

# ARTS/CULTURE

## The Beauty and Thrill of Exploring Color

THE ART PRESS CLUB

That's how Artist and Gallery Owner Jeff Tabor describes his love and appreciation of color. His Gallery on Historic Canyon Road in Santa Fe, New Mexico reflects his interests in color with the large assortment of artists represented including his own works.

The Art Exchange Gallery is a small gallery tucked away just off the street at 618 Canyon Road about midway down Canyon. But don't let the size of this space fool you. Jeff has over 40 artists represented and a diverse grouping of styles and mediums. What is also surprising is that you can sometimes find works by Warhol, Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg, Donald Sultan, Frank Stella and other famous 'blue chip' collectable artists. You soon realize Jeff has been in the Fine Art Trade and a gallery owner for over 20 years. The Art Exchange Gallery also has a location in Austin Texas downtown on 5th street. The Austin Gallery is a large and open space also with a wide variety of art available.

A prolific landscape painter Tabor, whose native New Mexican roots and upbringing gave him an appreciation and understanding of its landscape and lend a warm, upbeat effect to his work. His paintings portray the vastness of the southwestern expanse often times juxtaposed against the positive warmth of a sunset, providing a rich contrast of emotion.

In reflecting on his artist influences, Tabor states, "I have been painting, drawing and doing artwork since I can remember. My father is an artist and, whenever he put his palette down, I would pick it up to use the leftover paint. I grew up on the plains of New Mexico within view of the distant mountains, so there is a feeling of light, color, and clear air in most of my landscape paintings, including those painted in other places I've called



*"Liberty and the 'Tooth of Time' along Santa Fe Trail" Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico.*



*"Music/Horse/Landscape" The Original is sold but limited edition 'Fine Art Prints' are available.*

home – Texas, New England and Africa." One gallery owner appreciatively commented that Jeff is the only artist she knows who paints Boston city scenes with Santa Fe colors. Elizabeth Bradley states, "His landscapes reflect serenity by his masterful use of light".

Concerning the style of his work, Tabor comments, "I use an economy of shape and composition and an overstated color scheme. My intent is that the viewer will be uplifted and feel a suggestion of New Mexico air when looking at my work." Tabor often works from memory, allowing him to work with the essence of the mood and feeling of a scene rather than the photographic quality of the location. "it is my aim to amplify the color and simplify the design in order to convey a clear and concise message."

Although his medium of choice is oil, he often works with acrylic, watercolor, gouache and print-making to achieve the desired results. His work is characterized by bold colors and the use of broad patterns that simplify his subject matter, infusing them with a timeless quality.

Tabor is an established artist and has received more than twenty-five national and international awards for his work. His work can be found in numerous corporate and private national and international collections. Born in 1951 in Clovis, New Mexico, Tabor graduated from Abilene Christian University with a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1973 and from Florida State University with a Master of Fine Arts in 1975.

Although Tabor enjoys talking about his work, he is also expressive of how God has blessed him, not only with his talents but with his wonderful family, wife, children and grandchildren.

**Please visit the Art Exchange Gallery web-site: [aegallery.com](http://aegallery.com) and if you are in Santa Fe or Austin, Stop by and view the works of many artists that inspire.**

Art Exchange Galleries  
618 B Canyon Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Director: Jeff Tabor 505-982-6329 [www.aegallery.com](http://www.aegallery.com)

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1611 W 5th Street  
Austin, Texas 78703  
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