



EN PLEIN AIR

C O P E N H A G E N

*Live painting from direct observation
by Maxim Moraru*

En plein air is the French expression for “outdoors” or “in the open air” referring to the act of painting finished pictures outside directly from life in natural light to capture changing weather, shadows and atmosphere.

Over the past decade I have been exploring the ways of painting Copenhagen cityscapes from life, as well as learning and improving my own visual language, limiting the palette and sharpening my brushwork. The city of Copenhagen has become both subject and point of departure providing a rich vocabulary of architectural forms and structures. This overwhelming architectural diversity can shift the focus to its own matters making us hostages of the literal. To counter that we deliberately simplifying shapes and compressing tonal values by consistently excluding extraneous details making the final image clearer to process. The key distinction between designing an image and painting from life occurs when the intentional omission of detail and the organic imperfections of the medium become a stylistic advantage that enhances a readable subject. Ultimately, it is about finding the most direct pathway for the brush to express.

How should we consider this type of representational art practice in the context of the current and contemporary art agenda? Can the conventional become modern? As a method itself, plein air doesn't claim this kind of alignment; it serves to teach one to find the balance and simplicity in a chosen subject. It is also not an imitation of Old Masters' technique even though the principles haven't changed for centuries. What has changed is the gear which gives modern artists a significant boost. One way or another, the conventional principles of the plein air method allow us to process a subject bypassing transient aesthetic trends, prioritizing clarity and presence, bringing readability of elusive moments upfront.

In this catalog, I am pleased to present some of my works from 2024 to 2026







Christianshavn, evening lights
20x30cm Oil on linen



*View over Strøget from the rooftop
20x30cm Oil on panel*



Vestergade 33
20x30cm Oil on panel





Badstuestræde 1209, 25x30cm Oil on linen



Sankt Petri Kirke, 25x20cm Oil on panel





Towers
20x30cm Oil on panel



Nikolaj Kunsthal
20x30cm Oil on panel



Vesterbro
20x30cm Oil on panel



Amagerbrogade
20x30cm Oil on panel



Planetarium
20x30cm Oil on panel





Oxford Alle
20x30cm Oil on panel



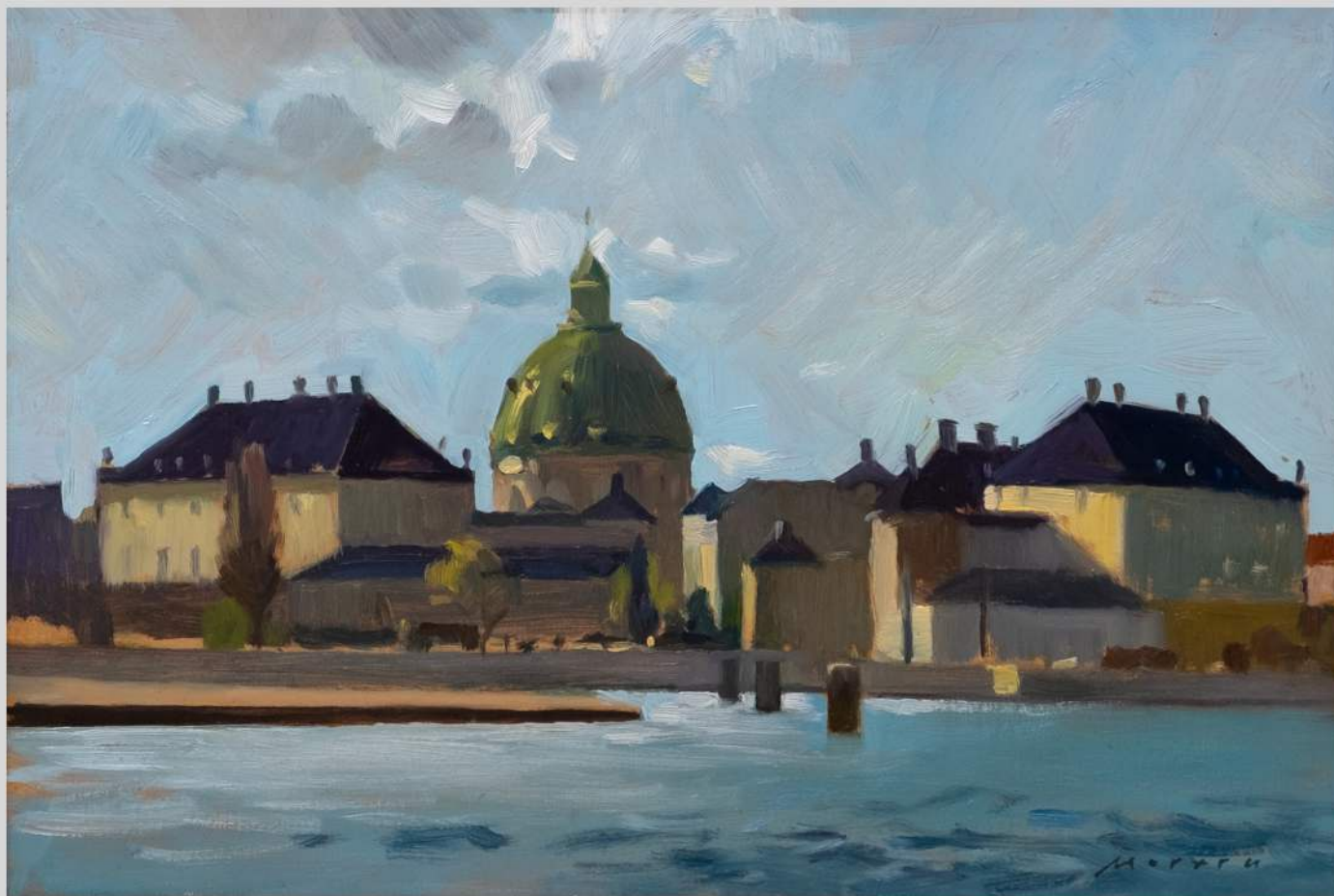
Sakramentskirken
20x30cm Oil on panel



Krigsmuseet
20x30cm Oil on panel



Rosenborg Slot
20x30cm Oil on panel



Amalienborg
20x30cm Oil on panel



Holmen
20x30cm Oil on panel



Holmen
20x30cm Oil on panel



Dronning Louises Bro
20x30cm Oil on panel



Dronning Louises Bro
20x30cm Oil on panel





Søtorvet
20x30cm Oil on panel



*Thank you for your interest!
For exhibition oportunities and
printing commisions 24/7
maxim.moraru@gmail.com*

moraru.cc

© 2026 Maxim Moraru