



Far left: *Break from Duet*, oil, 24 x 16"

Left: *Glacial Blue*, oil, 36 x 24"

Below: *Fresh Snow*, oil, 18 x 24"



Mitch Caster

For as long as he can remember, Mitch Caster has been drawing and painting, capturing the essence of the good that is around him. As a teenager, he would ditch high school and take the bus to a downtown Denver art gallery to see Richard Schmid's work. When he was even younger, and not able to go to galleries and museums, he would study art through looking at postage stamps. He started as a figurative painter, having studied with Phil Steele, and he now teaches a structural approach to drawing at Art Students League of Denver.

For many years, he did paintings of dance from the Colorado Ballet, which were honored at New York City's Lincoln Center in celebration of the New York

City Ballet's 50th anniversary. "My love of dance really started with a trip to Polynesia where I saw traditional dancers depicting their culture," Caster explains. "When we got home, I thought I would paint dance from our own Native people, and my own culture, being half-Hispanic. That led me to an invitation to paint the Colorado Ballet. My wife is a flamenco dancer, which is a great source of material as well. I have also worked with the Wonderbound dance company."

In addition to dance and figurative work, "I've always been inspired by nature and old buildings like lighthouses and castles. Landscapes have been a huge inspiration, as we live in Colorado. I like to travel, and I gravitate toward areas

with water. I love to paint water subjects," he says. "I want my art to have a positive, happy effect on people. I love that art can have that power."

Caster's work will be on view November 2 to 30 at Principle Gallery Charleston as part of the American Society of Marine Artists' 40th anniversary *Marine Art Invitational*.

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(720) 333-1959 | www.zhibit.org/mitchcaster

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217 Galisteo Street | Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 988-5545 | www.santafeartcollector.com

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