

Dan Simoneau NWS, ISAP, NOAPS

Artist Statement

Figures and Light ...



The effect of light on objects and atmosphere inspires me. The main subject in all of my paintings is light and its effect on the objects in the image.

My current works deals with the play of light on the male figure, whether portraiture or full figurative work. The male figure's muscular definition and tone create a sculptural form that presents light and shadow in a wonderful way. Also, the male figure and portraiture is a constant challenge. No person looks like any other person. The multitude of expressions and body positions provides an infinite source of subject matter and inspiration. My newer figurative work also explores the capture of the model's personality and soul in the work. Many of the newer works appear spiritual or introspective in nature, as though each model is attempting to understand his place in this world. I began my figurative work with traditional lighting but I have recently begun using more staged lighting in order to add dramatic effect to the work and also to generate extreme or unusual presentations of light and shadow on the figure.

While my work may appear photographic, I don't consider myself a photorealist or a super-realist because, upon closer inspection, you will see a suggestion of detail as opposed to a literal rendering of detail.