

Dave Martsoff – Fine Artist

<https://www.martsofffineart.com>

January 2024

Statement

Dave Martsoff has been drawing and painting for over 46 years, since turning away from studies in architecture at MIT, circa 1967-70, to focus on the Fine Arts. Early on, he was intrigued by surrealism, and applied skills in photorealism to create complex surreal oil canvases with a dark flair. In the 1980's these abilities earned him the Juror's Prize at the "UNH Revisited" Alumni Show in 1981, and the Sawyer Award for Painting at the 38th Annual New Hampshire Art Association Exhibition at the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester, NH in 1985. Later, this same time period of his artistic career was awarded the Grand Prize in the Art List's worldwide on-line Artist of the Month Contest in 2018.

After an interim period of over 30 years in corporate America as a quality manager, Martsoff was finally able to return to his artistic passion full-time. In 2017 Martsoff began painting abstracts including his Dance Series and followed by his ongoing Wild Abstracts collection.

The Dance paintings highlight the energy and artistic honesty contained in original sketches on paper that are then enlarged and copied onto canvas using a computer projector and a light gray Sharpie. A colored version is created on a copy of the sketch using colored pencils. This colored version serves as a guide for the application of oil paints onto canvas.

These line sketches run the gamut from suggestions of objects to totally abstract work, i.e., the Dance series. Dance pushes the original line to become the artwork itself. The lines are emboldened with a variety of line widths of black oil paint with bold background colors to intrigue the eye in a dance filled with suggested motion. Solid and broken lines depicting figures and faces evolved in 2021.

During the 2020 pandemic, Martsoff also turned back to the surreal, this time with a more positive outlook, both in subject matter and cerebral conception. He also began the Wild Abstract Series where the entire canvas is completed in a matter of minutes with either watercolors or acrylics brushed boldly into a field of wet white gesso.

Martsoff now continues to create paintings in all three of these developmental directions. His entire body of work can be examined and both originals and prints purchased at his website, <https://www.martsofffineart.com>, accessible directly using the QR code at the top of this page.

Contact Info: davidmartsoff@comcast.net

1-603-568-0415

Dave Martsoff, 43 Nashua Road, Windham, NH 03087



Press

2021 – Finalist – Artwork of the Year 2020, Singulart.com, January 2021

2020 – Artsy Shark chosen as Featured Artist, November 2020

2020 – Featured in Artsy Shark’s Late Winter Artists Showcase

2019 - Featured in an article in the Merrimack Valley Magazine's June 2019 issue

2018 - Martsolf received a Capsule Review in the May issue of Artscope magazine, and an interview in July with the Boston Voyager on-line newspaper. He also gave a 1-hour presentation for Methuen Community TV on his artwork that is still available in their website series "Artist in the Studio".

2018 - Martsolf was named Artist of the Month by the ArtList.com.

2012 - Reviewed by Artscope Magazine's Jan 5, 2012 E-mail Blast! publication

"When realism and surrealism collide, you get Dave Martsolf. He has the skills and trained hand to make his paintings graphic and true to life, which he pairs with his theoretical, conceptual imagination. It is not very often that we come across an artist so grounded yet so fanciful, all in the same instance.

Martsolf's work is fresh and original. He takes the everyday and ventures with it into the unknown, a journey that results in his astonishing art. Even some of his most far-fetched pieces possess an aura of sanity and organization, dispelling any notion of the irrational or unconscious typically associated with surrealism."

2012 - Reviewed by Artscope Magazine Jan-Feb 2012 Edition in Capsule Previews

"Galatea Fine Art starts 2012 with three exhibitions intended to get you thinking. "David Martsolf: Unbridled Imagination" is a visual, watercolor-painted pendulum ride swinging between Realism and Surrealism. After making a name for himself as an artist to watch in the 1980s, Martsolf's been a digital imagery pioneer for the personal computer generation — his work includes making screensavers for the Damsel Software Group. He's escaped the vortex to return to the artistic style that had him labeled "an excellent draftsman, a master of arbitrary space and a colorist of more than ordinary competence."

