

# MELANIE STIMMELL

## *Visual Arts Workshops*

### MEET THE ARTIST:

Chalk artist **Melanie Stimmell** has a strong background in illustration, painting and design. She received her BFA from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California and is currently working on her Graduate Degree at CSU Fullerton. She has shown her work in several Southern California galleries and has recently signed with a New York Art Representative. When Melanie is not painting in her studio or teaching she is on the asphalt. She began Street Painting in 1998 and has been a featured artist in festivals throughout the US and Internationally. She has won several major awards in both Italy and Germany, where she is now titled 'Maestro'. She has also painted for cultural events in Canada, Holland and Istanbul, Turkey where she was one of three American Featured Artists at there first chalk festival.



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### ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS:

Ms. Stimmell's workshops are creative, educational and fun. She introduces students to art through the development and completion of Italian street paintings. The first session begins with an interactive presentation featuring the work of student street painters and her own asphalt works. The demonstration portions of the lessons include information which is design and mathematically oriented, such as the methods for figuring out measurements for "gridding up" the design, composition and color scheme.

The students then design a work that they would like to complete as a street painting and begin transferring it to the ground. Depending on the length and number of sessions, students might copy the work of great masters, develop original work or produce a combination of both approaches. Each participating classroom will be responsible for a separate painting or series of paintings. This experience is a team building effort that ends with a sense of pride and accomplishment for all involved.

### **BEFORE THE WORKSHOP:**

- Please have the students wear nametags for the workshop. It saves time if they are made beforehand!
- Review the importance of listening. Why is it important when the artist is here?
- Review students' ideas about art, underscoring the idea that art is both personal and universal, and that everyone's ideas will be both different and related. Express the importance of respecting the ideas and designs of fellow classmates. Ask questions, such as, have they ever drawn with chalk (either on the sidewalk or on paper)? If so, what did they create?
- Ask whether students have ever been to a festival where street painting was done. If so, what were their impressions? What kind of work was created?
- Have the requested supplies ready before the artist arrives.
- Have student desks or work surfaces cleared.

### **AFTER THE WORKSHOP:**

- Review the major points presented in the workshops. What were the most important ideas? What parts of the workshop did the students like best? What did they learn about art? What did they learn about themselves? What did they learn about the history of street painting?
- Repeat some of the art projects, using the strategies and steps presented, focusing on a new theme, design, size or surface.