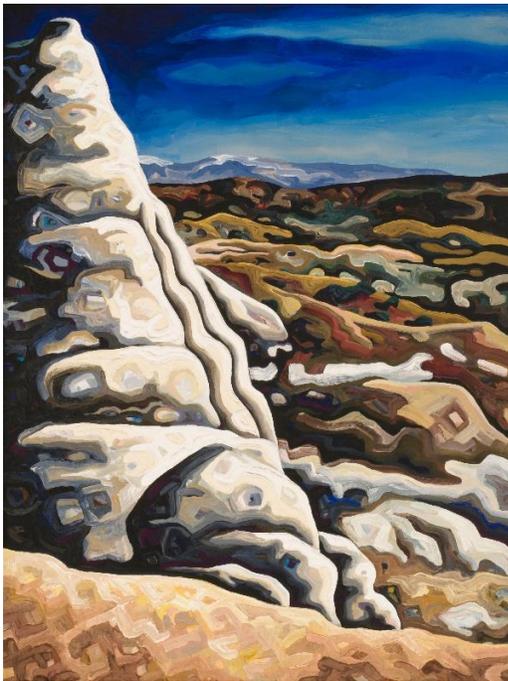


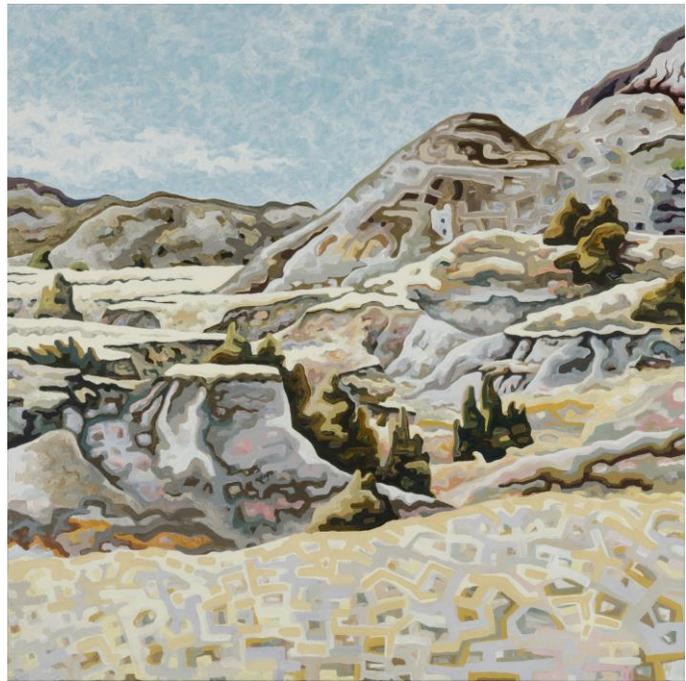


# Embossed Metal Patterns and Textures

When we look closely, we can find patterns and textures in unexpected places. This project is inspired by the work of artist Dale Beckman. Look at examples of his paintings to discover the kinds of lines, shapes, and patterns he used to embody the landscape features found in the Badlands of Montana.



White Pillar



Makoshika State Park #1

*“My landscapes and other image-oriented paintings are concerned with illustrating a non-physical character of reality. Using pattern and line I suggest that the composition is energy rather than matter and that multiple dimensions coexist simultaneously.”*

## **About the Art and Artist:**

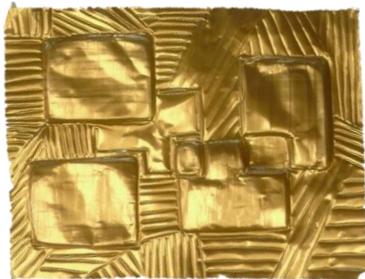
Born in eastern Montana, artist Dale Beckman is an image-maker working primarily in abstract-realism painting. He has spent years exploring the badlands of Montana’s Makoshika State Park. The series of paintings on view at the Hockaday

Museum of Art, February – May 2020, as part of the exhibition “Looking at the Landscape” were inspired by the peculiar shapes and colors of that natural terrain.

