

Artist Name: Timothy Christenson

Over the years, I've occasionally made art to occupy myself with an enjoyable activity. I've never thought of myself as a serious artist, but simply make art for pleasure. An image sometimes will catch my eye and I'll do something with it. This is the case with Coyote Spirit and Squirrel. Squirrel came from a drawing (pencil) I did about 40 years ago. I saw a picture of a squirrel on a tree and liked it enough to draw it. I lost the original drawing, but kept a photocopy of it and used it to create the new piece.

Coyote Spirit came from my love of wild animals. I don't like it when people try to make pets of wild animals or give them cute names. They deserve more respect than that. I've hunted and have hunted myself. But, there's always a sadness to ending a wild animal's life for sport. In making Coyote Spirit, I worked from a picture on the cover of a hunting magazine. The beauty of the animal's fierce was caught my eye and I wanted to paint it. I wanted to show the animal's spirit, hunting the land where it was killed, and possibly hunting the hunter as well.

Working with the watercolors was nice and I may do more with them later, but the acrylics were a huge pain in the ass. This is the first time I've worked with color and had a lot of trouble mixing the acrylics.