

## **Alix Hallman Travis**

For Alix Hallman Travis, her painting life begins with watercolor. Her summers of *alla prima*, *plein air* painting in watercolor are often the source of inspiration for her winter studio paintings of oil on canvas, and finally end up in torn swatches of watercolor paintings reassembled as collages.

Travis pursued her dream of becoming a serious painter after 35 years as a professional librarian. She began her art education at the Cleveland Institute of Art, followed by study at the Arts Students League, New York with artist/instructor, Kenneth McInoe. While at the League she was awarded the Art Students League/Fantasy Fountain Fund Merit Award, to study in Paris, France at the Paris American Institute, July, 2007.

She has exhibited her paintings locally and nationally, earning signature membership in the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society. She was a charter member of Ohio Plein Air Painters and founded and coordinated the East Branch Delaware River *Plein Air* Painters (a loose association of professionals and amateurs who express their appreciation of the Catskill landscape by painting outside together) for 11 years. She was a charter member of the Longyear Gallery, Margaretville, NY and owner/ director of the Commons Gallery, Margaretville for 3 years. In 2019 she became one of five founding members of Art Gallery 71, Rhinebeck. Most recently she exhibited two oil paintings of an extensive series "Catskill Mountain Life " in the 2018 83<sup>rd</sup> Cooperstown Art Association National Exhibition.

Viewers of Travis's oil paintings often feel a compelling sense of location, activity and mood and ask, "Where is it?" However, the artist composes her paintings without fidelity to any actual location but instead draws on her *plein air* work to give authenticity to her fanciful depictions. She paints in high intensity colors using the palette knife. The visible strokes create a mosaic jewel like texture.

After 15 years in the Catskill Mountains she and her husband now reside in Rhinebeck, NY where she maintains a village studio and she is a participant on the annual, juried, Art Studio Views always on Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend.

A large selection of her work can be viewed on her website, [www.AlixHTravis.com](http://www.AlixHTravis.com) and she writes a blog at [www.alixhtravis.wordpress.com](http://www.alixhtravis.wordpress.com).

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