

# ARTisSpectrum

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The Chelsea Perspective



Profiles of Contemporary Art and Artists

# Isabelle Habegger



*Montée Vers La Surface* Pigment on Canvas 31.5" x 31.5"

**I**sabelle Habegger's calm abstracts may at first appear to be modest studies, but they contain a world of depth within their carefully realized textures. Habegger uses simple, dispersed compositions and a palette based on one or two striking hues to dig into her traditionally non-visual subjects: nature, love, war, travel, politics, and most often, the sound of music. Describing her work as "a game of colors and contrasts," Habegger expertly pushes and pulls at her palette to create the most affecting, truly emotional color landscape. When painting a field of flower petals, she finds unexpected delicacy in shades of sunshine yellow and deep pink. To depict a trip through China, she whips teal with increasing passion over red, the color of the national flag, all but covering it completely. In the dark blend where the two colors meet are the traveler's new, thought-provoking experiences.

To achieve the subtle variations in her textures Habegger uses a range of materials, including acrylic, oil, watercolor, ink, resin, pastel, charcoal, collage, pencil, and sand. Her influences are similarly eclectic: Michelangelo, da Vinci, Albert E. Yersin, and

the pantheon of Asian art all went into shaping her aesthetic.

Isabelle Habegger was born in Switzerland and today exhibits internationally. She is also a sculptor and performance artist.



[www.kunst-schaffende.ch](http://www.kunst-schaffende.ch) [www.kunstschwyz.ch](http://www.kunstschwyz.ch)  
[www.Agora-Gallery.com/ArtistPage/Isabelle\\_Habegger.aspx](http://www.Agora-Gallery.com/ArtistPage/Isabelle_Habegger.aspx)

# Gary E. Koeppel

**I**n Gary E. Koeppel's landscapes, time seems to stand still. "What I like best about being in the landscape," he says, "is it's a way to stop time and study it." That sense of stopped time gives his images a disarming sense of stillness. His paintings capture such environments as a peaceful street or a forested spot at times when all activity seems to have been put on hold. When people appear, they too are at rest, exuding an aura of quiet contemplation.

Koeppel paints both outdoors from life, and in the studio from photographs that he takes himself. His works reflect both of those methods of working. He has an impressive ability to depict light and its effects. There is an openness and freedom, a sense of air and space in his images that strongly communicates the feeling of being outdoors. That feeling is combined with a sure sense of line and composition, a precise, clear rendering of objects

and people that shows his experience as an illustrator and graphic artist, while also bringing classic photography to mind. The images create a world that is physically present, but also carries dreamlike hints of what Koeppel calls "an imprinted memory of the scene."



*Fountain Paris* Oil on Linen 11" x 14"



[www.garykoeppel.com/land.html](http://www.garykoeppel.com/land.html)  
[www.Agora-Gallery.com/ArtistPage/Gary\\_E.\\_Koeppel.aspx](http://www.Agora-Gallery.com/ArtistPage/Gary_E._Koeppel.aspx)