

## David Hile

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### Artist Biography

David Hile grew up in Monroe, MI beginning his education at Monroe County Community College where he was awarded an art scholarship that paid for his first two years of studies. He then transferred to Siena Heights University in Adrian, MI where he received three art scholarships and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Cum Laude. After pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI majoring in drawing and painting Dave began his career in 1981 as a freelance commercial illustrator. Concurrently he founded Hile Design, which later became Hile Creative LLC, a leading advertising/brand development firm in Ann Arbor, MI. His illustration and agency career lasted 34 years.

After retiring from agency life in 2015 Dave built a home studio and began his second career as a fine artist. A year later he accepted an adjunct teaching professorship in Painting, Watercolor Painting, Illustration Techniques, Two-dimensional Design and Independent Study at his alma mater Monroe County Community College. Teaching part time offered the opportunity to give back to young aspiring artists, and he continued teaching for nearly 3 1/2 years. Dave took his "second retirement" from teaching in December, 2019 in order to devote more time to his artwork.

### Artist Statement

Picasso said, "Art is the elimination of the unnecessary." Perhaps because of my background as an illustrator — where I did a lot of detailed realistic rendering — I've taken a stripped-down approach to my current work. Using graphite, white charcoal, and pastel I've developed a mostly linear style with areas of flat color. Though simple, I aim to create fully realized works that are universally appealing, highlighting the dignity of humanity and a unity with the earth and the creatures we share the planet with. Mostly, I strive for a sense of emotion, symbol, and psychological depth — no small challenge in a mere drawing. I view my drawings not as initial sketches, but as fully-realized artistic statements equal to a painting or sculpture.

A friend commented on one of my drawings, and I can't state my artistic goals any better than they did:

*"Nice tension between open space and intense line work. You've used a very personalized flat graphic style to portray psychological depth, an excellent accomplishment!"*

My work is inspired by the late 19th and early 20th century Masters Casorati, Modigliani, Picasso, Schiele, and Schjerfbeck, as well as Japanese woodblock prints. In the future I plan to expand into other mediums, but for now I am happy to continue to explore my creative output through my drawings.

### Education

Master of Fine Arts, Eastern Michigan University (1975-1978)

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Siena Heights University – Cum Laude (1973-1975)

Associate of Fine Arts, Monroe County Community College (1971–1973)

## Select Exhibitions/Awards

### 2023

-“14th Annual Drawing Discourse” international juried drawing exhibition at the University of North Carolina, Asheville (January 3 – February 10)

### 2022

-“Celebrate Art” two drawings selected for this national 2D juried exhibition at the MVA Gallery (Modern Visual Arts), Bethlehem, PA (December 3 – January 5, 2023)

-“Members Only Holiday Market” provided three framed original drawings to the Gutman Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI (November 25 – December 30)

-“November Exhibition” Chris Nordin Gallery group show in Ann Arbor, MI (November 18 – December 30)

-“100th All Media Exhibition” juried competition inviting all artists from MI, OH, PA, IN, IL MN and WI, hosted by the Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI (November 18 – December 30)

-“Holiday Shop Sale” submitted three framed works to the Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI (October, November, December)

-“Chris Nordin Gallery” participated in fourth group exhibit in Ann Arbor, MI (September 23 – October 21)

-“Chris Nordin Gallery” participated in third group exhibit in Ann Arbor, MI (August 5 – August 30)

-“Midsummer Opening Chris Nordin Gallery” exhibited three drawings in group multimedia show, Ann Arbor, MI (July 8 – August 4)

-“Grand reopening of the Ann Arbor Art Center” exhibited 5 framed drawings during the inaugural 2022 opening of the Ann Arber Art Center after a \$1.2 million expansion including a new art gallery (May 20 – July 8)

-“Grand Opening Chris Nordin Gallery” one of nine artists exhibiting at the inaugural show of a new art gallery in Ann Arbor, MI (May 20 – June 30)

-“Liturgical and Sacred Art 2022” national juried competition at the M.G. Nelson Family Gallery at the Springfield Art Association in Springfield, IL (April 20 – May 28) Received Best of Show award

-“March Group Show” national juried competition at the Jones Gallery in Kansas City, MO (March 2 – March 24)

-“2022 Anything Goes” regional juried art exhibition at the Gutman Gallery in Ann Arbor, MI (January 28 – March 5)

### 2021

-“Emotions 2021” international juried exhibit that encouraged artists to provide artworks that display human feelings and emotions. Selected artworks published in *The Book of Art* publication and showcased in an online exhibition by Gallerium-art, Ontario, Canada (January 15 – February 15, 2022)

-“2021 Holiday Shop” 5 framed drawings included in the annual holiday show and sale at the Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI (November 15 – December 30)

-“Warmth of Autumn” juried exhibition at the Kansas City Stockyards Gallery in KC, MO (October 15 – November 12)

-“92nd Annual Michigan Contemporary Art Exhibition” juried competition at the Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon MI (September 23 – November 10)

-“Brand 49 Annual Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper” at the Brand Library and Art Center in Glendale, CA (September 11 – October 29)

