



David Woodring Hughes, a native of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, made his home in the city with his heart in the mountains. He spent many youthful hours in the stream and woods near his parent's suburban home fascinated by all that he encountered in nature. Transferring his creative thoughts from heart to art began in his teenage years with simple drawings of birds and mammals. It was when he accompanied his uncle to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary for the first time that he realized his passion for birds of prey. Sparks ignited a raging desire for capturing these majestic winged creatures both with paint brush and later at a banding station along the Kittatinny Ridge.

Autumn would turn his head from the fancies of youth skyward for the annual migration of hawks and eagles past the lookout points of Hawk Mountain. By whatever means of transportation possible, he would journey with his uncle to spend weekends visiting Sanctuary friends and watching birds.

Pursuing his talents, David enrolled to study with premiere wildlife artist Fred Wetzel marking a refreshing turning point from traditional art classes.



David Hughes currently resides in the countryside shadow of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary where he spends many hours on the lookout as a volunteer hawk counter. Reunited with the place that captured his heart as a boy, the magic of the mountain continues to nourish his spirit, creativity and passion for art and life.

He brings his inspirations from sketchpad to canvas with passion and energy for the sheer love of nature and the satisfaction of sharing his talents with others. David works with pencil sketches, acrylic paints, watercolor, oils and more recently – coffee. Most pieces are one-of-a-kind copyrighted originals. Several of his latest works have been made into prints and note cards. Commission pieces are his favorite because he can personalize the design concept.

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