

## Artist Statement

Why shouldn't I live my life trying to render all the beauty in nature that life provides? It gives me great satisfaction and purpose.

## Biography

Luke Sassani, a 1988 graduate of Millersburg High School in Pennsylvania, spent 6 years working in construction and factories until 1994 when he enrolled in Mansfield University's art education program. He graduated in 1998 with a B.S.E in Art. Luke began teaching elementary art in Cecil County, Maryland. During this time, drawing and plein air painting became his focus.



In 2004, Luke and his wife Rachel moved back to Pennsylvania, outside of Pittsburgh, where Luke became inspired by chainsaw carvings. As a result, the path of his art career has changed forever. "I enjoy the similarities between the many mediums and forms of art but none compare to the speed in which chainsaw carvers produce and the speed in which they react to what is happening in front of them."

In 2020, Luke went back to teaching elementary art at Aquinas Academy in Greensburg and thoroughly loves it. His goal in art now is, "to break off of the plateau we all reach and bump this up a notch".