

Curriculum Vitae

Profile

Robert Carl Bolster Jr.

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I consider it a privilege to earn a living creating art. My career has spanned thirty-seven successful years in the fields of advertising illustration, book illustration, and fine art. My professional interests include learning, creating, problem-solving, and teaching. Leisure time is spent with family, friends, and outdoors. Winslow Homer's work and career have had the strongest influence on my artistic path. I have also been influenced by N.C. Wyeth, his son Andrew, and Edward Hopper. I am committed to the pursuit of excellence.



Education

Rhode Island School of Design

September 1975 - May 1979

Bachelor of Fine Arts - Illustration

Art Professors / Instructors:

Akira Arita - Lester Abrahms - Trent Burleson -

Hardu Keck - Roger Pontbriand - David MacCaulay -

Mahler Ryder - Thomas Sgouros -

Judy Sue Goodwin Sturges - Chris VanAllsburg

Self-Employment 1979-present

Fine Art

Statement

Carefully selected subjects, design, and technique are evidence of my desire to create a captivating piece of fine art. As a boy, I was drawn to the work of Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, and N.C. Wyeth. Knowing these renowned painters began in illustration encouraged me to pursue a career in painting. Therefore, in 2007, after spending twenty-eight years as an illustrator, I embarked on a career as a painter. As an artist, my focus is to capture special moments that occur in the waters along the Atlantic coastline.

Initially, I took a traditional approach to all of the paintings I created. As I continued to work with oils, memories of "Freshman Foundation" at Rhode Island School of Design, nearly three decades earlier, resurfaced. During that year I completed an assignment that required the use of abstracted squares.

Consequently, while working on an 18 X 24 painting, I expanded on the gridded approach by isolating complex foreground areas of the composition. I was intrigued by the process and by the painting, which I titled *Duxbury Fog*. Therefore, in 2008 I completed my first large scale work by creating individual square paintings to form a unified image in which the squares are subtly celebrated. The 60x60 inch painting *Tidal Remains* is the first work I produced in what I refer to as my "squares" series. Currently, I find myself drawn to both methods of painting - traditional and the "squares" approach. While I consider my traditional style to be a simplified expression of my work as an artist, I view my "squares" series as a contemporary abstraction of my traditional paintings.

As I approach each new canvas, I find myself in the same place that every painter throughout history has been. The blank, two-dimensional surface before me contains the promise of a new learning experience, and an opportunity to complete a piece of art to which viewers will be drawn.

Group Exhibitions

2016-10 Cavalier Galleries, Nantucket, MA & Greenwich, CT

2016-07 Renjeau Galleries, Natick, MA

2016-14 Tree's Place Orleans, MA

2016-08 Walsingham Gallery, Newburyport, MA

2012-10 Dean Day Gallery, Houston, TX

2011-07 Wynne/Falconer Gallery, Chatham, MA

2010-09 Nantucket Artworks

2009-07 Fountain Street Open Studios

Recognition

2011 Juror of Duxbury Art Association's Summer Juried Exhibition
2010 Second Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Winter Juried Show
2009 Second Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Winter Juried Show
2007 First Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Winter Juried Show
2006 Second Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Winter Juried Show
2004 Third Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Winter Juried Show
2003 Third Place, Oil & Acrylic Duxbury Art Assoc., Midsummer Juried Show

Children's Books Illustrated

Publishers

Charlesbridge Publishing
Houghton Mifflin
Simon & Schuster
Scholastic

Who Would Win Series

Killer Whale Vs. Great White Shark
Lion Vs. Tiger
Polar Bear Vs. Grizzly Bear
Tyrannosaurus Rex Vs. Velociraptor
Hammerhead Vs. Bull Shark
Komodo Dragon Vs. King Cobra
Tarantula Vs. Scorpion
Wolverine Vs. Tasmanian Devil
Whale Vs. Squid
Hornet vs. Wasp
Rhino Vs. Hippo
Alligator Vs. Python
Lobster Vs. Crab
Ultimate Ocean Rumble
Rattlesnake Vs. Secretary Bird
Triceratops Vs. Spinosaurus
Ultimate Bug Rumble

Math Equals Fun Series

Addition
Subtraction
Pizza Fractions Book
Count By Fives
Count By Tens
Multiplication
Multiplication & Division
Weights and Measures
Adding Pizza Fractions
Multiplication
Multiplication & Division

Other Titles

Going Lobstering
Airplane Alphabet Book
Jet Alphabet Book
Construction Alphabet Book
U.S. Navy Alphabet Book

Freelance Advertising Illustration

1979-2000 Creating illustrations for agencies and corporations.

Partial list of clients:

American Express	Citizens Bank	New England Telephone
American Tourister	Converse	Nynex
Bank of Boston	Etonic	Ocean Spray
Bank of New England	Dupont	Rockport Shoe
Boston Edison	Fidelity Investments	Sonesta Hotels
Boston Globe	Genuity	Tom's of Maine
Boston Museum of Fine Art	Jet Blue	Verizon
Boston Museum of Science	Jonn Hancock Insurance	Wang Laboratories
Budget Car Rental	Mass. State Lottery	Westin Hotels
Carol Cable	Marriot Hotels	Xerox

Recognition

1994 Honorable Mention,
Communication Arts Annual
1988 Merit Award, The Art
Director's Club of Boston
1988 Merit of Distinction,
Creative Club of Boston
1983 Merit Award, The Art
Director's Club of Boston

Partial list of advertising agencies

Allen & Gerritsen	Clarke Goward	Hill Holiday	Ogilvy & Mather Chicago
Arnold	Devine & Pearson	Horton Church & Goff	Quinn & Johnson
Aquent	Digitas New York	Ingalls	Rosin Greenburg Seronick
BBDO New York	Fidelity	Leonard Monahan Saabye	Simon & Partners
Cabot	Gearon Hoffman	Mullen	Wooding & Housley