



Katy England

2019 Smoky Hill River Festival Print

“View from the Mulberry Bridge”

Salina, KS artist Katy England most often finds inspiration outdoors. “Getting outside and going on long walks is good for my soul. Through my artwork, I try to bring the outside in and share my experience. Light, reflection, color, and texture in nature inspire me. I paint with a lot of energy and bold strokes. The feeling I get when creating is excitement, and that brings me back to the studio time and time again.”

In the 2019 Festival Print entitled “View from the Mulberry Bridge”, England depicted a view of the Smoky Hill River from the Mulberry Bridge in Oakdale Park on a large canvas, from which she created a digital print.

England’s love of the Salina area is reflected in her work. “Growing up in Salina, I have been attending the Smoky Hill River Festival since I was eight years old,” she says. “I also grew up along the Smoky Hill River. This piece really combines those two experiences for me.”

“I was on a bike ride and stopped on the Mulberry Bridge in Oakdale Park. The reflection of the blue Kansas sky in the Smoky Hill River and the bright green leaves on the trees caught my attention. The print is from my memory of that experience.”

A BFA graduate of Kansas State University, England has had an interest in creating and the arts from a young age. During her elementary and high-school years, the influence of her Salina Central High School art teacher Floyd Gibson, plus getting a first-year art scholarship to K-State, encouraged her to explore the arts. In addition to her degree from KSU, England has studied painting and art history at The Royal College of Art in London in the early ‘90s.

Among England’s local & regional work is a multi-piece mural at Redeemer Lutheran Church and murals in many USD 305 elementary schools, including a 60-foot piece at Schilling Elementary. Paintings for the illustrations for two books she created with her sister Mari Loder, have been featured in exhibits at the Stiefel Theatre’s Watson Room, at Saint Francis Ministries and at Mark Arts in Wichita. The children’s books that England collaborated on with her sister are available locally at The Market Shop and online through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.