Michael Holter

Michael Holter is an American Watercolorist who has rapidly become known for his dynamic watercolor portraits and landscapes and for his engaging workshops. After a successful career in art education, advertising design and creative leadership, Michael began focusing more seriously on his painting in 2011.

Michael is a signature member of The American Watercolor Society, The National Watercolor Society, The American Impressionist Society, The Watercolor Honor Society, The Southwestern Watercolor Society, The Society of Watercolor Artists, the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, The Outdoor Painters Society, and several others.

His work has received numerous awards, been published in the *NorthLight* Books issues of *Splash 16 through 21* and has been selected four times to the Fabriano (Italy) Watermedia Exhibition and also the World Watercolor Competition in Taiwan. He was one of three US artists selected to travel to China in 2019 for the International Watercolor Week Exhibition and plein air painting activities in Shanxxi Province, Beijing, and Quingdao. He has been on the teaching faculty of the 2018, 2019 and 2023 Plein Air Convention and Watercolor Live 2020 and 2022. Michael has released four DVDs from Creative Catalyst Productions, *7 Steps to Landscape Painting in Watercolor, 7 Steps to Portraits in Watercolor, Watercolor Landscapes from Photos and Paint the Town*.

Although Michael has been painting most of his life, his work experience spans a wide range of creativity, from high school art teacher, advertising creative director and businessman. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education and an MA in Visual Communication.

Michael says, "My work is impressionistic. I like to represent people or places and allow the painting to evolve from the recognizable. The challenge is to balance the care needed to make the representation interesting… and perhaps believable, with the freedom, looseness and painterly quality that makes a painting so expressive."