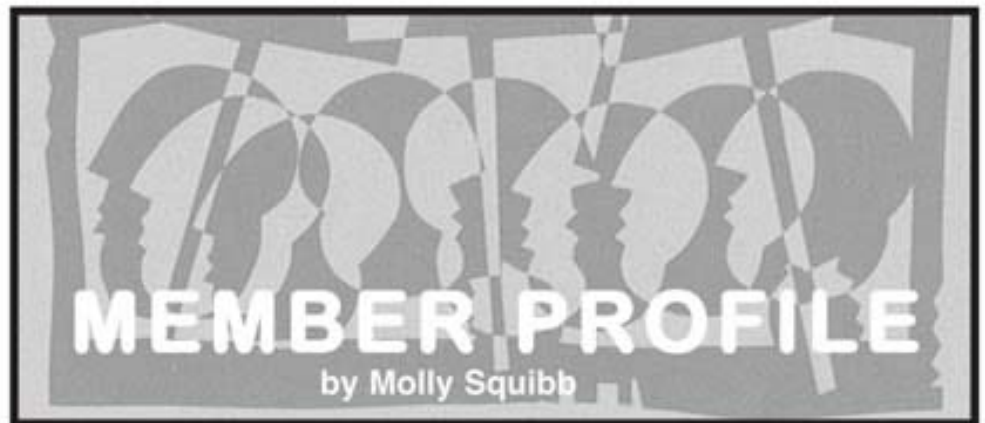




David Castle



David Castle

David Castle took his first watercolor painting class in the 1990s in Brussels, Belgium, where he worked as a computer consultant. His teacher “spoke little English and I spoke little French,” he remembers. “So we did a lot of painting and experimenting and not much discussing. What a great time!”

After 14 years of travel in the technology industry, David quit to become a full-time artist. He is still exuberant about painting – and still inspired by his wanderings in North America and Europe.

“Since all my work is, to some degree, abstract, I’ve found that I create from my exposure to the colors and shapes of these very different places.” He admits that “I sometimes yearn to be someplace else when painting in my studio, someplace on the coast, or where it’s autumn all the time, or where it rains for days and days.” Images like these inspire his art and guide his brush.

From sensory experience, he creates detailed fields of geometric or organic shapes in vivid colors, often using paints applied straight from the tube. He uses hot-pressed paper for crisper edges, and mounts most of his finished paintings on canvas, instead of tucking them behind glass. Varnished instead of framed, the finished product has a more immediate effect on the viewer, he believes.

David’s art has been exhibited widely, at the High Plein Air Arts Exhibition, the Rocky Mountain National Watermedia show, the Arizona Aqueous XXII Exhibition, the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art and the Downtown Denver Festival of the Arts, to name just a few venues. His work is represented in the corporate collections of WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone in Englewood, and the First Community Bank.

Visiting David’s website (www.DavidCastleArt.com) is a delight - a mix of recent artwork (check out the “Fossils” series, where his tools of choice are stones gathered on his travels) and an engaging artist’s blog. He was dubious about a blog’s benefits at first but has found it “a fun way to connect with collectors, art lovers and others.”

David generously promotes the work of artist friends on his blog and often contributes his own work to charitable causes. “I always wanted to help people and donated money to causes during my corporate career. Now I can actually create a work of art to benefit wonderful organizations, something not many people can do,” he explains. “It feeds my soul, since I’m giving something that was part of me rather than just money.”

The artist will open a newly re-finished studio in Denver’s Art District on Santa Fe on May 2. He expects a period of “can’t paint fast enough” as he lays down all the paintings he’s already completed in his head while struggling in cramped, temporary workspace at home.

For David, the studio is a place where he can “switch on” his creative process whenever he wants to. No doubt he’ll load his iPod with music favorites – from classical to country – that “help me focus and get closer to what I’m doing and the different components involved: color, water, air, gravity, paper, brush, rocks...”



David Castle, “Mesa Verde, CO”, watercolor, 18x18 inches



David Castle, “Rose Colored Panes”, watercolor on paper, mounted on canvas panels (triptych), 44x48 inches

And what is David Castle’s artist “zone” like?

“My stomach feels like it’s full of helium... and I often feel like I’m actually standing on the surface of my paper.”