

Charles Alkula, a native of Ohio, now calls Stevensville, Montana home. His artistic interest was late in coming following many years moving around the world with work and educational pursuits. He completed the BFA at the University of Montana – Missoula in 2018 where his work shifted from a multi-disciplinary approach to now being done almost exclusively in the painting studio.

Charles' process involves setting up "systems," means of engaging the paint by allowing the paint to mix itself and to create works often distanced from the initial concept. This process appears to haphazard but requires a myriad of steps on his part. His work incorporates his life experiences, a sense of humor, and a strong sense of "What if..." By engaging in a "structured chaos" approach to his art, he brings to life that which appears random but which has great meaning.

His current works are typically done on wood (when encaustic / wax are employed) and on canvas otherwise. Charles uses both acrylic (mixed with water) and oils (mixed with Gamsol), often on the same piece, drawing out the potential of colors not found when mixed with intention.

His artistic output has been exhibited in galleries on the University of Montana campus and at other galleries in Missoula, Montana.