

PATRICK O'BRIEN

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ARTIST'S BIO:

Patrick O'Brien was a draftsman in a naval architecture firm and earned a degree in biology before attending art school. He was a freelance illustrator for almost twenty years, working with such clients as National Geographic, The Discovery Channel, The Smithsonian, and the U.S. Naval Academy. His artwork has appeared in magazines and newspapers, on posters and greeting cards, and even on billboards. In addition, Mr. O'Brien is the author and illustrator of twelve non-fiction children's books.

In 2003 O'Brien entered the marine art field. His first entry to the annual Mystic International Marine Art Exhibition won an Award of Excellence, and in 2007 his work was used as the cover image for the catalog of the show. His marine paintings have appeared in *The Artist's Magazine* and on the cover of *Naval History* magazine, and he was the subject of a four-page cover article in *Sea History* magazine. O'Brien has had one-man-shows in New York City, Annapolis, MD and Portsmouth, VA. He has delivered lectures about his work at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut and The Maryland Historical Society. In 2008, a production team making a documentary for The History Channel filmed O'Brien working in his studio.

Mr. O'Brien lives in Baltimore, MD. His studio is in an old restored mill where, in the 1800's, workers produced cloth for the sails of ships. For more about the artist, go to www.PatrickOBrienStudio.com.

LECTURE:

In this illustrated lecture, Patrick O'Brien will discuss how he brings maritime history to life on the canvas. He will discuss the thorough research that goes into his paintings — from reading old journals of sailors and admirals, to studying antique charts and sailing manuals. He will talk about his study of Baltimore clippers, and his investigations into the history of Baltimore's harbor and the Annapolis waterfront. He will then discuss how he translates this historical information into paintings, including the step-by-step process of recreating the Battle of the Chesapeake Bay, a turning point in the Revolutionary War. O'Brien will bring some of his original paintings for closer examination. O'Brien is the author and illustrator of 12 non-fiction children's books, and he will discuss interpreting maritime history for children. Some of his books will be available for sale.