

Rod Goebel

Rod Goebel (1946-1993)

Painter of the Southwestern landscape “in powerful colors, lights and shadows,” born in Austin, Texas in 1946 and living in El Prado, New Mexico. “I grew up in the mountains of Mexico and Colorado,” he recalls. “I had an empathy with what I saw in nature as a child. It was a feeling that what I saw I could do. Some people ask how they can learn to paint. That was never a question I asked myself. I just painted because I wanted to—I have to.”

When he was eighteen and had a brush with death, he began to paint seriously. Formal instruction started at the University of New Mexico, followed by the Colorado Institute of Art and private training in portraiture. “There is no end to learning about art,” he observes, “especially color. I’m fascinated by color. I’m not an intellectual painter, but rather a physical or emotional one. Many of my paintings are based on intellectual concepts of color or design, but as soon as I begin to work, the intellectual process ends.”

“There are many variables that affect how I will approach a particular subject. Sometimes a subject will suggest how it is to be painted. I don’t take a literal interpretation of nature, but rather I rearrange it in a more perfect, idealized whole. My paintings are purely personal things. I feel a kind of physical tension in responding to beauty. I want people to feel what I feel, to feel by seeing, to see in their muscles.” Goebel was featured in *Southwest Art*, August 1980. He is one of the Taos Six, believing that “Taos has always had a special quality about it.”

#48 Lufkin City Hall – Oil on canvas. Landscape in autumn. Trees, mountains and sky. Coral, pink, light blue sky. Very Good.