

WINDOWS GALLERY - TAHAWUS CENTER

ENID BRAUN

Enid Braun is a Brooklyn-based artist who paints urban and plein air landscapes, and has been teaching adult art classes in New York for more than 30 years. Enid has taught painting and drawing classes at the 92nd Street "Y", Cooper Union, and for the Battery Park City Parks Conservancy, and was a Visiting Artist at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. She currently teaches continuing education adult art classes for the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens and small group privately-run figure drawing classes.

She received her BFA, Painting, from San Francisco, Art Institute, and her MFA from Pratt Institute.

"Over the last 25 years I have worked with both natural and urban landscape imagery. My urban landscapes developed in the studio from drawings of New York streetscapes, certain populated subway stations and Brooklyn backyard views. Many have become records of a sort, of places that no longer exist, such as the Bowery series, with its Single Room Occupancy residents and restaurant supply workers. On Fire Island, I began using pastels as a more portable medium for plein air landscapes that could be carried as I scouted for views on a bicycle. My year as a visiting artist in the Brooklyn Navy Yard provided the opportunity to work plein air in both industrialized waterfront and in the overgrown, abandoned 33-acre Naval Hospital Annex.

The joy of working plein air derives from the challenge of resolving constantly changing visual elements into a coherent image. A thrilling sense of urgency fuels the effort to grasp light that changes in the course of a day and certain elements that are only briefly present.

I paint something to understand it, and this produces a sense of intimacy with my subject. The unique character of a specific tree, an individual street, a certain building, is part of how it feels to be in a particular place. My fascination with place and space is to find an intersection between the known and the mysterious as I work". EB

