JOE OAKES

SAN FRANCISCO STREET GALLERY

Joe A. Oakes is a painter known for his vibrant landscapes of the American West and Southwest, capturing the fleeting light of sunrise and sunset with bold color and expressive contrast. His work is defined by luminous highlights and distinctive violet shadows, creating scenes that feel both dynamic and meditative.

Oakes showed an early interest in art, beginning to draw at the age of five. Before committing to painting full-time in 2008, he held a variety of creative roles, including substitute teacher, art consultant, and graphic designer. These experiences, along with significant life challenges, have shaped both his perspective and his artistic voice.

His paintings reflect a deep appreciation for the natural world, particularly the mountains, canyons, and valleys that define the Western landscape. Through heightened color and light, he emphasizes not just what the land looks like, but the emotional experience of being within it-those brief, powerful moments at the beginning and end of the day.

For Oakes, painting is both a personal and shared experience, encouraging viewers to slow down and reconnect with nature. He holds a BFA from California State University, Fullerton, and is based near Palm Springs, where he continues to draw inspiration from the surrounding desert landscape.

Works (7)



Evening Falls

Size: 16 x 20"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



High Desert Heat

Size: 18 x 24"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



Shifting Light Across the Mesas

Size: 24 x 36"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



Daylight's Farewell Kiss

Size: 18 x 24"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



Rockbluff Shelter

Size: 24 x 36"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



Timeless Mountain Spirit

Size: 36 x 36"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas



Twilight's Approach

Size: 20 x 30"

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas