

Painted Stories

BY MICHELLE DARWIN



CRAFTING PAINTINGS
THAT CELEBRATE YOUR STORY

CUSTOM HOUSE PORTRAIT

A house or location portrait based on a specific photo

Overview

This is the perfect option if you have a specific photo of a place, landscape, or building you'd like made into a custom painting. I'm happy to change the season or weather, or make small additions/removals from the scene, as you wish. It makes a perfect one-of-a-kind gift for yourself or someone special. Prints are also available for family and friends.

Includes:

- Review of your story and photos
- Back-and-forth by email to discuss any details
- Preliminary sketch for you to review
- Final painting based on your primary photo (up to 16"x20") on thick archival paper
- High-res digital scan of your painting
- Packaging & shipping within Canada

\$325

CUSTOM PAINTED SCENE

A painting created from stories and photos

Overview

This is perfect if you have a subject in mind, but need to research or imagine missing pieces and combine various elements into a scene. Sometimes there are no photographs – for example of an historic building or place. I can work with you to capture your story in a custom painting. This makes a meaningful one-of-a-kind gift for yourself or someone special. Prints are also available for family and friends.

Includes:

- Review of your story and reference files
- One-on-one discussion by phone, Skype, or in person
- Research into missing elements (signage of the era, etc.)
- Preliminary sketches showing a few ideas and options
- Final painting based on your feedback (up to 16”x20”) on thick archival paper
- High-res digital scan of your painting
- Packaging & shipping within Canada

\$575

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- You can order fine art prints of your painting to gift to family and friends. Prints are available in 5x7", 8.5x11", and 13x19" sizes for \$12, \$32, and \$70, respectively.
- For subject ideas and the process we'll follow, go to www.paintedstories.co/memories.
- Sales tax will be added to the price, as applicable.
- Payment can be made via e-transfer to michelle@paintedstories.co and is required in full at the beginning of a project.
- The original painting, digital scan, and prints are yours, but I maintain the license for the image itself. You do not have license to sell or reproduce the work beyond personal use.

If you'd like to discuss your idea in more detail, feel free to email me at michelle@paintedstories.co. I'm always happy to hear from you.

It's always helpful if you let me know which pieces of mine are your favourites. This helps guide me in creating your painting. You can see a full portfolio at www.paintedstories.co/portfolio

REFERENCE PHOTOS GUIDE

What makes a good photo to paint from?



Time of day, season of the year or **weather** are important to consider. These can be adjusted or multiple photos combined to create the final painting. It's helpful for me to see the real colours, as well as surroundings – such as trees – in the desired season, and the way light or snow falls.

It's possible to change the **angle** in the painting, but it's always helpful to consider what angle you want and try to find a photograph that is close. Consider a side view, from low down or high up, or straight on. It can also be framed by a tree, fence or other object.



No unwanted **obstructions** in front of a key element you'd like in the painting – such as a truck in front of a front door. There should be detail in the **shadow areas**, especially if they are large and contain aspects you'd like in the final painting. If an element isn't visible or clear, another photo of the detail would be helpful.

Other things to keep in mind when taking a new photo or selecting and preparing a photo from your family archives: enough **resolution** (the image should be clear and not too pixelated); **file type** (JPG, PNG, TIF, GIF, PDF); **file size** (maximum of 1MB per photo).



About Painted Stories

Painted Stories was founded by Michelle Darwin to create a rich and welcoming space for storytelling through hand-crafted images. Each artwork is carefully crafted to capture a remembered place or to celebrate a life story.

Michelle works with people who are looking for a custom painting of a special place – whether to remember and celebrate their personal or family history, or as a truly heartfelt gift for someone special.

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