

The creative career of D. J. Kolodziej Stawasz spans both his professional and personal life.

Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in studio art and art history, and a Master of Business Administration degree in marketing, Kolodziej Stawasz pursued a professional career in Communications while at the same time engaging in a personal career in theater set design. Currently, he estimates that he has designed and painted more than 90 sets for Massachusetts theater organizations. Having grown up in an environment that encouraged creative endeavors, Kolodziej Stawasz pursued his early attraction to landscapes, particularly their textural elements and how they evoke feelings, through the water color medium.

This continued in his designs for theater sets where he explored the use of paint to replicate the textures of hard and soft landscape elements. “As a creative person my creative interests go beyond the fine art of drawing and painting and include theater set design and painting, furniture design and other aspects of my everyday surroundings.”

Kolodziej Stawasz is currently working in pencil exploring how black, white and shades of grey can create textures that the viewer can emotionally feel. He has been working with Boston-based artist Stacey Cushner to further refine his technique.

The Newburyport Art Association’s 2014 Fall Members Juried Show was the first time in more than 45 years that he has exhibited his work outside of the theatrical environment.