

## Sidne Teske Biography/Artist Statement

“The Nevada landscape is breathtaking, especially in the morning and late afternoon, when light and shadows crisply delineate the contours of canyons and hills. The colors can be blinding, with dramatic clouds adding excitement. There are huge horizons on this vast ‘sagebrush ocean.’ It can look harsh and brutal or soft and gentle. Beauty can be found in the remnants of man’s destruction, in the tailings left behind by miners. On grey days colors are subtle. There are no shadows to describe the lay of the land. Painting on location provides me with endless opportunities to explore the landscape.

I paint with soft pastels on colored sanded paper. I fell in love with pastels because of their brilliant hues and immediacy. I often paint plein air, portraying the landscape with vibrant energy. When the weather makes it too difficult to explore the outdoors, I will turn to my studio to create large expressive works that feature the human figure.”

Sidne Teske is an artist and illustrator. Teske has received many awards and honors, including a commission by the Nevada Arts Council in 2017 to create three works in recognition of their 50th anniversary. Nevada Humanities commissioned her in 2014 to make 14 pieces for presentation to individuals and organizations that made a difference in the arts in Nevada. Teske is a mentorship recipient of the Nevada Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, studying under Caldecott Award-winning illustrator David Diaz.

Teske's works are in numerous public and private collections, including Renown Regional Medical Center in Reno, Nevada, Interlachen in Colorado, Embassy Suites at South Shore, Lake Tahoe, and Harrah's High Roller Suite at South Shore, Lake Tahoe. She was the State of Nevada representative at the Folklife Festival on the Mall for the Smithsonian Institution in 2005 and created the Nevada Governor's Arts Awards in 2004. Teske's poster design for the Bureau of Land Management and Nevada Rock Art Association won first place at the National Competition of the Society of American Archaeologists in 2003. Teske makes work from her studio in Tuscarora, Nevada.

Quote:

*“The interplay between light and land, the feel of the sun, the wind carrying sage perfume, insects humming all around: these enticements draw me into the hills. I spend my time on location painting this landscape in order to know and love it better.” - Sidne Teske*