

JONATHAN L. BECKER

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Artist's Biography

Jonathan Becker has been creating artwork since 1989. Jonathan studied art at the University of Miami, where he obtained a degree in General Studies, concentrating on film, theater and art studies. It was there, while taking classes in set decoration and costuming that Jonathan first began seeing the canvas as a stage, and the purpose of each piece to tell a story. After he graduated in 1995, he moved to South Beach, where he lived and painted for approximately a year and a half. He exhibited his work in a few small shows, but focused on a career in systems analysis.

He then moved to New York City, and continued to develop his skills, mostly with continuing education programs at the New York Academy of Art. In 2005, Jonathan changed careers, to focus on public service. He continued to nourish his skills with weekly life drawing sessions and occasional group exhibitions, through moves to Newark, New Jersey, the Capital Region, St. Lawrence County, and eventually in 2013, to Cooperstown, New York. Jonathan now works daily on his artwork, with the support of his wife and their dog, Lily.

Jonathan's Digital Art

Jonathan's use of the computer is best understood as painting without the mess. Jonathan uses a graphics tablet and a pressure sensitive stylus with a computer and painting software that allows him to mimic natural media expression. The process is still largely the same, as Jonathan manually draws out and colors the scene. But the computer allows him to zoom in to focus on details, and to undo mistakes. For him, the workflow is superior to natural media, where it is difficult to mix techniques, such as oil, ink and watercolors.

The New Series

Jonathan's new work, begun in April of 2020, expresses the world around him, and the joys and contentment of married life with a dog. Originally influenced by artists such as Edward Hopper, Jonathan hopes to accomplish feelings of serenity, and partly inspired by Monet's later meditative lily pond period, and the layers of story in each painting.