After receiving a B.A. at Rocky Mountain College in Billings and attending the University of Montana for his post-graduate work Beckman moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico and exhibited with Santa Fe Society of Artists, Artist Equity and Rio Grande Artist Co-op. After eleven years in Santa Fe, he moved to Abiquiu, New Mexico and spent the next eight years painting the desert badlands that were once home to artist Georgia O'Keeffe. Today Beckman lives and creates in Helena, Montana.

### **Abstract Realism:**

Abstract realism is an art movement that is not easily defined because it is a marriage of two contradictory terms – abstract art and realistic art. Abstract art uses lines, shapes, colors, texture, and pattern to create a rhythm. Realism is an art style that focuses on making pieces look as realistic and true-to-life as possible.



### **Vocabulary:**

**Pattern** - a design in which lines, shapes, forms or colors are repeated in a predictable manner.

**Texture** - the way an object feels to the touch or looks as it may feel. Invented textures can be made with the repetition of lines of shapes to create a pattern.

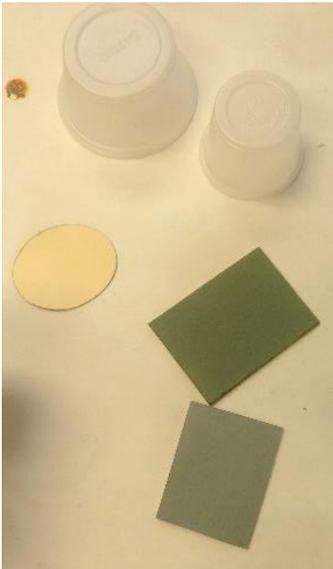
**Embossing** - the art of producing raised patterns on the surface of metal, leather, textiles, paper, and other substances.

### **Materials:**

- Heavy duty aluminum foil or craft foil cut into approx. 4” x 6” pieces
- Embossing tool or pencil with a worn, rounded point (nothing sharp!!!!)
- Thick pad of newspaper
- 1”-2” Shape templates (small lids, cardboard circles, squares, etc.)
- Optional: glue stick and colored paper for mounting finished piece

## Procedure:

1. Cut foil for your picture. Try to keep it wrinkle free. If necessary, place metal sheet on a thick pad of newspaper and use your hand to smooth away unwanted lines.



2. Look through your template selection and choose one to be the focus of your patterned picture.

3. **Place metal foil on top of paper padding when drawing or embossing.** A soft padding under the foil is necessary for this technique to work properly.

4. Use a dull pencil (or embossing tool) to trace your shape template in 4-6 places on the metal sheet.





5. Make a **pattern** of lines, small circles, dots, etc. between the shapes. This will create a visual **texture** for the background.

6. Use the embossing tool to redraw the main shapes to make them more pronounced. **Be very careful not to draw a hole through your foil.**

7. Turn metal over and use flat part of embossing tool (Or eraser on pencil) to pop out the shape by rubbing on surface of shape.

8. Flip metal back over to other side and redraw the outline of shapes to make them more pronounced. This adds more tactile texture to the piece.

***Mistakes happen... Try turning the oops into part of your design. If that is not possible, use your mistake foil as a practice surface for using your tools or techniques. Then use new piece of foil to make another picture.***

9. When finished, use your embossing tool to write your name on edge or corner of finished piece.

10. Optional: Mount embossed metal design onto a piece of colored paper. To create a colored frame around your design cut a piece of paper that it is ½" to 1" wider on all sides than the piece of metal. Apply glue to the paper and carefully press metal to the surface.

