



Kenneth Cobb Mansfield



Artist Statement

The themes I have explored in my work include the portrait narrative, identity and culture, the industrial landscape, color and light, and direct observational and Plein air painting.

I have always been attracted to the challenge of Realism in my artwork. With a desire to learn new technical approaches, I find the layered process effects of oils along with the many different outcomes one can achieve with the medium quite fascinating. Recently, I have been more focused on the still life genre and decided to revisit a more studied approach in my practice to experiment and further my understanding of oil paint applications, especially how the process affects color and light.

I try to liven up my arrangements with some form of allegory or narrative, often playfully suggested through simple juxtapositions. In this regard, figurative work is the most rewarding for me as an artist. Every step is a creative process within itself, starting from sketches and brainstorming, finding and/or creating the environment, working with the model, to the painting process. They all play an important role and I have found the more preparation I do the more rewarding the artwork becomes.