



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 24 issue 3

FALL
2013

Brushstrokes

FIRST OPA SALON SHOW A SPECTACULAR EVENT

Nestled on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan in the charming town of Petoskey, Michigan, OPA artists gathered for its first Salon Show at the spectacular Crooked Tree Arts Center (CTAC). Rivaling the best galleries in the country with its magnificent space and superb lighting, there is just nothing ordinary about this place. Once a Methodist Church, the art center is expansive. The original chapel is now a full size auditorium which was the perfect venue for the many educational events presented over the weekend. Not only was there abundant space for the 400 paintings in this year's show, but plenty of space beyond that to tastefully display over 100 plein air paintings done throughout the week.

The board members and staff of the art center, along with a small cadre of dedicated volunteers from Petoskey and beyond, rolled out the red carpet for OPA members and guests. It was all in the details! From attractive canvas bags provided at check-in, to a beautiful full-colored catalog, to the artist's lounge featuring an impressive table spread including specialty coffees and chocolates - the artists felt appreciated and welcome throughout their stay in Petoskey.



"Waiter" by Vadim Dolgov won the Board of Directors Gold Medal Award in the Associate and Signature Division

The educational events during the weekend were both informative and interesting. Leading the way were several OPA members including the Salon Show's Juror of Awards, well respected Signature member Thom Robinson, who demonstrated his painting expertise for the audience. Immediately following, OPA Board members Ken Cadwalader OPA and John Michael Carter OPAM presented helpful tips and insight into how to build a solid art collection. Also providing a painting demonstration, was well known OPA Signature artist Marc Hanson who served as Juror of Awards for the Salon Show's plein air painting event. Other presentations included a lecture by lawyers Matthew Bower and Rick Herman on how to use intellectual property rights to your advantage. And finally, Eric Henenway, Director of Cultural Preservation for the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians and Michael Federspiel, Director of Little Traverse Historical Society, shared the history surrounding the Little Traverse Bay area.

The opening reception and awards ceremony brought a full house to the center to admire the stunning collection of work from artists

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Salon show can't.

across the country. CTAC provided a number of awards to OPA members including a top prize of \$3,000, which went to OPA member Vadim Dolgov for his painting "Waiter". A complete list of all of the award winners can be found below.

Happily, Crooked Tree Arts Center shattered any preconceived notion that art centers don't sell a lot of art. To the contrary, the center sold a number of paintings throughout the exhibition – upwards of 25%, an impressive number by any standards.

ASSOCIATE & SIGNATURE DIVISION

Board of Directors Gold Medal: Vadim Dolgov for "Waiter" - \$3,000 funded by Crooked Tree Arts Center Board of Directors

Silver Medal: David B. Riedel for "Lanterns" - award valued at \$3,800 funded by *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*

Bronze Medal: Bill Farnsworth OPA for "Charleston Stories" - \$2,000 funded by Ermy and Gordon Bonfield



"City Streets" by Louis Escobido won an Honorable Mention

Honorable Mention: Louis Escobedo for "City Streets" - \$1,000 funded by Wes and Karen Hovey

Honorable Mention: Nancie King Mertz for "Over the Top" - award valued at \$1,100 funded by Masterpiece

Honorable Mention: Robert G. Hagberg OPA for "Painting Day" - award valued at \$1,000 funded by Mitchell Graphics

CTAV VA Committee Most Original: Susan M. Elwart-Hall for "Low Fat..." - \$825 funded by Crooked Tree Arts Center VA Committee

CTAC Past Presidents Award: Bushi Luo for "Fisherman" - \$700 funded by Crooked Tree Arts Center past presidents

CTAC's Executive Director's Benevolent Artist Award: Todd Channer for "Sentinel" - \$500 funded by anonymous CTAC committee members



The Silver Medal was awarded to David B. Riedel for "Lanterns"

Best Representational of Northern Michigan: Don Biehn for "Almost Time for Dinner" - \$500 funded by *Traverse*, Northern Michigan's Magazine

Dr. Kim Aikens Award for Excellence in Realism: Scott Royston OPA for "White African Irises in Black" - \$500 funded by Dr. Kim Aikens

Gabriella and Sofia Bacigalupi Award of Excellence for Animals: Howard Friedland OPA for "Loosey Goosey" - \$500 funded by Gabriella and Sofia Bacigalupi

Penny and Mike Isermann Award of Excellence for Seascape: Christopher E. Groves for "Gesture" - \$500 funded by Penny and Mike Isermann

Paula Ustialo Memorial Award of Excellence for Still Life: Larry J. Clingman for "Vase of Eucalyptus" - \$500

William Rutledge Award of Excellence for Landscape: Romona L. Youngquist for "Signs of Spring" - \$500 funded by William Rutledge



Bill Farnsworth OPA won the Bronze Medal for "Charleston Stories"

Salon show con't.

