



O'Hagan's 'New York, New York' opens at Elements 5280 Gallery, Sept. 5

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A sample of Desmond O'Hagan's work that will be on display at Elements 5280 Gallery beginning Sept. 5.

"New York, New York" is an exhibit of oil and pastel paintings by Desmond O'Hagan. Opening night will be Friday, Sept. 5, 6 – 9 p.m., at Elements 5280 Gallery, 5940 S. Holly St., Greenwood Village. This exhibit captures New York City from early morning to late in the evening focusing on the energy of its unique urban setting.

"I have spent the last 27 years painting in oils and pastels and consistently striving to refine my craft. It is a profession that demands versatility and a desire to accept new ideas. I feel that an artist must always be learning.

A constant component in my paintings and what generally attracts me to a scene is the effect of light. Capturing light is an age-old element of artistic expression that I've been working with throughout my career. I never tire of the challenge of translating the world I see around me into a two-dimensional image on canvas or paper.

I suppose it's because I'm constantly discovering new ways of depicting light in nature and portraying the nature of light. It has always been crucial to experiment with a variety of subjects to test and grow my technique and style in a way that makes me more effective in expressing the very reasons that attracted me to a certain image. A truly good piece of art must have that spark that makes a viewer return for a second or third look, and that spark is what I strive for in each and every painting.

This exhibit of New York City is a perfect fit for me. I have always loved visiting the city and constantly find a steady stream of unique and exciting subjects to paint. These subjects vary from the vitality of the streets and the people that inhabit them to the serenity and calm of Central Park," Desmond O'Hagan said.

O'Hagan was born in Wiesbaden, Germany, and was raised in the United States. Although he appreciates many different forms of art, continuous study of several late 19th century American, Russian, Spanish and French painters has had a strong influence on O'Hagan's own art. Constantly challenging himself has translated into a fulfilling career in fine art encompassing several one-man shows and participation in group exhibitions in the United States, Japan, China, and France. He is a member of IAPS' "Master Circle" and is a Master Pastelist with the Pastel Society of America. O'Hagan is also listed in Who's Who in American Art, and Who's Who in America. He has won several awards including and the IAPS' Prix'd Pastel Award, and the George Innes, Jr. Memorial Award from the Salmagundi Club (NYC).

O'Hagan's paintings have been featured in several books including Rockport Publisher's, *The Best of Oil*, and North Light Books' *Painting with Pastels* by Maggie Price. His art is in public and private collections in the United States, Japan, Canada and Europe. O'Hagan's paintings are represented by galleries in Denver, Santa Fe and Aspen.