



***I strive to create art that
stirs something within —
a connection that feels real,
lasting, and deeply human.***

Randy Wheeler

Education:

B.A. Design, UCLA (1968–1974)

Mentorship:

Studied with Jeff Watts (Watts Atelier),
Natalia Fabia, and Joseph Todorovitch

Collections:

Work held in private collections in
Patagonia and the USA

Randy Wheeler paints the soul of Patagonia: its rugged landscapes, its gauchos, and the fleeting moments of a horse-centered culture rooted in open skies and vast horizons. His works in oil and pastel on linen are drawn from life and memory, capturing real people and places before they fade into legend.

Though he came to painting later in life, Randy's growth was accelerated by mentorship at Watts Atelier. In 2017, master artist Jeff Watts welcomed him into his private studio, where Randy learned the nuanced language of oil painting. He also studied with Natalia Fabia and Joseph Todorovitch, whose artistry and generosity helped shape his voice. These experiences deepened his loose yet representational style, touched with moments of surrealism.

The gauchos of Patagonia — much like the American cowboy — live a horse-centered life that may soon fade into memory. Randy paints these men and women with honesty and respect, always from true encounters. Each canvas tells a story: never staged, but grounded in lived experiences, real landscapes, and friendships forged across the pampas.

Years of travel through southern Argentina have given Randy countless hours sketching in the field, riding with gauchos, and recording impressions of a landscape that continues to inspire him. Whether depicting a windswept valley, riders pressing on through a snowstorm, or a quiet portrait of a friend, Randy's work strives to capture both intimacy and grandeur.

"Art has given me a way to build relationships — with the land, with people, and with those who feel something stir within when they see my work. My highest goal is to offer something real, something lasting, something that feeds the spirit."