

# Cherryl Pritts



*Texas Wildflowers*

Oil on Canvas

16 x 20 inches

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**M**y work has been inspired by Betty Ritchie, the acclaimed landscape painter from San Marcos. Our teacher/mentor relationship continues to this day. Betty has taught me the essentials of landscape painting including color tones and the appropriate light key for the time of day, season, and location. She helps me with Texas. I don't get it like I should. She always brings me back to reality when it comes to the landscape.

A brush painter at first, I later switched to the palette knife which I find more freeing. Copious amounts of paint are used in my paintings. The layers create the impressions I've been taught: "Make it what your mind sees; make it the way it feels." The mix of colors gives me the most joy.

My segue into palette painting was inspired by Lois Griffel. After absorbing her book and videos, I called her up. From Griffel's teachings I learned how to block out my paintings, working each shape and form individually to create the whole. Instead of using one color, like white or black right out of the tube, I learned the value of combining colors to create a more distinct feel in my paintings.

Continued growth as an artist is an absolute for me with ongoing lessons and workshops. With no interest in using the same approach over and over again, I keep trying different methods to see what works. The real satisfaction comes, however, when someone likes my painting well enough to take it home.