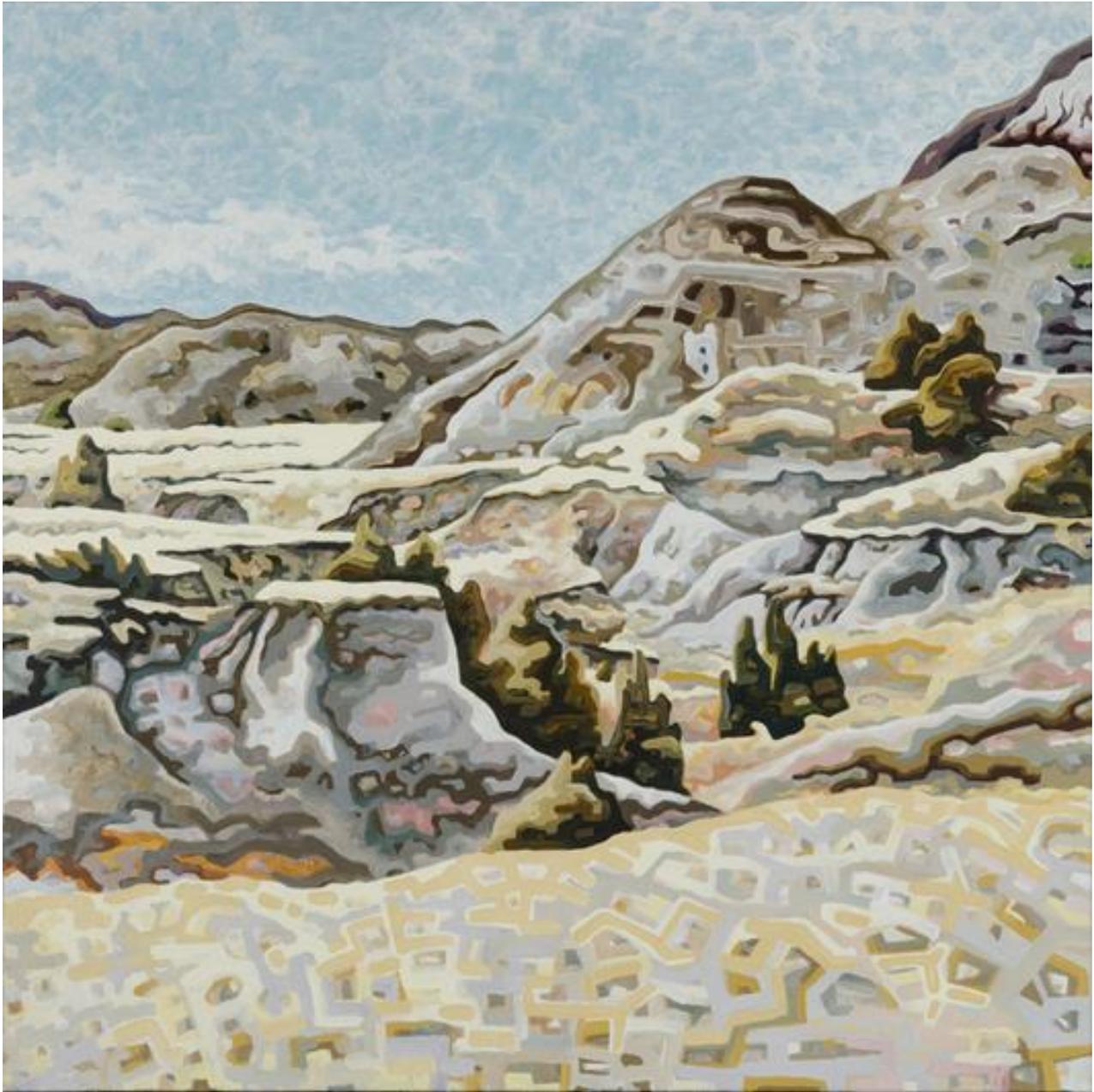




Dale Beckman

**White Pillar, 2001**

oil on Masonite 40" x 36"



Dale Beckman

**Makoshika State Park #1, 2014**

oil on canvas 26" x 26"