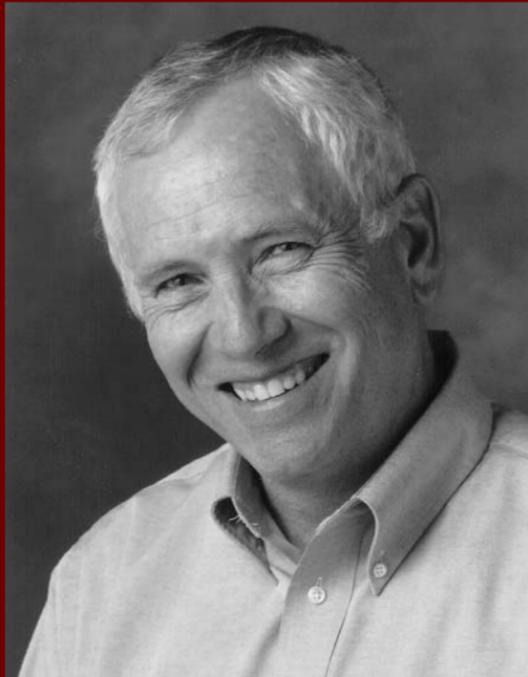




James C. Christensen



What's truly important to me is that my art is introspective and in turn challenges the mind's eye of those who view it regardless of the subject matter.

—JC

James C. Christensen was born in 1942 and raised in Culver City, California. He studied painting at Brigham Young University as well as the University of California at Los Angeles before finishing his formal education at BYU. Since then he has had one-man shows in the West and the Northeast and his work is prized in collections throughout the United States and Europe.

Opulent, colorful, Shakespearean, extraordinary: All words that aptly portray Christensen's most popular artworks that have also been described as "creations from the land a little left of reality." He has created a Shakespearean Island, an entire undersea world and a village of Mother Goose characters. But when he isn't giving life to other's worlds, he paints a place of his own. The result is a unique, kinetic kingdom where recognizable human emotions are often manifested as fish or fowl, utilizing the viewer's own imagination as no other artist can. His art includes distinctive people, places and things that exist somewhere between adult dreams and childhood memories. "I don't think of myself as a fantasy artist," said Christensen. "I certainly have an affinity for myths, fables and ancient lore, but I also find time to create landscapes and other subjects which include commissions. Recent projects, for example, include a mural commission for a conference center in Nauvoo, Illinois, a poster for the 2001 Utah Shakespearean Festival and a sculpture for Nu-Skin. "What's truly important to me is that my art is introspective and in turn challenges the mind's eye of those who view it regardless of subject matter."

The artist has been commissioned by both *Time/Life Books* and *Omni* to create illustrations for their publications and his work has appeared in the prestigious *American Illustration Annual* and *Japan's Outstanding American Illustrators*. Christensen has also won all the professional art honors the World Science Fiction Convention can bestow, as well as multiple Chesley Awards from the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists. Christensen's fine art appears as works of art in porcelain and bronze from The Greenwich Workshop Collection; artist-inspired products such as note cards, silk ties and books are also available. His first book, *A Journey of the Imagination: The Art of James Christensen*, was published to great acclaim in 1994. His second, the adventure fantasy *Voyage of the Basset*, has more than 75,000 copies in print. His subsequent books include the inventive *Rhymes & Reasons*, published in May 1997, *Parables* (written by Robert Millet, 1999), *The Personal Illumination Series* and *The Personal Illumination Journal* (2000), a series of interactive journals, *A Shakespeare Sketchbook* (2001) and *James Christensen, Foremost Fantasy Artist* (2001).

Christensen was recently designated as a "Utah Art Treasure," one of Utah's Top 100 Artists by the Springville Museum of Art and received the Governor's Award for Art awarded by the Utah Arts Council recognizing the significance of Christensen's artwork to Utah's cultural communities. He was inducted into the *U.S. Art* magazine's Hall of Fame. Jim and his wife, Carole, co-chair the Mormon Arts Foundation.

The Greenwich Workshop

