

Kathleen Kolb has been living in Vermont and exhibiting as a professional painter, in the realist- landscape tradition, since her graduation from Rhode Island School of Design in 1976. Her work is represented, in New York, by David Findlay Galleries and, in Vermont, by Clarke Galleries, Furchgott Sourdiffe Gallery, and the Southern Vermont Art Center. In 1998, the National Academy of Design awarded Kathleen with the Paton Prize, for her large watercolor, "Bristol Sawmill." Her painting, "Dawn Loading," was published in the book, *Freedom and Unity: A History of Vermont*, in 2004. She lives in Lincoln, Vermont.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

In thinking about what's next for Vermont, I visualized the past and present as being inseparable from the future. I decided to focus on landscape paintings, which so many of us treasure, with the hope that the viewer would consider how we work with that landscape, today, in terms of how it's changing and in what direction we want that change to take.

With 75% of Vermont being covered in trees, I chose to base the work on some of the material we take from the forest and the people who do that work. They are Vermonters who think about how to live and prosper while protecting our natural resources and state's heritage. Vermont's viability depends on its forests for clean water, wildlife habitat, soil stability, timber, fuel, jobs, and recreation, as well as for converting CO₂ into oxygen. It's also clear that we rely on the beauty of our forest landscape for inspiration and comfort. In my paintings, I aimed to use this beauty, melded with honesty, to evoke and unite the attachment of people. This attachment not only sustains us, but is the necessary fuel for positive action.

In creating this artwork, I had the cooperation of many wonderful people. I especially want to thank the following: Tom Bachand, Amber Blodgett, John Bradley, David Brynn, Nancy Custer Carroll, Paul Cate, George Forand, Paul Forlenza, Michaela Granstrom, Jim Lathrop, Devon MacLeod, Jason Marshall, Patrick McCarthy, Middlebury College, Mike Moser, Chris Olson, Aaron Paquette, Anthony Porter, Chuck Reiss, Tory Riley, Lance Schoenhuber, Stephen Taylor, Bill Torrey, Robert Turner, J.T. Vincent, Steven Volk, and Jonathan Wood.