

Myron Kaufman

bio

Myron Kaufman was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1927. He attended the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan as a music student, focusing on the clarinet and saxophone. An impetuous youth, he dropped out of high school to work in the Brooklyn Navy Yard as an apprentice electrician. A year later, he enlisted in the Navy, not, as he puts it, out of any patriotic impulse, but because he liked the uniforms.

After two years of service during World War II, he went back to school under the G.I. Bill and studied to become an electrical engineer, his primary occupation for most of his adult life. He developed naval simulators for the Naval Training Devices Center in Sands Pt., NY. He later founded and was President of a company which made equipment for analyzing data in real time. In the final years of his career he was a consultant in the laser industry. He holds four US patents in his name.

A self-described Sunday painter, Myron pursued his love of art while making a living and raising a family by taking life drawing and painting classes at the Brooklyn Museum, the West Hartford, CT Art League, the Art Students League in Manhattan and privately with painter Quinton Bemiller of Claremont, CA. He moved to California in 2007 to be near his family and has worked full time as an artist ever since. He had his first solo exhibition at Project 210 Gallery in Pasadena in February 2009 at the age of 82.

Witty narrative, a preternaturally bright palette and an intuitive sense of composition are the hallmarks of Myron's work. Nothing is sacred as he tackles subjects as far ranging as Wall Street, religion, Dick Cheney, Little Orphan Annie, aging, nudity, and sexuality. Drawn initially to the bright colors and free-flowing creativity of these paintings, one's attention is ultimately held by the narrative. Simultaneously evoking humor, emotional discomfort, and a desire to know more, one feels privileged to peek into the wonderfully strange psyche of Myron Kaufman.