

Stanton Englehart

Stanton Englehart was born in Cortez, Colorado, in 1931 on a farm. A rural upbringing and the effects of the depression taught him the value of hard work. He attended collage at Fort Lewis, and worked at Kroegers Hardware Store, and later finished school at the University of Colorado. He returned to the four corners region and excelled at painting, teaching (at Fort Lewis), Fly fishing and many of the other outdoor activities enjoyed by people in this region. The Horizon Line, bold colors, and iridescent paint are signature elements of his work. Englehart is known as a particularly philanthropic figure in his community, donating art and supplies to the local schools and charities, he is a hero among us.

Vocabulary:

Four Corners, Mentor, Iridescent

Art Project:

An art project focusing on memories and landscapes accompanies this presentation.

Catalyst Questions:

Inspired by his immersion in the Colorado landscape, Stanton Englehart painted every day. He preferred to spend his time outdoors, absorbing the sensations of the place – how it smelled, felt, and sounded. When he returned to his studio he would paint like crazy. If you look closely at one of his paintings you might be treated to a surprise. He loved to mix his media – oil paint and pastels, acrylics, watercolors, pencils, plus embossing. All this added definition and texture to the land and the sky.

- Here is an exercise used by Stanton to get his students tuned into their surroundings. Start by closing your eyes and have someone slowly read while you imagine: *...In the heat of the southwestern sun....in the desert...when a rock is sitting there and has just about had enough...and then the rain clouds come ...and a single drop splatters and stings the skin of the rock...does the rock have a sense of relief that it is going to get cool...that it is finally going to get a drink?.*
- Englehart's ruler- straight horizons were a trademark of many of his paintings. Try dividing a piece of paper with a ruler into a simple landscape: above will be the sky and below, the ground. Now create a landscape with layers of texture in the sky and the ground that bring to mind the sounds, sights, and smells of your favorite place.

Links:

-Toh-Atin Gallery

<http://www.toh-atin.com/index.php/collectors-corner/southwest-paintings-and-drawings/englehart-stanton.html>

-Durango Herald

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20120313/ARTS/703139991/0/ARTS03/Large-legacy>

-Durango Telegraph

<http://www.durangotelegraph.com/index.cfm/archives/2009/april-30-2009/an-ode-to-stanton/>