

EASEL INSIGHT
PODCAST
“Easel Talk”
Show Notes



with
Gabor Svagrik & Phil Starke

What Judges are looking for at competitions

Design or Composition

Drawing skill (not photographic) particularly for figure.

Values

Color

Technique (application of paint)

Originality

But one has to realize the judge is a human being, meaning he or she will be touched by a particular piece more than another. With that said I try to stay with the fundamentals.

I do not look at the frame, however presentation is important too!

Don't dwell on not being accepted into a show, learn from the experience and move on to the next one.

Design or Composition MUST be there to work on any level. This is the first and most important element.

Next, if the proportions are off for figures and animals, that will ruin it for the judges.

Values place almost as high as the first two. The values need to be accurate.

Color is the next thing, but we're more open to the color part. We realize color can vary among artists.

Technique, the application of paint, is another element. Paint can be applied many different ways, but in your application, does it work.

We then look at originality, but it cannot come first. If you have bad design, drawing, values, etc., then the painting is not going to stand up.

Everything is important, but there is an order to things. Feeling and Originality are left to the final thing.

When deciding on what shows to enter, evaluate whether it is a good fit for your artwork. If the judge is an abstract judge, or modern art curator, maybe it's not a good fit for your work if you paint more representational landscape.

Doing competitions does help you grow. Producing work, getting it accepted or rejected, and having it judged is a growing process. It helps you to set goals.