-“The Artists’ Gallery” two-person show exhibiting along with painter Thomas Rosenbaum at The Artists’ Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI (September 4 – September 30)

-“September Group Show” national juried exhibit at the Jones Gallery, Kansas City, MO (September 1 – September 23)

-“July Group Show” national juried exhibition at the Jones Gallery in Kansas City, MO (June 30 – July 29)

-“Five Points Gallery 2021 Juried Exhibition” international show at Five Points Gallery, Torrington, CT (July 2 – August 13)

-“May Group Show” national juried exhibition at the Jones Gallery in Kansas City, MO (April 28 – May 27)

-“Sky’s the Limit” international juried all-media exhibit at Las Laguna Gallery in Laguna Beach, CA (April 1 – April 30)

-“Love is Everything” national juried exhibit at the Kansas City Stockyards Gallery, KC, MO (February 19 – March 13)

-“February Group Show” national juried exhibition at the Jones Gallery in Kansas City, MO (February 3 – February 25)

## **2020**

-“Relationships” national juried exhibition (virtual) at Webster Arts, St. Louis, MO. As stated in the prospectus: “Artists are encouraged to interpret the theme of Relationships broadly, including artwork that considers relationships in all forms including human bonds, intentional communities, our relationship with other species, and/or relationships within ecosystems.” (November 17 – December 31)

-“Aqua” national juried exhibition at Core New Art Space in Lakewood, CO. As stated in the exhibit’s prospectus: “While there is that gorgeous greenish-blue color that can range from vibrant to serene and all shades in between, there is also the Latin root meaning of “water”. This could be the sea, rain, ponds, lakes, tears, creatures that live in or on water and an ocean of other ideas. Float towards whatever direction this river may take you because all mediums and disciplines (minus videos/installations) are encouraged.” (September 11 – September 27)

-“2020 and the Challenge to Create” invitational exhibit (virtual) at Flatlander Galleries, Blissfield, MI. One of 26 artists invited to show artwork created during the COVID-19 pandemic (July 11 – July 31)

-“June Show” national juried exhibition at the Jones Gallery in Kansas City, MO (June 3 – June 25)

-“Galex 54” national juried exhibition at the Galesburg Civic Arts Center, Galesburg, IL (March 6 – April 4)

-“The Common Cup” invitational solo exhibit of 30 framed drawings and prints at Ann Arbor, MI coffeehouse that includes art exhibition space (January 6 – February 1)

## **2019**

-“39<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts For Our Future” regional juried exhibit, Temperance, MI. Received Honorable Mention award in the Drawing Category (November 4 – November 25)

-“Michigan Now: CTAC’s 2019 Juried Fine Arts exhibit” annual statewide show held at Crooked Tree Arts Center, Petoskey, MI. Received Honorable Mention Award (September 21 – November 9)

-“Siena Heights Centennial Alumni Arts Exhibition” artwork accepted at three different Adrian, MI galleries:

Adrian Center for the Arts (September 16 – October 25)  
Klemm Gallery (October 1 – November 1)  
INAI Gallery (September 16 – October 25)

-“David Hile Drawings: Nature, Emotion, Symbol” invitational solo exhibit displaying 35 original drawings and prints, Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor, MI (June 11 - July 30)

-“Upbringing” national juried exhibit, Indiana University Kokomo Downtown Gallery, Kokomo, IN (April 5 – April 20)

-“You Can’t Touch A Ghost” regional juried exhibition, Galleri 2987, Detroit, MI (January 19 – January 31)

## **2018**

-“38<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts For Our Future” regional juried exhibit, Temperance, MI. (November 4 – November 25. Received 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award in the Drawing Category)

-“O’Halloran + Hile” exhibiting along with ceramic sculptor Therese O’Halloran at the IHM Gallery, Monroe, MI (September 18 – October 28)

-“The Infinite Undoing” national juried exhibit, Galleri 2987, Detroit, MI (April 13 – April 27)

-“Art Now: Drawing” national juried exhibit at the Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI (February 16 – March 17)

## **Curatorial/Presentation**

### **2022**

-“Portraits of Our Time” - served as judge for a photography competition open to three classes of entry: high school students, college students and the general public. The contest was sponsored by the *One Book One Community* program sponsored by Monroe County Community College, Monroe, MI. Judges considered composition, framing, lighting, and creativity in addressing the theme reflecting how the world has changed due to the Covid-19 pandemic (Contest ran from February 1 – March 14, with winners announced March 25)

### **2021**

-Drawing “Tribulation” published in *The Book of Art* as part of the “Emotions 2021” international online exhibition sponsored by Gallerium-art, Ontario, Canada.

-Drawing “Angel of the Rescued Nest” along with Artist’s Statement published in 130-page exhibition catalog from the Brand 49 Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper at the Brand Library and Art Center in Glendale, CA.

### **2019**

-“David Hile Drawings: Nature, Emotion, Symbol” art talk discussing: Background and Education, Medium and Process, Subject and Concepts, and Symbols of work from solo art exhibit at Kerrytown Concert House gallery, Ann Arbor, MI (July 28)

-“46th Annual Monroe City/County Fine Arts Council Juried Show” - judged regional exhibition and presented awards (May 4 – May 18)