

SOUTHBURY MAKERS SPOTLIGHT



18x24 Oil "Phillips Barn"



8x10 Oil "Bluebird"



8x10 Oil "Ruby Throated Hummingbird"



18x24 Oil "Young Bald Eagle"

David Zinni, painter

By Kelly Keenan, SEDC Arts & Culture Subcommittee
Images courtesy of the artist

When you look at David Zinni's artwork, you can clearly see his deep appreciation for the rich history and rural beauty of Southbury, a town he has called home for over 38 years. For our August spotlight, we had the opportunity to learn more about his process and explore his latest body of work, which reflects his connection to the community and its surroundings

Q: Tell us a little about yourself.

A: I have been a resident of Southbury since 1986 (38 yrs). It's a great town to live in and raise a family. Its town and state parks, land trust preserved lands and open spaces are exceptional!

Q: What initially drew you to the arts, and how long have you been doing it?

A: I had always admired original art work and felt I could paint. It wasn't until I could dedicate time after retirement from an engineering career in 2019 that I was able to first put a brush to canvas. I am a self taught painter who works in acrylic and oil. An instructional studio class with local artist Peter Seltzer got me started with oils.

Q: Do you have a favorite subject matter or source of inspiration?

A: The source of most of my subject matter and inspiration is my own photography of local landscapes, seascapes and birds. Daily hikes through local parks and land trust preserves with my dog have provided an abundance of serene material for my paintings. I enjoy painting Southbury barns, birds and vistas as captured through my camera.



The artist with his hiking partner



24x36 Oil "Platt Farm Preserve River Trail"

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18x24 Oil "Platt Farm"

Q: Is there a special place in Southbury you go for inspiration?

A: The Platt Farm Preserve area is one of my favorites. The farm, pastures and river trails are an artist's paradise and are habitat for so many birds.

Q: What is your most favorite / least favorite part of your process?

A: Putting the finishing touches on a painting is my favorite part while getting started is my least favorite part.

Q: Is there a particular artist whose work you admire?

A: I have not studied any of the masters. I admire some of our local established artists like Peter Seltzer of Woodbury.

Q: Do you have any advice for those who are trying to find their voice?

A: Don't be afraid to experiment and not succeed at first. Even art takes practice.

For more information about this month's maker, or if you are interested in being featured in an upcoming issue of the Southbury Makers Spotlight, contact us at edsouthburymakers@gmail.com or visit southbury-ct.org/arts.

CONNECT WITH DAVID

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18x24 Oil "Ludorf Barn"



18x24 Oil "Flood Bridge Road & Platt Preserve"



18x24 Oil "Lovdal Farm"



16x20 Oil "Fishing the Pomperaug"