

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ROLES OF THE PRAIRIE ARTIST

*GEORGE OLSON, P.O. Box 491, Woodhull, IL 61490



Abstract:

This slide presentation will provide a brief look at the work of an Illinois artist who, over a 30-year period, has explored prairies, fence rows, and roadsides throughout the Midwest, has restored two small prairies in Henry County, Illinois, and has shown his work in over 40 exhibitions on both sides of the Atlantic. The presentation will reflect the artist's interest in some perennial questions: What is the role of the prairie artist in the 21st century? How can the prairie artist contribute to the education of the general public about land use, the preservation of native species, and other environmental issues?

George Olson's book, **THE ELEMENTAL PRAIRIE – Sixty Tallgrass Plants**, (with an essay by John Madson) was published by the University of Iowa Press in 2005. The book will be available at the conference

G. OLSON
TWO SILPHIUMS
PENCIL & WATERCOLOR