

JOHN GROESSER

Over the past 8 years, since retirement, I have been searching for a different style of painting. I wanted to figure out a way to push my paintings to: (1) stand out from traditional art and (2) express my positive, happy, happy, happy feeling in life. I found it and branded this new style "Open Expressionism". I really enjoy painting in this new method and have been amazed to see how viewers are drawn to it.

Expressionism is art that seeks to express an emotional experience with forms that may be distorted or exaggerated and with colors that are intensified. I discovered my love for this style by experimenting with different painting supplies and methods. My goal is to go beyond photography, beyond realism, and express what I see and feel at a high energy level.

The "open" in Open Expressionism" indicates that my paintings are inspired by the beautiful open air, literally outside, outdoors. I also use "open" to describe a quick, bold approach, completing the painting in one session. I work with a wide palette knife, using as few strokes as possible: thick, fast and bold, using a single layer of paint. I use a limited palette of colors, custom-creating just for that subject.

I hope the fast, loose, thick, confident knife strokes on my paintings along with the unashamed use of bold color provides the viewer an opportunity to see, feel, and experience a new emotional sensation. I also hope my paintings encourage fellow painters to believe that they can successfully experiment with their medium, trying and creating something new.