

# **Title: Inspired Abstract Desert Landscapes**

**Instructor: Meg Kaczyk**

**Dates: Sept. 5- 12, 2024**

**Arrival: Thursday, Sept. 5**

**Departure: Thursday, Sept. 12**

**Skill Level: All skill levels welcome**

**Mobility Level: Easy, flat walks around campus on uneven terrain or gravel.**

**Materials Provided for use:** Mediums provided for studio/classroom work include student grade pan watercolors, oil pastels, water soluble pastels, graphite, charcoal, paper for collage, and liquid acrylics. Substrates provided include 3 different small format papers, 3 different medium format papers, and two different large format papers. Brushes are provided for use.

**Materials List:** Bring any materials and substrates of your choice for independent studio work.

## ***Workshop Description:***

Expand your artist's eye by learning different ways of seeing, loosen your grip on realism, and move into an exploration of essence. In this workshop, you will interpret your observations of the high desert environment to create abstract art that is wholly your own. With an iterative approach, you'll lean into different mediums, including watercolor, graphite, oil pastel and cut paper, to personally express the power of the Playa landscape. Along the way, creative process insights are shared that can free your hand, and strengthen your visual voice. Three days of independent studio days give participants a chance to experiment on their own.

## **Agenda + Meals:**

- Day 1: Thursday, Sept. 5: 2:00-5:00 pm Arrival | Evening on your own
- Day 2: Friday, Sept. 6: 10-12 Introduction and slide show presentation, field assignment | Lunch on your own | Studio + materials overview, warm-ups and small formats | **Group Dinner Provided by PLAYA**
- Day 3: Saturday, Sept. 7: Presentation on "ways of seeing" examples, work share from previous day. Field work | Lunch on your own | students share images, guidance/coaching on iterative process, Continue working on small format pieces, moving on to mid-size format | Instructor work share | Evening on your own
- Day 4: Sunday, Sept. 8: Working from previous days small and medium works, go larger, change mediums. Reading packets distributed | Lunch on your own | Reading debrief, studio time | Evening on your own

- Day 5: Monday, Sept. 9: Independent studio time
- Day 6: Tuesday, Sept. 10: Independent Studio time
- Day 7: Wednesday, Sept. 11: Independent Studio time | 4-6 student showcase and share | **Group Goodbye Dinner Provided by PLAYA**
- Day 8: Thursday, Sept. 12: Morning on your own | Depart by noon

**Instructor Bio:**

Meg Kaczyk's abstract paintings are fed by observations of daily life, the natural world, poetry, and a long-standing meditation practice. Trained as an illustrator and designer in the Midwest, Meg has had a 30-year career in the creative arts including fine art, creative direction, graphics, arts administration and teaching. Now working out of her studio in Port Townsend, Washington on the Olympic Peninsula, Meg exhibits her work regionally. Her solo show at Grover Gallery in March 2021, "Some Mornings", featured abstract oil paintings inspired by poems by Linda Robertson on themes of transcendence and loss. Meg regularly teaches at Northwind Art School in Port Townsend, offering creative processes designed to grow each artist's personal expression. Follow Meg on Instagram: @megkaczyk. Visit her website: [megkaczyk.com](http://megkaczyk.com)