

David Brewster is an *alla prima* oil painter, working outdoors year-round. His formal art education includes an MFA, from the University of Pennsylvania, and many international artist-residencies. He has taught and lectured at many schools and colleges, and his award-winning work has been widely exhibited. His 2007 installation, at the St. Albans Public Safety Building, renewed his personal commitment to public art. Recently, Johns Hopkins University's WP Carey School of Business commissioned David, to create a permanent installation of paintings, focused on images of historic Baltimore. He lives in Halifax, Vermont.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

Living in a culture that has largely submitted its creative will up to popular film, television, DVDs, iPhones, and Facebook makes the unique language of painting especially important as a visceral means to provoke the imagination of its viewers. The ART OF ACTION project has been an opportunity to help keep painting relevant through its engagement of contemporary, social and visual realities. In order to develop an intimate knowledge of weirdly-familiar sights, like a McDonald's Play Land, giant wind turbines, utility trucks, or jet exhaust streaking the sky, the paintings in this series were all completed, on-site.

One of the particular challenges of doing paintings in this manner is keeping pace with the chaotic and frenzied movements of people, vehicles, and commercial clutter, in order to achieve a poetic order within the works. In striving to reinvent these places, I have developed an adroit use of foam, paint rollers, which produce a quality of mark and porous texture that expresses the synthetic nature of the subject matter that I've interpreted. I hope that, in creating a unique aesthetic out of new and incongruous forms, my paintings will help bring soul and dignity to these elements that not only increasingly impact Vermont's landscape and people, but are also not typically depicted in paint.