

Stephen Dumayne

Stephen Dumayne studied illustration at Southampton, and has been professionally practicing for ten years. He lives and works in his adopted country of Wales (originally from Northamptonshire!). He owns a small design studio and his clients are from around the world. His briefs vary greatly from simple illustration design elements - for instance, web publishing, through to more long term projects; greeting card occasion characters, book and poster illustration.

Stephen says: "I originally started out at college using traditional media - oils in my case - but quickly progressed to computing after my education. Once I (re)learnt my trade on some of the computer programs I use now, there was no stopping me - I have found the internet an incredibly good tool for working too - a whole new industry created from virtually nothing in fifteen years or so.

"If you'd have told me ten years ago I'd be contacted by clients from Canada, San Francisco and different places, I would have sniggered! I have always loved drawing, and I find it fulfilling - my illustrative work being varied day on day. I still like getting to work, and I'm looking forward to new challenges - it's always constantly amazing the scope of subject matter that I am asked to produce."

Tel: 07940 278 737 / 0844 884 3288

www.dumaynedesign.co.uk



Claire Kiernan

Having graduated in 2004 with an animation degree, Claire decided to capture her character designs onto canvas rather than on screen. The 'Claire Bear and Friends' collection is available as originals, giclee prints, illustrated prints and greetings cards. "They reflect my personality" she says, "the moods I most enjoy and are always uplifting to create". The pieces can be described as fun moments of escapism and are popular with buyers of all ages. The greetings cards are bright, bold and translate well through all cultural backgrounds and languages, and are left blank inside so they can be sent for any occasion.

Claire likes to capture a sense of passion and freedom in her work whilst incorporating her cheeky characters with bright colours and impact. Most of all she says "I like making art that makes people smile and that is fun. People interpret my designs differently into something personal and identify with the character's personality".

To view the full range of images available and express your interest in the 'Claire Bear and Friends' (c) collection visit the website www.cartoonarts.co.uk or contact Kiernan Productions: 0121 351 3061.

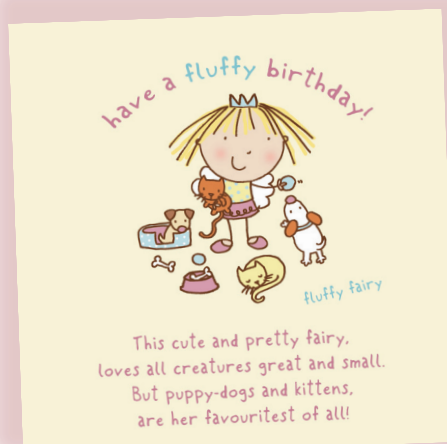
Maeve Fitzsimons

"Like many aspiring artists," writes Maeve, "I was lucky to be given the opportunity to attend Art College. I graduated (from The University of Ulster, in Belfast, Northern Ireland) with a B.A. Hons Degree in Textile Design. Initially I started to work as a Textile Designer, however I felt that I needed more freedom to be able to express my creativity, and so I decided to become a Freelance Illustrator. This choice, I hoped, would give me the opportunity to utilize my design skills in other areas.

"I thought the greetings market would offer a lot of scope for design, and illustration, and so set about sending out samples of my work to various companies. Fortunately, I had a lot of positive feedback, and there began my career in the gift industry! My style of work is varied, depending on individual briefs. I feel you need to be versatile, but retain your own unique handwriting. I like to experiment with different techniques, in this way it's possible to achieve a broad range of artwork, and styles, without compromising your individuality as an artist.

"I work with a variety of different mediums, watercolour, pencil, gouache, acrylic, collage, textiles, stitchery, and digital art. It's usually dependent on the style of artwork required, and the overall look that I'm trying to achieve. I would describe my work as "Contemporary" with commercial appeal. I love colour, texture, and experimenting with papers, paints, fabrics, stitching, and of course my computer, my trusted friend, and constant companion! My work has been published by many of the leading card companies, both in the U.K. & overseas; it has also been used in other design areas, such as textiles, gift bags, and stationery."

Tel: 01159 845847



Emily Smith

Emily has always had a natural talent for illustration, which was first noticed at just four years old when she won a prize at primary school for drawing a mouse holding a Christmas pudding! Since then Emily won highly commended for her children's book illustrations in the Macmillan's picture book prize while at university. On graduating with a first class honours degree in 2004, she was spotted by Hallmarks cards and began her career as a professional illustrator.

In 2005 Emily took the brave step to go freelance, and has never looked back. She now has a string of high profile clients, and has produced illustrations for over a hundred greetings cards, canvases for children's rooms, wooden toys, children's books, ceramics, jewellery, note books, and many giftware items including umbrellas and photo frames. Many of Emily's products and cards have been best sellers for her clients, leading to repeat work, and now a wide selection of regular customers and a very well established business - aptly named Magic Pencil.

Emily's work is all hand drawn, and varies from rough lines and funky characters, to the cute and fluffy things in life! Give her a call for a chat and she will be sure to exceed your expectations!

Tel: 0870 286 3881 Web: www.magicpencil.co.uk