

MARK SHASHA



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
MARINE ARTISTS



Mark Shasha is an award-winning American artist, author and educator. He paints at many invitational plein air events around the country and exhibits widely.

Shasha grew up on the Connecticut coast with a love of the sea. Most of his works are explorations of natural light and textures of the landscape from expansive coastal vistas to intimate harbors using traditional techniques of 19th and 20th century masters.

A life-long artist, Shasha's early years were marked by success as a notable children's book author and illustrator. His debut, "Night of the Moonjellies" (*Simon & Schuster, 1992*) is considered 'a classic' by Smithsonian Magazine.

Today he is a Signature Member of The American Society of Marine Artists and The Laguna Plein Air Painters Association and is an elected member of the Salmagundi Club, The Copley Society and The Guild of Boston Artists.

Recent awards include The 2018 Artist's Choice Award at Plein Air Easton, The Oil Painters of America Award of Excellence and The Alden Bryan Memorial Award for Excellence in Landscape Painting (twice in one year).

When not painting, Mark is an actor and singer having played roles as broad as Atticus Finch to Willy Wonka. His home and studio are in Swampscott, Massachusetts.



"I aspire to evoke something in my paintings rather than to simply depict. I like it when paintings surprise me with unexpected meanings or when they make me feel something."

– Mark Shasha



TOP: Just Around the Bend, oil, 9" x 12"



TOP: Lazy Old River, oil, 8" x 10"



BOTTOM: Beacon Blues, oil, 24" x 30"



BOTTOM: Synchronicity, oil, 24" x 36"



“The best art advice I ever had was from my New London high school art teacher Robert Thompson who said art must pass the ‘so what?’ test. Simply, if someone can look at your work and say ‘so what?’ the work has failed in some way. And it is a higher bar to achieve than one might think. Of course, the truth of the advice depends a lot on the integrity of the viewer. But I got it. Don’t waste people’s time with your duds. If your painting has nothing to say don’t expect it to matter to anyone else.” – Mark Shasha

Summer Bloom, oil, 14” x 18”



TOP: Into the Mystic, oil, 24” x 36”



BOTTOM: Summer Path, oil, 20” x 30”



Lost Horizon, oil, 24" x 36" (detail)
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