

Artist Statement:

In my artistic exploration, I am deeply immersed in the natural world, particularly along the banks of rivers. As a contemporary visual artist specializing in printmaking and oil painting, I am drawn to the interplay of light, color, and texture in the landscapes that surround me.

Venturing to the riverside, I become both observer and participant in the unfolding drama of nature. In the flowing waters and winds through reeds, I encounter remnants of human presence, each with its own story.

Stones and sticks, once mundane objects, serve as guides along my artistic journey. Weathered lures and discarded fishing lines become elements of intrigue and fascination in my repertoire.

In my artistic process, I employ a technique that involves multiple runs through the press with different plates and inks. This technique allows me to experiment with drier and more viscous inks, as well as explore the interaction of colors on the printed surface. It is within these unexpected surprises that the essence of my work emerges.

Along the river's edge, I discover sculptures —stacked stones and forgotten relics that speak to the transient nature of existence. Amidst the grasses, I stumble upon hidden treasures—an old wooden box, and wonder who left it.

In my prints and paintings, I seek to capture visual splendor. Each brushstroke and print impression becomes a testament to the enduring beauty of the natural world, inviting viewers on a sensory journey infused with wonder and reverence for the environment.

As I navigate the currents of artistic expression, I hope my work serves as a celebration of the landscapes that surround us.

Warm regards,

E. Tom Bettin