

Jim Potterton, Ph.D.
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Jim Potterton is a primarily self-taught painter who began to make art in earnest about seven years ago. He works from his Sims Road garage studio creating impressionistic landscapes mainly from “fuzzy memories of places that have some kind of emotional pull for me.” Occasionally he works *plein air* and he particularly enjoys working with water based acrylic paint on wet, foggy days when the moisture in the air effects how the paint is absorbed into the canvas or paper. “The physical act of moving paint around is very exciting. I get a charge out of scraping, using my fingers and other objects to leave somewhat organic but unpredictable marks.”

An **Open Studios** artist for the past five years, Jim enjoys the opportunity to talk art with his Open Studio’s visitors. “I like to encourage new and would-be artists. I enjoy getting into discussions about the raw experience of painting and how we all deal with our creative highs and lows.”

Jim has been a college professor at San Jose City College for over 30 years. He teaches psychology and is particularly interested in mindfulness and the creative process.

Since 2006 Jim’s paintings have been exhibited in over two dozen juried shows. Recent awards for his work include first place (acrylic painting) in the 33rd Annual Juried Painting exhibition, Salmagundi Gallery, New York City and “Best in Show,” Coastal Art League 25th Annual Juried Show in Half Moon Bay. His recent painting *Oakland Series No. 5* was selected for the 2010 Bay Area Annual Juried Show at the Sanchez Art Center in Pacifica.