## M. ALEXANDER GRAY

## **RESIDENT ARTIST | STUDIO 17**





## **ARTIST STATEMENT**

I am an accomplished printmaker who, since 2020, has begun painting in oils. I pursue realism and technical excellence. My work is inspired by a sense of place: a journey away from the dullness of everyday life towards the tranquil feeling one gets when experiencing great art. Beyond that, the simple joy of creating and making something new is the inspiration for my work.

During my years as a printmaker, my inspiration came primarily from local historic stone structures and their surroundings which I depicted in black and white. As a painter, I have begun the exploration of color in all of its complexity, and as a result, I have broadened my work to include portraits and still lifes. I seek to explore the vast

realm of color that was missing from my black and white work while maintaining the technical excellence and realism that characterized my printmaking. My still lifes are very traditional in subject matter, but they are less about fruits and vegetables and more about the joy of exploring a new medium and sharing that joy with the public.

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Left Image: "James River Waters West (detail)," woodcut, 18" x 38", 2021-2023.

Right Image: "Portrait of an Attorney," oil on canvas, 20" x 24", 2022-2023.