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1967 – 1970 Architecture

University of New Hampshire 1970 - 1973 Fine Arts, Art History

University of New Hampshire 1983 - 1985 Bachelor of Arts in the Arts

Gallery and Festival Representation

Arts League of Lowell, Lowell, MA, 2018-2024
Singularart, Art Sleuth, Red Bubble and other online channels, ongoing
Cambridge Art Association, Cambridge, MA 2022-2024
Attleboro Art Museum, Attleboro, MA 2021-2024
Hopkinton Center for the Arts, Hopkinton, MA 2020-2022
Arts Wayland, Wayland, MA 2019 – 2022
Gallery Z, Lowell, MA 2018-2023
Arts Worcester, Worcester, MA 2018-2022
Berkshire Arts Festival, Great Barrington, MA, July 2022
Paradise City Arts Festival, Marlborough, MA, November 2022
Paradise City Arts Festival, Marlborough, MA, June 2020
Sugarloaf Arts and Crats Festival, Oaks, PA, November 2019
Morristown CraftMarket, Morristown, NJ, October 2019
Berkshire Crafts Fair, Great Barrington, MA, August 2019
Paradise City Arts Festival, Marlborough, MA, March 2019
The Brush Art Gallery & Studios, Lowell, MA 2018

Solo Shows

“David Martsolf”, Parish Center for the Arts, Westford, MA, June 2023
“Dave Martsolf, Recent Work”, Greenwald Gallery, Arts League of Lowell, MA, Sept-Oct 2022
“David Martsolf, Selected Works Inspired by Jack Kerouac”, Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, March 2022
“Dave Martsolf”, TreMonte Restaurant, Lowell, MA, January-August 2022
“Through the Eyes of a Child”, Greenwald Gallery, Arts League of Lowell, MA, June 2021
“David Martsolf”, Café Gallery, Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, 2019
“David Martsolf”, Parish Center for the Arts, Westford, MA, 2019
“David Martsolf – The Rational Surrealist”, Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, 2018
“Unbridled Imagination” - Galatea Fine Art, Boston, MA, 2012

Awards

Chosen for a Collection – “Love at First Sight”, Singularart.com, February 2021
Artwork of the Year 2020 – One of 15 Finalists – Singularart.com, January 2021
Chosen for a Collection – “Art and Digitalization”, Singularart.com, December 2020
Artsy Shark - chosen as Featured Artist, November 2020
Merit Award, “2020 Artist’s Choice Competition”, Grey Cube Gallery (online) November 2020
2nd Place, “Weather Art Competition”, Art Room Gallery (online), October 2020
Chosen for a Collection – “Dreams”, Singularart.com, September 2020
Chosen for a Collection – “The White Collection”, Singularart.com, August 2020
Certificate of Excellence, Artavita.com’s San Diego Contest, October 2019
1st Prize, “From All Sides”, Arts League of Lowell, MA, 2018
Certificate of Excellence, Artavita.com’s 26th On-line Art Contest, 2018
People’s Choice Award, “Honoring Gaia”, Arts League of Lowell, Lowell, MA, 2018

Grand Prize, The Art List's on-line Artist of the Month Contest, 2018
Certificate of Excellence, Artavita.com's 24th On-line Art Contest, 2017
Sawyer Memorial Award for Painting, 38th Annual New Hampshire Art Association Exhibition,
Currier Gallery of Art, Manchester, NH, 1985
Best of Show, New Hampshire Arthritis Foundation Annual Art Exhibit, Concord, NH, 1981, 1982
Juror's Prize, "UNH Revisited" Alumni Show, Durham, NH, 1981
Honorable Mention, Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA, 1978

National Juried Shows

"Used" National Juried Exhibition, Attleboro Art Museum, June-July 2023
"National Prize Show 2023", Cambridge Art Association, May-June 2023
"On the Edge", University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, January-April 2022
"Real or Imagined", Attleboro Art Museum, Attleboro, MA, June 2021
"Renewal", Arts Wayland @ The W Gallery, Wayland, MA, June 2021
"Artist's Choice Competition", Grey Cube Gallery (online) November 2020
Weather Art Competition, Art Room Gallery (online), October 2020
5th Annual Colorful Abstractions On-line Juried Art Exhibition, Fusion Art, November 2019
San Diego Contest, Artavita.com, October 2019
Electron Salon, Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles, CA, January 2018
Artist of the Month Contest, The Art List (online) 2018 (Grand Prize Winner)
24th On-line Art Contest, Artavita.com 2017
3rd Annual Colorful Abstractions On-line Juried Art Exhibition, Fusion Art, Nov 2017
3rd Annual Figures & Faces On-line Juried Art Exhibition, Fusion Art, Oct 2017
Gallery 25N.com & Art-Competition.net "Dreams 3" on-line Art Exhibition, Aug 2017
Caladan Gallery "Reality" on-line show, Dec-Jan 2011- 2012
Water: A National Juried Photography Exhibition - Photoplace Gallery, Middlebury, VT July-
August 2009
Springfield Art League, Springfield, MA, 1983, 1984
Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH, 1982
North Platte Valley Artist's Guild, Scottsbluff, NE, 1979
Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA, 1978, 1980
Greater Fall River Art Association, Fall River, MA, 1978
Ellsworth Gallery, Simsbury, CT, 1977, 1978

