

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

May 19 - July 2, 2017

Brushstrokes 2017

San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, Grey Wing

1010 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo, CA

Daily except Tues. 11am to 5 pm,

Reception June 2nd 6 - 9 pm

June 15 – July 30, 2017

On & Off the Wall

Art Center – Morro Bay

835 Main Street, Morro Bay, CA

Daily between Noon and 4pm

Opening reception: Sunday, June 18, 2pm -4pm

October 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 2017

10am - 5pm

Open Studios Art Tour

260 San Jacinto Drive
Los Osos, CA

Encaustic Painting Classes

Los Osos, CA Studio

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