

The graceful or wild lines that create a mountain or a river; the contrast in light and shadow; all the simple, complex, natural and man-made shapes that make up the landscape excite me. I am particularly interested in the Southwest because of its fierce beauty.

Occasionally I yield to abstract influences, but there always remains a reference to the landscape or natural world.

In my landscapes, I first have to find the composition of the painting. I may reimagine the scene when I draw the contours of the physical structures. As Gauguin said, "I close my eyes in order to see."

At this point, I surrender to the process and allow my "I" to get out of the way. This is why I paint - to reach that meditative state where the painting takes on a life of its own.