Regional Group Shows to 2019

"All Things Musical", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, March-April, 2024
"My Neighborhood", Greenwald Gallery, Lowell, MA, February 2024
"Abstraction 2024", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, January-February, 2024
"Searles Chapel Pop Up Exhibition", Searles Chapel, Windham, NH, December 2023
"Members Exhibition", Attleboro Art Museum, Attleboro, MA, December 2023 – January 2024
"Lowell Artist Collective", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, August 2023
"Expressions of Culture and Identity", The Brush Gallery, Lowell, MA, June-July, 2023
"Past & Present Members Show", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, June 2023
"Red, White or Blue", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, May-July, 2023
"Heart of Machines", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, March-May, 2023
"Creative Gifting", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, November-December, 2022
"Unity", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, September 2022

Regional Group Shows to 2019 (cont.)

"Tiny But Mighty", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, June 2022
"Satori in Paris", The Brush Gallery, Lowell, MA, June-July 2022
"For the Birds", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, , June-July 2022
"A Frenzy and a Dream", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, , March-April, 2022
"March Members Exhibition", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, December 2022 "February Members Exhibition", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, December 2022
"Human Being/Being Human", Piano Craft Gallery, Boston, MA, February 2022
"Bright", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, January-February 2022
"Night", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, , January-February 2022
"Strategies for Resplendence", Cambridge Art Association juried on-line show, January 2022
"Annual Members Show", Hopkinton Center for the Arts, Hopkinton, MA Dec 2021-Jan 2022
"2021 Members Exhibition", Attleboro Art Museum, Attleboro, MA, Dec 2021-Jan 2022
"December Members Exhibition", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, December 2021
"Small Works", Cambridge Art Assoc., Cambridge, MA, December 2021
"Winter Members Show", Chelmsford Art Society, Chelmsford, MA, November-December 2021
"100 and Below", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, November-December 2021
"November Members Exhibition", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, November 2021
"November at the Speedway", Cambridge Art Assoc., Brighton, MA, November 2021
"Greenwald Inspirations", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, September-October 2021
"Summer", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, August 2021
"Members July Salon", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, July 2021
"Members May Salon", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, May 2021
"Members March Salon", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, March 2021
"Abstract Non-Objective Art", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, March 2021
"My Favorite Place", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, March-April 2021
"The Big Tent", Hopkinton Center for the Arts, Hopkinton, MA, February-March 2021
"Members February Salon, @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, February 2021
"Color It Green", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, January-February 2021
"Members January Salon, @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, January 2021
"For the Love of Earth", @ the W Gallery, Wayland, MA, November-December 2020
"Eighth Annual One", ArtsWorcester, Worcester, MA, September 2020
"Resilience", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, September 2020
"Gravity/Levity", ArtsWorcester, Worcester, MA, July-August 2020
"Ice & Snow", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, February 2020, and "Bodyscapes", March 2020
"Water", ALL Gallery, Lowell, MA, January 2020, and "Faces". March 2020
"Members January Salon", W Gallery, Wayland, MA, January 2020, also February & March 2020
Holiday Small Works Shows in Lowell, Worcester and Wayland, MA, December 2019
"Art of the Macabre", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, October-November 2019
"Illustration in Black and White", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, September 2019
"Through the Surface", 6 Bridges Gallery, Maynard, MA, July-Aug 2019
"Out of the Ordinary", Arts League of Lowell, Lowell, MA, June-July 2019
"About Face", ArtsWorcester, Worcester, MA, June-July 2019
"Abstractions", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, June 2019
"Assemblages", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, April 2019
"All Things Red", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, February 2019
"Fantasy Worlds & Mystical Beasts", Gallery Z, Lowell, MA, January 2019