Wineguys Restaurant Group Award of Excellence for Figurative: Michelle Usibelli for "Brigade de Cuisine" - \$500 funded by Wineguys Restaurant Group

Mary Ann and Michael Van Lokeren Award of Excellence for Cityscape: Stan Rogers for "King's Square" - \$500 funded by Mary Ann and Michael Van Lokeren

CTAC Education Committee Award of Excellence for Impressionism: Lori Putnam for "Stopped at the Tracks" - \$500 funded by Crooked Tree Arts Center Education Committee

CTAC Performing Arts Committee Award of Excellence for Portraiture: Kristan Le for "Reading" - \$500 funded by Crooked Tree Arts Center Performing Arts Committee

MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal – Master Signature Division: John Michael Carter OPAM for "Hot Walker"



"Painting Day" by Robert G. Hagberg OPA won an Honorable Mention

The following were Purchase Awards - Selected by CTAC Purchase Award Patrons:

Elizabeth Pollie OPA for "the Sureness of Things" - selected by Gay Cummings

Zhiwei Tu OPAM for "Girl with Flowers" - selected by Army and Gordon Bonfield

Jennifer Hunter for "Look to the East Wind" - selected by Bick-erstheth, Frown and Associates, LLC of Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.

Jean K. Schwartz for "Morning Washington Square park" - selected by Tracy Bacigalupi

Angela Campbell for "Pear of Clubs" - selected by Ann and Joe Hollis

Barbara Jaenicke for "Peaceful Adventure" - selected by Edie and Fred Kaufmann

Calvin Liang OPAM for "Setting Sail in Newport Beach" - selected by Karen and Joe Kimmell

Dee Kirkham for "Wine Time" - selected by Dr. and Mrs. Dalton Miranda



Susan M. Elwart-Hall won the CTAC VA Committee - Most Original Award



An Honorable Mention was awarded to Nancy King Mertz for "Over the Top"

James G. Wolford for "Trawler" - selected by Sherry and Paul Mitchell

John Michael Carter OPAM for "Hot Walker" - selected by Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Porter

Michelle Usibelli for "Brigade de Cuisine" - selected by Tony and Juli Ryner

Nancy King Mertz for "Over the Top" - selected by Ann and Tom Stallkamp

Linda Kollacks for "The Diebold Farm" - selected by Donna and Jim Waterston



The CTAC Past Presidents Award went to Bushi Luo for "Fisherman"

JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By Thom Robinson OPA



It was a special honor to be chosen to judge the OPA Salon Show in Petoskey, Michigan. I spent many holidays with my grandparents who lived near Petoskey as I was growing up.

I was impressed to see a show of 375 paintings of the highest quality in one of the best gallery spaces I've visited, which made it a real challenge to pick so few paintings for awards. I enjoyed spending many hours going over all the paintings, which ranged from realism to impressionism including all types of painting styles.

In judging I looked for paintings done with confidence in the handling of paint, composition, design, color, value and movement. I tried to be objective in evaluating the paintings, looking at all the paint manipulation and how the edges were done.

Thanks to the Crooked Tree Arts Center and to the Oil Painters of America for organizing such an impressive event.

MEET THE ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER VADIM DOLGOV

Vadim Dolgov graduated from the Orenburg Academy of Fine Arts in Orenburg, Russia. His style strongly resembles that of the great masters of late 19th and early 20th century realists. Vadim's work began to get serious recognition in 1991. Since then his paintings have been exhibited and sold throughout the world. In 1998 he and his family moved to Toronto, Canada where he now lives and works.

Looking at his many varied, beautiful pictures, one can almost touch the textures, feel the sunlight and the wind, hear the sounds, and breathe the air of the images before them. His portraits and figurative scenes are a study of the minute nuances of facial expressions and body language, that draw the observer into the mood of the model.



Bear Creek Paint Out
sponsored by *PleinAir Magazine*



The spacious Crooked Tree Arts Center



Susan Blackwood OPA looks at
some of the paint out efforts

MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER JOHN MICHAEL CARTER

John Michael Carter was born in Chicago, IL. He began his first studies in drawing at the age of 16 with his father E.L. Carter, a commercial artist. In 1968, he attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago. In 1970, Mr. Carter moved to Los Angeles where he attended the Art Center College of Design. There he received a background in the major classical schools of painting and graduated with a B.F.A. Degree in 1972. For ten years, Mr. Carter taught drawing and painting for the University of Kentucky at Jefferson Community College in Louisville, KY.

