

## ARTIST'S PROFILE

Jim Kraus is a painter and photographer who lives and works in Dallas, Texas. He has spent over 20 years as a creative director at top national agencies in Chicago, Los Angeles, Saint Louis and Dallas.

In 1999, he left a full-time advertising career and began studying painting with James Smith at Forest Park College in St. Louis. He had his first solo show in 2000 at Sister Studios Gallery in the city's Loft District.



Jim moved to San Diego in 2001 and joined the Kettner Street Studios in Little Italy. While there, he attended The Art Academy of San Diego and focused on representational landscape paintings under the direction of Stuart Burton.

After moving to Dallas in 2004 to become Executive Creative Director of World Marketing, Jim opened a studio in the Bishop Arts District. There he began to explore the boundaries of loose, nearly-abstract landscapes -- drawing inspiration from artists including Wolf Kahn, Richard Diebenkorn, Forrest Moses and Milton Avery.

His current work is primarily expressive, colorful landscapes and abstractions derived from keen observations of the natural world. Seeking beauty in the simple details of nature, he paints layers of organic forms that construct an uncertain narrative – inviting viewers to interpret and rethink the paintings as time passes.

Jim's work is shown at The William and Joseph Gallery in Santa Fe and at Haley-Henman Gallery in Dallas.