

BETHANY ARTS

DAVE BAAB

Sketchbook Art (2016 - 2017)



For watercolor artists, “sketching” means painting on site, using watercolor paints. Dave has a travel palette and a stool he often uses. Sometimes he paints standing up.

These sketches come from New Zealand, where Dave was living in 2016 and the first half of 2017, and from Seattle.

If interested in purchasing, please contact Lynne Baab at Imbaab@aol.com

All proceeds received by Dave Baab will benefit Dianne Ross's ministry with children's ministries directors in small churches and marginalized settings and with young adults getting started in children's and youth ministry. Beginning in April 2017, Dianne cut back to 80% at Bethany. She spends 20% of her time in a ministry of mentoring and equipping children's ministries directors and young adults heading into ministry. It is Dave's privilege to support Dianne's new ministry.

Why sketch versus take a photo?

Dave Baab: Sketching asks me to slow down and observe the scene before me closely, emphasizing/exaggerating the parts that excite me or lift my heart to worship. Now that I'm 72 with a chronic lung disease, I'm more aware of how fast life is going and how brief our life span is. Sketching captures a moment in time at a specific place where I am acting spontaneously to what I see, and thus slows down time for a bit. I can later return to this time and place over and over by looking at the sketch I create. I can remember my emotions and what was happening that day.

For me, beauty captures the awe I feel when I encounter the Living God in creation and in Jesus Christ through the scriptures and prayer. “One thing I ask of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire at his temple” (Psalm 27:4). I sketch scenes that make me stop and say, “Wow, thank you, Lord,” and the one to two hours of paying attention to shapes, values and colors helps cement that emotion into my heart. May this exhibit of some of my sketches lift your heart to our beautiful Lord.



About the Artist: Dave Baab was born in Ohio and attended Ohio State University Dental School. After serving as a Navy dentist on the U.S.S. Enterprise during the Vietnam War, he moved to Seattle to do specialty training in periodontics. He met his wife, Lynne, and they lived 30 years in Seattle. They were involved in various leadership roles at Bethany for 15 years. Dave retired from dentistry when he and Lynne moved to New Zealand in 2007 for Lynne to take a teaching position. As of July, 2017, they are back in Seattle, living in Columbia City close to their beloved granddaughter.



Local Choir Singing Carols,
Otago Museum, Christmas Eve, 1-2¹⁵ pm, '16
Christmas Eve 1-2¹⁵ pm, 2016

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE MUSEUM

24 Dec '16, 1-2¹⁵ pm: Every year, Dunedin churches' choirs provide singers for a brief concert in the lobby. I loved how the summertime light filtered through the trees, and how the carols echoed around entire museum.



DUNEDIN BOTANIC GDNs, Sunday, 7 May '17,
130-3³⁰ pm

DUCK POND, BOTANIC GDNS.

7 May '17, 1³⁰-3³⁰: I sat on a park bench on a warm Fall day and finished this in 2 hours. A'bout halfway through, an American exchange student joined me on the bench & he sketched and painted in his travel journal, too. We chatted as we painted.



MOM & DAUGHTER: HANGING OUT

6 May '16, 2-3³⁰ pm: Dunedin Botanic Gardens has this spacious cafe looking out over the grounds. It's popular w/ parents of pre-schoolers as a break from walking around. I was recovering from the flu, so it was perfect for me to sketch indoors and the staff were lenient of me.



Dunedin Chinese Garden, Sunday, 1³⁰-3⁰⁰ pm, 21 May '17

ENTRANCE, DUNEDIN CHINESE GARDENS.

21 May '17, 1³⁰-3⁰⁰ pm: Dunedin is a sister city to Shanghai and has a lovely enclosed garden made entirely with Chinese materials and Chinese artisans. I loved this ornate gate guarded by two lions, but it was too cold and windy that day for me to finish painting there, so I completed this one from my photos.

Organ recital, All Saints, 3 April, 19



ORGAN RECITAL, ANGLICAN CHURCH

3 Aug '16, 1-2³⁰ pm: I brought my sketchbook along to this student's performance because I'd never been in this little church, and Lynne loves classical music more than I do. Translation: I get bored, so sketching helped me pass the time.

Queenstown, 11-12, Mon. 12 Sept. 10 (Remarkable Mtns)



REMARKABLE MOUNTAINS, NZ

12 Sept. '16, 11-1³⁰: I wanted to capture some of Queenstown's beauty in early Spring, so I perched on a dock and sketched/painted. Half-way through, The Earnslaw docked, but allowed me to remain while they tied her up.



12 May 17: Confluence of Keraran & Clutha Rivers, Cromwell, 12¹⁵ - 2⁴⁵ pm
(from cafe window in Old Cromwell)

OLD CROMWELL, CENTRAL OTAGO

12 May '17, 12¹⁵ - 2⁴⁵ pm : It was too cold to sketch outside this day, so I found a cafe overlooking the confluence of two rivers where this gold-mining town was founded. The place was nearly empty because this was low tourist season so I sketched there for 2½ hours.



INTERIOR, DUNEDIN TRAIN STATION

22 May '17, 2-3³⁰ pm: Built in 1903, this is the most photographed example of Victorian architecture in NZ. During cruise ship season, this lobby is nearly always packed with tourists, but today, no ship was in, so I could see the whole atrium and not have my view blocked.



KUBOTA JAPANESE GARDENS

21 Aug '17, 3-5³⁰pm: This lovely, well-kept garden is one of the best kept secrets of Seattle. And it's free! I wandered around until I found this "Moon Bridge", which reminded me of French impressionist Monet's famous paintings of his private garden in Giverny.



Lake Te Anau from DOC (Dept. of Conservation), 11-12¹⁵ pm, 1 June 17

LAKE TE ANAU, FIORDLAND

1 June, '17, 10-11 am: I drew in pencil & inked this scene from inside the Dept. of Conservation Visitor's Center, standing by a window. But when I started painting, they politely asked me to go outside to finish. I had just the sky & lake, but it was too cold to paint outside. I finished it later from photos.



LAKE WASHINGTON BLVD, SEATTLE

18 July '17, 4-5³⁰pm: I rode my ~~bike~~ from our house in Columbia City near Seward Park, and perched right on the footpath, looking north toward the I-90 bridge. I loved the late afternoon sun streaming through the trees from the West.









