

Shannon Bourn

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Born	San Antonio, Texas, 1972
Education	1994, University of Evansville, BFA Painting, Drawing minor 1996, Masters of Education, Adult Learning and Development, Cleveland State University 1998-2004 Black and White photography, Cleveland Institute of Art, Continuing Ed
Selected Exhibitions	East Meets West, Solo photo exhibit Chattanooga, TN 2012 Alumni Show, University of Evansville, IN 2022 Solo show, "I See You" University of Evansville, Evansville IN, 2024 "Roots and Wings" Arts Revive, Selma, AL, 2024
Experience	Dir of Student Life, Dir of Orientation. Cleveland Institute of Art 1997-2004 Owner, Sassafra Studios and Periwinkle Photography, 2005-2014, Chattanooga TN Art teacher, St. Peters Episcopal School, 2013-15 (built preK3- 5th grade program) Art teacher, Prince of Peace Catholic School, 2017-2020 Shannon Bourn Studios, studio practice and website, 2020-present
Service	Student art displays, Moss Rock Art Festival 2017, 2018 Contributed framed print to Fundraiser, Hope for Autumn, 2022 Donated framed print to Riley Behavioral and Educational Center, 2023
Collections	Tea with Milk, 18x24, oil, private collection Kombucha with Mommy, 30x40, oil, private collection Crane and Cowcumber, Golden Hour, 16x20, oil, private collection Morning Coffee, 40x30, oil, private collection Hunting for Cowcumbers, 48x60, oil, private collection Lake Boys, Alabama, 48x60, oil, private collection
Commissions	Snowboarder, 30x40, oil, private collection, 2020 Vision of a Longterm Marriage, 24x24, oil, private collection, 2023 Jim and His Car, 16x20, oil, private collection, 2023 Hang Ten, 30x40, oil, private collection, 2023 Memory of a Sunset, 12x48, oil, private collection, 2023 Full Circle, 24x30, oil, private collection, 2024
Publications	"An Artistic Spy," in The Lakeside Life Magazine, Fall/Winter, Nov 2023, vol 6, Issue 3 Cover, Patchwork Press, 1st edition
Awards	Second Place, Painting category, "Barista", Roots and Wings, 2024

Bio

Shannon Bourn was born in San Antonio, Texas to an Army family. Her early childhood was made up of moves around the United States and Germany where she began to record experiences through drawing and writing about interactions with people and places. Landing in Alabama in her high school years, Shannon immersed herself in art and attended the Governors School for the Arts at Samford University. She left for Indiana and the University of Evansville where she earned her BFA in Painting and a minor in Drawing. While following her interest in working with adults in education she earned a Masters in Adult Learning and Education from Cleveland State University. It was there that she connected to the Cleveland Institute of Art, where she had the privilege of not only recruiting young artists, but also absorbing the environment, a continuing education in black and white photography. Since returning to the South, Shannon has been a sought after teacher both in private lessons and in private schools which she enjoyed immensely. A full-time artist since 2020, her work involves paintings about human interaction with space and with each other. She seeks to involve the viewer in a layered, figurative and gestural snapshot of her observations.

Artist Statement

I am fascinated by everyday people. Candid photography and the convenient ability to spy with my phone allows me to begin my process with a snapshot. After making an under painting that is related to the scene, I layer on the figures. The emphasis of posture over portraiture, allows body language to take center stage. I can't help but also take interest in the shape of a chair, or shoe, or a hand. Deciding what to cover with a block of color, or emphasize with strong line, or direct with drips is my favorite puzzle to solve.

Often the viewer relates to figures in my work as similar to themselves or someone they know because of the lack of facial detail. When I'm done with a painting, I want to scan it and not be bored. I want to look at it and feel that I successfully captured the energy of that moment.