Mr. Carter has shown paintings in many national exhibitions and competitions including Arts for the Parks, the 1991 Hubbard Museum Award for Excellence Exhibition and the Artists of America show in Denver. His portrait “Hannah” was a finalist in the 2002 P.S.O.A. International Portrait Competition and “Jolie” was a finalist in 2003. He received first prize and the Artists’ Choice Award for his portrait “Sarah” at the 2002 A.S.O.P.A. International Portrait Competition. Mr. Carter received *The Artists Magazine* Award for his painting “Summer Reading” at the 2003 OPA National Exhibition. His painting “The Yellow Canary” won first prize at the 2004 OPA National Exhibition. “The Dressing Table” was awarded Best Impressionistic Oil at the 2004 Hoosier Salon. “Romanian Girl” was a finalist in the 2005 Portrait Society of America International Portrait Competition. He received first prize at the 2005 Hoosier Salon for his painting “Reading on the Veranda”.



John Michael Carter OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Master Signature division for “Hot Walker”



Attorney Matthew Bower presents information on using intellectual property rights



Juror of Awards Thom Robinson OPA gives insight into his painting technique

A copy of the OPA 22nd National Exhibition catalog would make a good holiday gift for someone who appreciates the fine art of representational oil painting. Copies may be purchased at a cost of \$25.00 each (three or more for \$21.00 each). They may be purchased either online at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com or by sending a check to Oil Painters of America, P. O. Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2488.

SUMMER 2013 ASSOCIATE ON-LINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Once again the entries in the recent On-Line Showcase were outstanding. Thank you to Signature member Kimberly Casebeer who acted as our Juror of Awards for this summer competition. And again, thank you to Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation for their continued support of this well appreciated competition!

First Place: Nikolo Balkanski for “Sophie”

Second Place: Elisa Holderman for “Waiting”

Third Place: Frankie Johnson for “Abandoned”

Honorable Mentions: Buell Cole for “Simply Amanda”, Susan Ploughe for “Serene”, Ann Larsen for “Lewis Falls”, Jeff Morrow for “The Bowler Hat”, Abby Warman for “The Fishing Pier”, Christina Body for “Bascule Link”, Michael DeVore for “You Call That a Knife?”, Jason Sacran for “Full Moon at Night”, Laura Kersey for “Dunes at Sunset” and Tracy Avant for “Yellowstone Thermal”.



“Sophie” by Nikolo Balkanski

The third showcase for 2013 is open for submissions October 1 - December 15, 2013. This competition is available to both Associate and Signature members with separate awards for each division.

As a reminder, there is no limit to the number of paintings you may enter and also no size restrictions. The cost is a nominal \$14 per entry. Visit the OPA website for entry info.

MEET ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER NIKOLO BALKANSKI

Nikolo Balkanski’s paintings bring his European origin and training to his art, and his post-impressionist interpretations carry a distinctive quality that easily captivates the viewer with his portrayal of the subject using sophisticated color and remarkable draftsmanship. Balkanski, an internationally recognized portrait and landscape artist from Sofia, Bulgaria, lives and works in Colorado. Since his move to the United States in 1984, from Helsinki, Finland, his work has undergone a natural metamorphosis.

One sees at a glance that Mr. Balkanski is schooled in the techniques of the old masters and possesses the exceptional talent to employ their methods in creating thoroughly modern paintings. It is therefore no surprise that he is highly regarded by his peers, museum curators, and prominent art collectors.

As noted by U.S. ART “Unfettered by self-imposed limitations, Balkanski applies his well-developed skills to subjects as disparate as landscapes, nudes, portraits, still lifes and more. His style, technique and especially his use of color result in images that are more painterly than art that most collectors may be accustomed to seeing.”



SCHOLARSHIP WINNER DENISE IMKE RECAPS HER EXPERIENCE

I just wanted to report that I have completed the Cynthia Rowland Portraiture workshop that I chose to use for my OPA Shirl Smithson Scholarship.

It was, hands down, one of the best workshops I've ever taken and I sincerely appreciate OPA and the Scholarship Committee for affording me this opportunity.

The workshop was very structured and organized without a minute wasted. We were presented with a different model every 3 hours.

Cynthia's approach was to begin with grisaille paintings the first day using burnt sienna plus white. Then day 2 we used burnt sienna, ultramarine blue plus white. Day 3, we



added a red, day 4 we added a yellow, then on day 5 we used a full palette. The time spent during model breaks was spent either demo-ing by Cynthia or discussing a specific point. Without question, this workshop advanced my skill level and fostered a new passion for painting the portrait.

The workshop was held at the New Mexico Art League in Albuquerque, New Mexico which is a wonderful facility; one that I hope to revisit in the future.

Thank you again for this incredible experience.

