## **Bruce L. Williamson**

Award-winning representational artist, Bruce Williamson is passionate about his craft. He is inspired by the beauty revealed in familiar, homespun objects, as well as in nature's own magnificence. In his distinctive Impressionistic "alla prima" style, he uses bold brush strokes and beautiful colors to create striking renditions of people, places, and objects.



His goal is to help others have an experience of beauty, to see, so to speak, as the artist sees. Bruce knows that, as a human, he sees no differently

than anyone else. Like everyone, his eyes want to blend all the little spots of color into an overall general message. But, if he passes on this processed version, the viewer would be getting second-hand information, and would not participate in the experience as fully and as enjoyably as possible.

So, as an artist, Bruce searches to go beyond the pedestrian grasp of things to the underlying, unspoiled essentials. He strives to see and record the unblended pieces of color and the essential design, which can be found only by intense observation. His goal is to pass this information on to the viewer so he can enjoy an "original" experience of his own.

Born in Oakville Ontario Canada, he has had a lifelong passion for art. As a youth Bruce displayed and sold numerous paintings in a family gallery. His mother was a watercolorist and her great grandfather, Sir Sanford Fleming, designed the first Canadian stamp. After collegiate studies under John Damm R.A., he went to the Art Students League of New York to study under Robert Brackman, who, at the time, was one of America's most sought-after teachers of the craft of oil painting. Bruce has since broadened his studies by working under David Leffel, Greg Kreutz, Dan Gerhartz, Hongnian Zhang, Joe Anna Arnett, Matt Smith, William Kalwick Jr., Quang Ho, Ned Mueller and others

As a young adult he left painting to become a priest in the Roman Catholic Church. He lived and studied in Rome where he met and assisted Mother Teresa in her work, and where, in the Basilica of St Peter, he was ordained to the priesthood by Pope John Paul II. During that time abroad, he traveled extensively throughout Europe to study the great figures of European art in the museums and churches.

Bruce has done one-man shows in Italy as well as the USA. He is a sought-after instructor, as well as exhibitor, of oil painting. He has won many awards including Best of Show in the National Society of Artists Membership Exhibit. Has exhibited at the Butler Longhorn Museum, of Texas.

Represented by several galleries in the USA and St Croix, he donates work to several charities, and accepts commissions as well as students. In 2009, he wrote a book about his experiences: <u>What Shall I Give?</u> A Spiritual Journey (unpublished at this time).

View his works at: WilliamsonArt.com Workshops classes: bruce33w@gmail.com