

about the artist...



Cameron Bird



Cameron Bird has grown up with a passion for the outdoors. Whether it was a family camping trip to the west coast of British Columbia, a hunting excursion deep into the backwoods of the northern interior or time spent exploring northern Ontario on his grandparents' farm, Cameron developed a love for nature and its surroundings at an early age. This love and passion has grown over the years and has become the foundation of the artist so many have come to know today.

Cameron began his career with sketching, which he continues to this day as a reference for his larger studio oils. His formal art training took place at Emily Carr College of Art and Capilano College where he studied commercial art; he completed studies in professional sign painting. Each year Cameron gathers references for his work while fishing, camping and hiking in the mountains and outdoors. A particular interest for Cameron is to carry his paint box with him and capture the subjects first-hand, known commonly as plein air. Plein air painting was initially very overwhelming for Cameron. It was difficult for him to simplify landscapes and present clean colours in such vast settings, however, years of practice and patience have given him the confidence and skill which can be seen today in his plein air studies.

Starting in the late 90's Cameron worked as a pack horse guide in the mountains which provided him with first-hand material and references for his paintings. It was a time that saw a change occur in Cameron. He was now indulging full-time in the wilderness he had grown up in. The alpine lakes and streams in the mountainous region surrounding him expanded his artistic vision.

As a landscape/wildlife artist, some would be surprised to find that Cameron firmly believes it is essential to study all art forms, from realism to abstraction. "Studying abstraction has given me the confidence to further simplification in my work. My personal experiences are what pull me back to some form of reality. I continue to study powerful shapes and layered colour creating an exciting textured painting with an abstract base," says Cameron.

Cameron has been painting professionally since 1989 and full-time since 1999. Cameron has had many one-man and group exhibitions and is represented in several art galleries throughout Canada. Through his work ethic, Cameron has been recognized internationally by a wide clientele base. He currently lives in the interior of British Columbia with his family and continues to capture and explore the wild and its animals.

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