

Art by Margaret Bertrand is created using the ENCAUSTIC process

(in rare cases Margaret uses Mixed Media that does not include encaustic; it will be noted in the caption.)

What is ENCAUSTIC?

Encaustic – literally meaning to burn - is often used to describe both the paint and the method for using it. The paint is a combination of beeswax, damar resin, and pigment. In the process, encaustic paint is melted and applied to a firm, absorbent surface (often wood) and then fused (or re-melted) to create a variety of effects. Encaustic melts and cools almost instantly, allowing an artist to add additional layers immediately while requiring the artist to be vigilant and work quickly. Fusing binds each layer to the previous one with the accumulating wax creating a luminous surface. Once an encaustic work has completely cooled, the paint has reached a permanent finish, though the painting can be revised and reworked with heat at any time – minutes or years later. Encaustic was used by Greeks as early as 800 B.C. to seal and decorate ships and in Greco Roman Egypt, from 100 B.C. to A.D. 200, to paint life size portraits for mummy casings. Ancient painters heated wax with clumsy charcoal braziers, far less convenient than today's electric tools.

CURRENT & UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MARGARET BERTRAND

March 1 to April 30, 2019

Dune, One Woman show

641 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA (Nipomo St entrance)

Daily, except Mondays

Reception at Art After Dark, March 1, 2019 6pm to 9pm

Reception at Art After Dark, April 5, 2019 6pm to 9pm

March 1 to March 31, 2019

Beacon Art Show

SLO United Methodist Church, 1515 Fredericks Street, San Luis Obispo, CA

view Thursdays – Sundays, 11am to 4pm

Reception March 1, 6 - 9 pm

Encaustic Painting Classes

Los Osos, CA Studio

Call for schedule - 805-528-0704 or 805-305-9889