

# Joe Engel

Joe Engel has been making art for as long as he can remember. As a child he spent much of his time with dogs, exploring the woods behind his house. As a young adult, he worked with State Parks and wildlife sanctuaries, inspiring his thematic choices. Joe is a self taught, contemporary mixed media artist living in the Shenandoah Valley with his wife & son. He works out of a small studio in his backyard. His current work incorporates layered acrylic paint and collage on wood with a combination of bold colors, detailed imagery and a clean presentation. For the past 10 years he has traveled the United States exhibiting his work in art festivals and galleries

## Artist Statement

Every time I paint, I am trying to capture a certain euphoria I feel when a piece has turned out well. Starting with simple sketches, I begin to explore the relationship between the existing world and an imaginary one.

My current work incorporates layered acrylic paint etched with a nail. A combination of dense primitive imagery, clean lines and bold color is used to create works that straddle the line between raw and refined.



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