



## artists statement

I am inspired by the landscape of my county, realizing that I do not have far to travel to experience a wide range of regional variations. Huron County offers up a myriad of landscapes from lake and river, to forest and field. I present these landscapes in both black and white photography and painterly representation, juxtaposing the pure black and white of the photography with the 'pushed' style and the intensified colour of the paintings. In most of my work, I strive for an element of timelessness. I tend to avoid structural elements that place the image in a modern context.

## on the photography

The traditional black and white photograph takes on a new feeling when presented in a very large scale, on canvas. When an image reaches such a large size, viewers feel as though they could "walk into the landscape". I would like to present a range of image sizes for the exhibit, but still focus on the larger scale. The finished fine art photo is created with archival qualities that are both lightfast and permanent.

## on the paintings

Complementing the photographs, the paintings take on many of the same elements. In my stylized approach I choose to under-paint with an intense colour base, and economize on my strokes, leaving portions of this under-colour revealed. This lends a sense of continuity to the image. The intense, jewel-like colour of the paintings are rich and inviting. These images, done in acrylic or oils, range in size from 8x10 to 32x40. It is important to note that I frame all of my paintings with a triple framing design. I use a floating frame so as not to impede on the edge of the painting, revealing the dimensionality of the canvas and the under painting. This is followed by a wide gallery liner and a complementary frame. To give professional continuity to the finished display, each series is finished to match.

## on the inspiration

I have been participating in the 'sport' of geo-caching for some time and have been captivated by the fact that a series of numerical coordinates can pinpoint a place on the earth within a few meters. I use geo-caching to find not only the "hidden treasure" but to conjure up images from hidden locations of which I was previously unaware. When someone hides a Geo-Cache, they do so in an area that has meaning to that person. I search for that meaning and try to find the landscape that I imagine catches their attention. I plan to work into a new mixed media series the images of the objects that are contained within the hidden geo-caches and the idea that they are incongruent elements within their environment.

Another new aspect to photography is Geo-tagging images and then linking this data with *Google Earth*. I would like to incorporate this concept into an exhibit by 'geo-tagging' on a map of Huron County, the various locations of my pictorial journey. In this way, I can push myself to reach further into all corners of the county to give the broadest representation possible.