



Greg Biolchini
Contemporary Realist



Greg Biolchini was born in 1948 near Chicago, Illinois, where weekend trips to the Chicago Arts Institute lit the creative fire in him at an early age. Later, study at the Ringling School of Art led to apprenticeship under portraitist David Phillip Wilson. Today, Biolchini's signature style—a synthesis of classical realism and the virtuosic brushwork—brings to life landscapes, portraiture, nature and figures.

The Pastel Society of America elevated Biolchini to Master Pastelist status (1988). He has won four top category awards in their annual *Pastels Only Shows* (1981, 1983, 1988, 2002). His list of significant awards and honors has grown to include (2001) *Best of Show* in the *Florida Wildlife Federation Annual Wildlife Competition*, the *Grumbacher Gold Medallion* (2002) and three times inclusion in the *Arts for the Parks* nationwide touring exhibitions (2001, 2002, and 2004). His oil and pastel paintings have received awards in landscape, figure and still-life categories in the *Artist's Magazine Competition* (2002, 2003, 2005). Most recently, Biolchini was voted *Visual Artist of the Year* by *Southwest Florida's Angels for the Arts* (2006).

In addition to having had 30 solo shows, Biolchini has been included in dozens of national group exhibitions. His portraits and demonstrations are featured in a book published by Watson-Guption, *The Art of Pastel Portraiture* (1996), and in two new books, *Pure Color: the Best of Pastel* (2006) and in *Painting with Pastels* (2007), both published by North Light Books. He has been showcased three times in *The Pastel Journal* (2001, 2005, 2007) and was featured in *The Artist's Magazine* (2007).

While Biolchini's oil portraits and pastel paintings hang in many private, public, and museum collections, it is his popular workshops in pastel, oil, and acrylic that fuel his reputation and makes him a sought after realist artist.

When not teaching, Greg can be found painting *en plein air* or in his studio in North Fort Myers, Florida.