

David Meikle and "Wasatch Grandeur"

Title of Mural: "Wasatch Grandeur"

Artist: David Meikle

Medium: Oil on Canvas (Mounted on Board)

Date Completed: 2009

Biography of Artist

David Meikle was born and raised in Salt Lake City. In 1987, he was the state winner in art in the Deseret News Sterling Scholar Competition for high school students in Utah. He attended the University of Utah on a four-year scholarship and received his bachelor of fine art in graphic design and illustration in 1994. In 2006, he finished his master of fine art in painting from the University of Utah, where he was the recipient of the Alvin Gittins scholarship. He has worked for 15 years as a graphic designer and illustrator for the marketing and communications department at the University of Utah. His work for the university has received awards from the New York Society of Illustrators, Print Magazine, the Utah Advertising Federation, the Art Directors Club of Salt Lake, the Salt Lake Chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, and the University and College Designers Association.



"Wasatch Grandeur" in progress

In 2006, Meikle won a jurors' first place award at the 82nd Annual Spring Salon at the Springville Museum of Art (out of 1,000 entries). Meikle was also invited by the Springville Museum of Art to submit a painting to its 150-year survey of Utah Artists titled "Utah Art, Utah Artists" as part of the Cultural Olympiad during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. His work was recently included in the books "Painters of the Wasatch Mountains" and "Painters of Utah's Canyons and Deserts" (his painting was on the back cover). In 2007, he had a painting included in the exhibition "Out West: The Great American Landscape" that was seen in Washington D.C. and China. Meikle currently has a painting on display at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts (UMFA) at the University of Utah as part of their exhibit titled "The Continuing Allure, Painters of Utah's Red Rock." His work can be found at Williams Fine Art and Evergreen Gallery in Salt Lake City. Meikle's paintings are included in the permanent collections of the Springville Museum of Art and Salt Lake County, as well as many private and corporate collections, including Zions Bank and Wasatch Advisors.

Artist's Statement about Mural

"Having grown up in Salt Lake, I have always loved the mountains that surround the Salt Lake Valley. For me, the steep and dramatic cliffs of Mount Olympus have made it the signature mountain of the valley. I have always been fascinated by the interplay of light and atmosphere with the mountain, especially in the evening after a storm. For the mural, I liked the symbolism of mountains such as Mount Olympus and Lone Peak being the source of life-giving water that flows into the Salt Lake Valley. The view in the painting comes from the northeastern foothills, possibly by where City Creek is flowing out of the mountains. I wanted the scene to be timeless so I arranged the foreground to hide the buildings and houses of the valley. However, I also wanted to have the sense that if you looked over the hills in the foreground, our city could still be there. In the mural, the time of year is late spring and Mount Olympus and Lone Peak are catching the last rays of the setting sun and an evening storm is clearing." - David Meikle