



***Golden Groundsel***

44 x 32 inches

Painting

Price available upon request

## Steven Wise

Website: [stevenwise.com](http://stevenwise.com)

Instagram: @alphabetaprojects

### Bio

Steven Wise is a painter and a father of five children, with the younger three living at home. He lives in a duplex at the end of a cul-de-sac near soccer fields, bike trails and a string of chicken processing plants in Rogers, AR. All the while painting and exhibiting work, Steven spends the bulk of his time teaching elementary art in the Rogers Public Schools, and teaching drawing and painting at Northwest Arkansas Community College.

Steven Wise's paintings have been exhibited in solo shows at Simpson College, Henderson State University, Spiva Center for the Arts, Arts Center of the Ozarks, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and most recently at University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. Additionally, his work has been exhibited in the most competitive exhibitions in his home state such as the Annual Delta Exhibition at the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock (2020, 2010, 2004, 2003, 2000) and the Arkansas Arts Council's Annual Small Works on Paper Exhibition (2018, 2017, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2004, 1999). Steven Wise has curated two traveling exhibitions of contemporary painting. From 2002-2003, Perfect Fit featured his work among four artists that were exhibited at Widener University, Walton Arts Center and Simpson College. From 2013-2017, Abstract ARkansas included him among 10 abstract artists living in Arkansas who share a commitment to abstraction. Abstract ARkansas travelled to art centers in Little Rock, Tulsa, Springdale and Batesville.

### Artist Statement

I believe that the search for beauty is a political act. I want my work to force people to stop, perhaps to step out of conflict and, for a moment, engage in the essential human experience of wonder. It is my hope that people viewing my paintings are able to slow down, to look more closely and to find themselves at a place outside the chaos of daily life. These pictures are intended to offer spaces that bring light, grace and mercy to those who choose to gaze deeply into art works.

I have titled my most recent project "O...is for Ozarks." This collection is made up of large pictures inspired by my study of the Ozark Mountains, the natural surroundings in which I live and which I consider home. These new works derive from my exploration of the natural world of Northwest Arkansas as both naturalist and artist. I hike in the Ozarks and use a camera and a sketchbook to record my observations of the landscape in order to discover new forms and colors. My notes and sketches serve as a jumping-off point to help me develop a unique abstract language of line, form and color.