

ERIC MCCULLY

BIOGRAPHY

Eric McCully was born into a working-class family in Belfast, Ireland in 1960. On leaving school, he trained as an electrician and honed his talent for painting. While serving as a Christian Missionary, he had the opportunity to spend extended periods in South America, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe.

Eric had four children with his first love, Gillian, who died of cancer in 2001. In 2004, he met and married a Canadian, Kelly, and they now share their happy home with five children in Ottawa. Through the experiences of intense joy and sorrow afforded his life, Eric has come to appreciate the true beauty that can be found in the simple things.

Inspired by the beauty of nature and familial love, he paints his world: children, the landscapes of his native Ireland, and his new home, Canada. Using a palette knife and brush he applies very thin layers of paint onto canvas or board. His paintings seem to emit a warm light.

Eric works mainly in oils. For his landscapes he builds up layers of colour and unveils a gorgeous light through a gradual process of lifting paint from the canvas. His preferred tools are palette knife and brush and many people are amazed to see and feel his palette knife paintings are completely smooth.

Eric has participated in many solo and group shows and his paintings have held a prominent place around the world, and in public collections in Northern Ireland such as the Lisburn Museum and the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"Although my work would be categorized as landscapes, they would be better described as mindscapes, as all of the work derives from a wide variety of inspirations. I seek to capture a moment rather than a place. It is the beauty of a summer evening sunset or listening to a beautiful piece of music that inspires the work. There is a feeling of warmth and a certain meditative quality, which seems to emanate from each piece. The ultimate compliment for me is when individuals connect with the moments and feelings I try to capture."

