

PHILIP MORTON GALLERY

Meet the Artist

ALDEN LEONARD

July 2011

With a subject matter that's largely traditional – an old couple walking on the beach, a pastoral scene, a major-city skyline, a horserace in the final stretch.....Alden Leonard's paintings remain lively through his use of brush stroke and color. Although a realist, he also values loose, expressive brush strokes and likes to use bold, surprising colors to achieve paintings that are alive with energy and character. This visual style, which he considers an energetic impressionism, gives his art a life and spontaneity that draws the viewer into the painting, both visually and emotionally.

"I can't remember a time when art was not an important part of my life," says Leonard, "and yet it has only recently become a primary vocation for me. Although I studied fine arts formally throughout school, the majority of my painting knowledge has been self-taught in recent years."

Beginning in 2008, Leonard spent much of his free time painting in oils, and as friends, family and neighbors started to take interest, began selling pieces, painting commissions, and showing his work online.

"In the fall of 2010, I was invited to display my art in the Philip Morton Gallery in Rehoboth Beach, DE...an opportunity that has been a great source of professional and artistic growth for me."

"At this early point in my career, my body of work does not have a single cohesive thread. There are themes and moods I have taken interest in, but as a whole my portfolio meanders in and out of subject matters and styles in the same way that my interests and experiences change and grow. Rather than seeing this quality as a drawback of my youth, I embrace it for its energy and freedom, and I feel lucky to have found a gallery that shares that outlook."

Alden is a 2008 graduate from the College of William & Mary with a degree in political science, which explains his professional interest in public policy and artistic fixation on Washington, DC, which is also his hometown.