

DAZ Forums: Watch for links to your favorite artists' profiles right here!

Today we're featuring **Ken Gilliland**

Brief background history: Where did you grow up? Where do you live now?...etc?

"I was born in Glendale, California (just outside of Los Angeles) and now live in Tujunga, California (still just outside of Los Angeles). Tujunga is Tongva for "The Place where Mother Nature Lives". While close to Los Angeles, we get a huge variety of songbirds, coyotes, bobcats and an occasional mountain lion." "

How did you get into 3D art?

"I got into digital art very early with a TI-99/4a home computer and started producing content in the mid 1980's with a variety of educational programs, 2D graphics and games. My introduction to 3D came with a landscape program called VistaPro. When the original Poser and Bryce were released, I moved deeper into the 3D world but it wasn't until the release of Poser 4 that I began producing 3D content. "

What is it that attracted you to DAZ 3D?

"My history with DAZ 3D goes back to its roots. My first product submission went to Zygot. Just before it was to be released, the Poser people at Zygot moved to form DAZ 3D. During that transition, I moved to the newly formed "Vista Internet Products" with other 3D animal artists. That summer, I had lunch with the DAZ team at Siggraph and I have been happily at DAZ 3D ever since. So what attracted me to DAZ? Back then, as now, DAZ 3D has had a reputation for quality and simply the best content... so why wouldn't I want to be part of DAZ's product line?"

What are your favorite types of renders to create, and why? What's your inspiration?

"My favorite types of renders are that of birds. That's not to say I don't do some other imagery. I have done imagery for several books and publications ranging from the female figure to science fiction. That said, rendering nature gives me the greatest joy and by throwing in an endangered bird or plant, I can educate as well as entertain."

What are your hobbies outside of 3D?

"I am a social commentary (oil on canvas) artist and show at a Los Angeles gallery. Although my commentary topics are serious, I chose to paint them generally in a

humorous light. I guess it is a little sugar with the medicine. Apart of that, I volunteer at Audubon California and the Theodore Payne Foundation that encourages native plant use. My wife and I spend a lot of time in our large native garden watching birds and gardening."

What are your favorite songs, movies, sports, TV shows, etc?

"My favorite types of music range from Mozart to John Hiatt to TSOL. I always play music while doing art. I don't watch TV but love all types of movies and have a collection of film going from the early silents to latest Blu-Ray releases."

Anything else you would like the community to know about you?

"Of course, anybody who has my digital birds knows I'm a passionate environmentalist, so that's no surprise. What might be a surprise is that as a kid I hated bird watching and though I hate to admit it... you do become your parents. My father is a bird watcher."