

BIOGRAPHY

Peggi Habets is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania who returned to her roots after living and working as a graphic designer and art director in Washington, DC and Northern Virginia. Returning to her roots however, meant more than just physically relocating. She also returned to her creative roots of drawing and painting, something she had done throughout her childhood and young adult life.

Upon returning to Pittsburgh, Peggi embarked on a path of intense study and practice in painting. She found her niche in contemporary, figurative watercolor and has developed a thriving art business from her home studio that includes commissioned portraiture, gallery representation, and teaching workshops around the country.

Peggi's influences come from her Italian/Slovak immigrant background and growing up in the steel mill town of Pittsburgh. She tends to gravitate towards ordinary, hardworking people as subjects for her paintings. These are people who have stories to tell and hardships to overcome. Instead of realistically depicting every detail in the paintings, she often suggests the person's surroundings through her use of color, design, shape, and value. These narrative paintings are realistic in nature, but preserve enough ambiguity to add interest to the viewer's experience.

Peggi's paintings are constantly evolving as she challenges herself to say more with less. She strives to keep her watercolors fresh with minimal brushstrokes, fluid washes, and pure pigment. Painting in a series has allowed her to explore many ways to depict one subject. For instance, she is currently working a series of paintings and drawings of dancers in which she explores mixed media, incorporation of abstract elements, color, variation of edges, and gesture in order to create the right mood, emotion, or narrative. Even in these dance paintings, she is drawn to the hard work and struggle of the dancers, as opposed to the more traditional "beautiful dancer" paintings.

Peggi has written a book on watercolor portraiture called "Watercolor Made Easy: Portraits". She has been published in many high-profile art magazines, won numerous national and international awards, and has been invited to teach watercolor workshops around the country. She is beyond thrilled to be able to live out her dream of making a living as a self-employed, professional artist. She thanks her wonderful clients and collectors for their support and patronage over the years, and looks forward to the many new challenges her work will bring in the years to come.