Anthony Mitri

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I have been working exclusively in charcoal on paper since early 2002. The work

produced during this period is rendered in a realistic style with a focus on the effect of

light in conveying a desired mood for a given drawing. In a land or cityscape, through

various techniques such as, for example, gradually building up layers of different charcoals

of varying temperatures, sometimes blended sometimes not, I find charcoal an

effective medium in creating mood via the effect of light.

It is my intent that the overall mood of a piece will be experienced by the viewer

in one glance: much in the same way as I myself first experience, on site, the emotional

impact of a subject. The viewer may subsequently be drawn in to more closely examine

the drawing, where upon specific details of the composition will emerge, further contributing

to the overall mood of the piece.

I work from photos I have taken myself on location, which is crucial to the work.

The photographs hold a collection of memories associated with the direct experience of

a location, and accurate documentation of the compositional elements of the scene. The

process of rendering a drawing from photos I have taken thus becomes a sort of extended

moment of memory: the finished piece, a personal memoir in charcoal.

Pieces appearing in the July-August 2014 Willoughby Art Center exhibition were

done in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s: just prior to beginning work in charcoal.

Painted in an abstract style, these oils depict landscapes in Normandy, France, where I

was living at the time.

My work in charcoal is represented by Forum Gallery, New York, NY.