



*aTelier DNA* is the name of my studio in beautiful Sonoma County, California, where I have worked for the last ten years.

b. 1953 Youngstown, Ohio. After primary education, I immersed myself in Secessionist, *Dada*, *Jugendstil*, Abstract Expressionism and Impressionism in music, aRt and German/Austrian literature. Studied one semester at *Linzer Akademie für Bildende Kunst*, Linz (1971), *Modeschule Hetzendorf* in Vienna (1972-73) and with Josef Schützenhöfer (1971-1982).

Served in U.S. Navy 1976 - 2000. With generous in-service education benefits, I earned B.S. (University of New York Regents - 1981) and M.A. Ed. (George Washington University - 1991) degrees while on active duty. Later, I used G.I. Bill benefits after leaving the service and earned a second undergraduate (B.F.A.) degree at Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA (2010). Studied with Charles Kello and Norman Goodwin, Norfolk, VA (2008- 2012).

Even very early in my aRt training, my canvases veered to abstraction. Gender and rank had no authority, although the discipline, commitment and work ethic learned in 24 years of service stayed with me. The freedom to self-express after a rigid, intense experience in the military turned my paintings bold, uninhibited and full of movement. Predominant shades of yellow (gaiety, joy), green (peacefulness, nature), Franz Kline blue (deep spirituality) and neutral whites (solitude) helped to renew my experimentation with layering techniques and mixed media, especially in recent bodies of work: My series of sculpted 3D *CoLorField* paintings. Some are monochromatic, some have vivid color variations and figures.

Few paintings are complete in an afternoon; yet some of my most successful pieces were completed early in my formal studies and some in a day or two. Most now develop after months (or years) because I always start my paintings with the reckless belief that something wonderful can be created with very little intention, preparation or planning. If it doesn't work out, I go back to it later for another go...sometimes two or ten more times until it "clicks."

The tension between strict military and loose creative forces provided enough angst to produce some real masterpieces. I use color to represent things other than things. I have called on the discipline, focus and energy of my previous occupation to good use in creating large, sweeping canvas *Fields of Color*.