

Dick Folse at the Merwin Gallery



July 28 - August 25, 2018

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Vickie Folse
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PUBLICATION CREDITS

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Cover: Barcelona Ribbon 07-18-2018

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This program is partially
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Dick Folse: Large Oil Paintings

“Barcelona: vistas desde las montañas hasta el mar”

July 28 – August 25, 2018

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN
———— Merwin Gallery ————

The large oil paintings in the exhibition *Barcelona: vistas desde las montañas hasta el mar* (Barcelona: views from the mountains to the sea) were painted during the summer 2018 after my return from living in Barcelona for 5 months. Barcelona is bordered by the Tibidabo Mountain, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Besos and Llobregat rivers; it is a city that features open spaces, low buildings, brilliant light, and long views. The quality of sunlight, colors of the city, and shapes of the buildings inspired the work. While in Barcelona, I painted with watercolors, and created a body of work that was used as studies for the large scale oils. The exhibition is partially supported by an Individual Artist Grant award from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. The award allowed for the exploration of painting on a scale I had not previously attempted.

I work from my imagination, and often in a studio without visual references. My inspiration comes from specific places, but the work does not represent any one place or view; rather, it is a sense of the places I have seen and know well, fictitiously portrayed. I enjoy setting up processes for artmaking that create unfactored results – such as using aerosol spray paint with masking elements or pooling ink that runs unexpectedly across the substrate. I embrace the accidental occurrences inherent in my artmaking process. Over my career, I have drifted across a continuum between representation and abstraction. Recently, my investigations have been moving toward the abstraction end of the spectrum of my imagery –overriding readily identifiable subject images while still achieving a reference to structured landscape.

I thank Illinois Wesleyan University for allowing me to work remotely as the Director of Grants and Foundation Relations while living in Spain. In addition, I thank the Illinois Arts Council Agency for funding support, Julie Johnson and Carmen Lozar of the Ames School of Art for offering the exhibit space and supporting the show, Rich Kurtzman and the Barcelona Study Abroad Experience for showing me the “local” side of Barcelona, and my family for their constant encouragement.

— Dick Folse



(left)
Installation Views
Merwin Gallery



(left)
Barcelona Diptych 07-21-2018
Oil on Linen, 144" x 96"
2018



(above)
Barcelona Ribbon 07-18-2018
Oil on Linen, 96" x 72"
2018



(right)
Barcelona Arc de Triomf 07-19-2018
Oil on Linen, 72" x 96"
2018



(left)
Barcelona 06-15-2018
Oil on Linen, 36" x 48"
2018

(right)
Red Sky Barcelona 10-01-2016
Oil on Linen, 48" x 48"
2018



Education

Master of Fine Art (M.F.A.), Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois – 1990

Artist Residencies

Shiro Oni Studio, Onishi, Japan – summer 2016

Awards

Illinois Arts Council Agency Individual Artist Grant –2018

Press

Radio Interview: <http://wglr.org/post/landscapes-leave-realism-behind#stream/0>

Video Interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-fskIIYSyk>

Solo Exhibitions

Merwin Gallery at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois– 2018

McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, Illinois – 2016

H. D. Smith Gallery, Hoogland Center for the Arts, Springfield, Illinois – 2014

Kelly's Bakery Cafe, Bloomington, Illinois – 2014

Kelly's Bakery Cafe, Bloomington, Illinois – 2012

Kelly's Bakery Cafe, Bloomington, Illinois – 2011

H. D. Smith Gallery, Hoogland Center for the Arts, Springfield, Illinois – 2010

Kelly's Bakery Cafe, Bloomington, Illinois – 2009

IAA Gallery, Bloomington, Illinois – 2008

Kettering Art Center, Kettering, Ohio – 1991

Four Seasons Art Center, Springfield, Illinois – 1991

Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, Illinois – 1991

Four Seasons Art Center, Springfield, Illinois – 1990

Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois – 1990

Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois – 1988

Two-Person/Three-Person Exhibitions

Springfield Art Association Collective, Springfield, Illinois – 2018 (with Sheri Ramsey and Bob Dixon)

Quad Cities Art Center, Davenport, Iowa – 1994 (with painter Susan Maakestad)

Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois – 1993 (with ceramicist Rob Reedy)

For more information, visit dickfolsse.com



View from Tibidabo to the sea

Views from the apartment balcony



Family visits

Hemingway Statue at Café Iruña (Pamplona)

IWU students with host families



Barcelona Alumni Connection

La Barceloneta Boardwalk

Castellers de Barcelona



FC Barcelona vs. Club Atlético de Madrid

Dali Theatre-Museum in Figueres

Ruins of Belchite

(right)
Photo Gallery of Living in Spain

