

Gary Masline

Artist Statement

I paint with the understanding that art is meant to provoke a response, and my hope is to stimulate a dialogue with viewers responding to my use of color, light, and even body language, to establish image, illusion, or icon. The vibrant palette and intense light of the American Southwest have affected my work, and I believe the Southwest is one of the earth's centers of spiritual energy, which animates artistic awareness. Realizing that a painting can feign a reality which the viewer may never have experienced or seen, I assert that people can nonetheless be profoundly affected by southwestern images serving as emblems or totems, with the symbols or gestures in paintings generating highly individual "stories."