## Sabrina Curtis Bio

Sabrina Curtis is a self-taught acrylic landscape artist and a self-powered adventure enthusiast. Her affinity for the outdoors and deep respect for Mother Nature stems from Sabrina's childhood surroundings of living skies, lakes and forests in Northern Saskatchewan and a life of exploring mountainous terrain around the world, including her own backyard in the Kootenays where she has found inspiration for the past 20 years.

Art became the unexpected silver lining for Sabrina while recovering from a traumatic brain injury. In 2020, she put brush to canvas for the first time in her life as a therapeutic outlet and she has not stopped since. An engineer by profession, she has converted her problem-solving skills to her creative practice through cognitive "rewiring". Her neural pathways have transformed from analysing data to construing the mixing of hues and tapestry of brushstrokes.

Sabrina's realistic paintings provide an immersive experience that brings to life the vastness and vibrancy of exploring treasured natural environments. Her work has been quickly welcomed into solo, collaborative and group exhibitions in multiple regional galleries and national virtual art shows, and now resides in private collections across Canada and around the world. Mother Nature is Sabrina's greatest muse, and she continually motivates her practice through extensive adventures by foot, bike or skis, acquiring inspiration for her next body of work.

## Sabrina Curtis Artist Statement

My adventures mold me and painting landscapes replicates that fond sense of exploration and connection to Mother Nature. My art practice began as a way to feel nurtured by natural environments when I was experiencing physical and cognitive limits due to injury, and it continues to immerse me in what I love most. Painting in realism brings me as close as possible to the outdoor experiences that I crave and deepens my relationship with the subject matter.

I use acrylics to weave a full dimensional effect through intricate layers of detail and accentuation of light and shadows, breathing life back into recreated memories. I am attracted to composition that engages the eye as well as the mind, and each canvas becomes my journal to translate the lessons I learn through my adventures. By being realistic and relatable, my work absorbs the viewer into the environment and enables contemplation of the meaningful messages offered by Mother Nature.

## **Aine Falter Bio**

Born at 3048m (10,000ft) in Fairplay, Colorado amongst some of the highest peaks in the Rocky Mountains, Aine Falter has never strayed far from his definition of, "the real world", the amazing world of Mother Nature. Growing up with an artistic minded family, a passion for outdoor adventure and art has transformed into a real appreciation for composition and photography. He started in art with realistic portrait pencil drawings and began airbrush painting. His projects included motorcycle helmets and having the great experience of painting portraits and scenes of historic local figures on a transit bus in his long-time home of Crested Butte, Colorado. As life will take many unexpected and busy turns, he met his life partner from Canada, had a child and eventually made the move to beautiful British Columbia. With a new life beginning, balance between work/ family life and the desire to continue creating was a challenge. He began going out at night, after child rearing and bedtime stories, to capture astrophotography and the world. The camera quickly became something he never leaves home without, and the mantra was established, like the famous quote from Wayne Gretzky, "You miss one hundred percent of the shots you don't take". The stories behind his shots are generally focused on the moments that sometimes pass by so fast they elude our ability to absorb the awe, wonder and beauty.