

## **THOMAS CONRAD**

"Like many young art students in the late 1960s and early 1970s, I was enthralled with the pop art and photorealist movements of the time and much of my work is influenced by these styles. I had the good fortune to study under Wayne Thiebaud, Robert Bechtle, and Jack Mendenhall while I was a graduate student at California College of the Arts.

I've always been fascinated by Middle Eastern and Asian patterns as well as the arts and crafts patterns created by William Morris. My interest in these patterns has been augmented by my travels and living abroad in Japan, Spain, Iran and India. While living in Europe, I completed a series of drawings and other works on paper and visited many great museums and architectural sites and ruins. These places and artists whose works are represented in these locales influenced my work then and now especially in my acrylic patterned paintings.

I moved back to Tulsa in 2001 and have continued to explore the use of various patterns juxtaposed against realistically-rendered shapes such as koi, birds, and other figurative elements. My most recent inspiration for the more realistic representations of koi has been found through photographing the koi ponds at The Gathering Place in Tulsa and painting from them in oils."

## Education

- 1982 Master of Fine Arts (Printmaking) California College of the Arts
- 1975 Master of Art (Painting) University of Tulsa
- 1974 Bachelor of Art (Art History) University of Tulsa

## **Exhibitions and Accomplishments**

- Featured artist, Joseph Gierek Fine Art Gallery, Tulsa, OK
- TAC and AHHA juried exhibits
- Featured Artist, Floating World Gallery, Tulsa
- Festival of Trees, Philbrook Museum of Art Gallery, Tulsa
- Mayfest Invitational Gallery, Tulsa
- American Art in Miniature exhibition, Gilcrease Museum of Art, Tulsa
- One Man Show, Performing Arts Center, Tulsa
- Montserrat Gallery, New York City
- Paintings and works on paper in private collections across the country and abroad
- Painting and Printmaking Instructor, WaterWorks Art Center, Tulsa