

Cover Art: Wild Crocuses, First Kiss of Spring

Daphne Mennell

Perhaps it is because I find myself surrounded by so much natural beauty that when I paint, I have chosen to paint mostly landscapes. I live in the Southern Lakes area of the Yukon, in-between the capital city of Whitehorse and the small village of Carcross. It is a hop, skip, and a jump away from Skagway, Alaska and the famous Chilkoot Trail. This is an area filled with mountains and lakes of great beauty, and as an artist I cannot resist its pull on me to share it with others the best way I can.

It is my preference to work from sketches that I have done on location. I find that I can capture much more with a pencil sketch or a quick plein air painting than with support photos taken at the time. I then develop the ideas further in my studio at home. My studio work differs from my first interpretations in a couple of ways. The studio work tends to have more interpretive and expressive colour, and the movement is more defined in the compositional lines. As I really enjoy colour, I tend to use it boldly in the attempts to replicate the feelings of being in that place.

This painting of the wild crocuses is taken from the Yukon River looking towards the Marsh Lake area, probably across from where the Wolf Creek campground is situated on the Alaska highway. It is my hope that when others look at my paintings they will be drawn into the landscape and inspired as I was.

If you are interested in seeing more of my work, please visit www.daphnemennellart.com, or email daphne.mennell@gmail.com if you are interested in setting up a studio visit. Thanks.