Sincerely,
Denise Imke
Alto, NM

SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AND ART STUDENTS

The Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship was first awarded to one artist in 2003 and is now awarded to three active Associate members and one part or full-time student currently enrolled in art school or an art related program. (Students need not be OPA members to apply.) Applicants are judged on the quality and strength of his/her artwork and the potential for further career development.

Scholarships are awarded to attend a workshop or class in representational oil painting. Award winners must receive approval from OPA prior to enrolling or attending a workshop or class.

Scholarship applications must be received in the OPA office no later than December 1st for review by the Scholarship Committee and approval by the Board of Directors. Each application must include: a cover letter, one page resume, and two CD's, each containing six images of applicant's representational work in oils. Students must include a letter from his/her instructor acknowledging that he/she is currently enrolled as an art student. For complete information please go to the OPA website: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Under the Education & Events menu go to Scholarship.

**REMEMBER - APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OPA OFFICE NO LATER
THAN DECEMBER 1, 2013**

P.O. Box 2488
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ANOTHER YEAR OF OUTSTANDING PAINT OUTS



First Row (Sitting or kneeling on ground): Larry Stevens, Gillian Herrigel, Margaret Canepa, Midge Coleman, Candace Vlcek, Mary Buerger, Greg Laderer, Ann Self, Ellen Pelletier, Diane Randlett. **Second Row:** Mike Ranucci, Phil Bean, Joan Sutter, Ken Carlson, Peter Yesis, Bob Grant, Sarah Greenier, Penny Markley, Carole Palmer, Corinne McIntyre, Suzanne Brewer, Gail Morrison, Claudette Gamache, Felicity Sidwell, Jim Tarsetti, Frank Pierobello. **Back Row:** Ian Orman, Carol Jessen, Lee Boynton, Roger Milinowski, Suzanne Marinell. **Not Shown:** Mary Byrom, Marcus Gale, Sally Smith.

MAINE PAINT OUT

On Wednesday, September 4, 33 artists participated in OPA's 9th Annual "Great Paint Out" held at Grimes Cove, Ocean Point in East Boothbay, Maine. Participants came from all over the state of Maine and some even trekked from New Hampshire to share in the activities. According to host Corinne McIntyre the weather was beautiful and everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you to Corinne for her continued support of OPA's yearly Paint Outs.



Ken DeWaard and Pam Clausen paint while Dan Roth watches



Betsy Bultman Spry



Pam Clausen, Mara Pionek and Ken DeWaard with onlookers

DENMARK, WISCONSIN PAINT OUT

About 13 painters participated in the Saturday, September 28th Paint Out at The Academy of Fine Art in Denmark, Wisconsin. The Academy of Fine Art is housed within a 104 year old historical flour mill, located in the quaint village of Denmark. Artists from all over the area stop to paint the building year round.

There were an additional 12 onlookers and wanna be's also in attendance. As is obvious from the photos, the weather was gorgeous.

A DATE TO REMEMBER

Preparation of the national show catalog takes many months. In order to ensure that your name will appear as a current member for 2014, membership dues must be received at OPA no later than January 31, 2014.

PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Michael Gillespie's entry was named a FAV15% (the jury's favorite 15% of entries in the competition) in the BoldBrush Painting Competition. He was also one of ten finalists in Florence Academy of Art's Summer Workshop Contest. And last, but not least, Gillespie was selected for an artist residency by the Red River Historic Society in Clarksville, Texas.

Shirley Gipson won a Juror's Pick Award at the Women Artists of the West National Exhibition in Estes Park Colorado, in July for her painting "Water to Wine".

Tricia Kaman has had three of her paintings, "Jenise in Her Kimono," Tiffany's Necklace," and "The Reenactor: Portraying President Garfield," selected as Meritorious Entries by Richeson 75 School of Art & Gallery in Kimberly, Wisconsin. They will be

featured in the exhibition book for Richeson 75 International Art Competition: Figure/Portrait 2013.

Tom Nachreiner was honored to receive the Best of Show Award for his painting "Shorewood Pizza" at the First Annual Shorewood Plein Air Competition, held in Shorewood, Wisconsin in September.

Richard T. Reminger (Dick) was pleased to be invited to participate in the Art of the Sea exhibition entitled "A Gathering of Marine Masters" in August held in South Thomaston, Maine.

Betty Schmidt was invited to exhibit her paintings at her alma mater Iowa Wesleyan College's Homecoming celebration. The Living Poets Society read poems they had written about her

paintings at the opening reception held on October 12.

William Schneider OPA's work is being featured in the September issue of *Fine Art Connoisseur* as well as the October issue of *American Art Collector*.

Bill Suys OPA won Best In Show in the Salon International 2013 at the International Museum of Contemporary Masters of Art for his painting "Perceptions". The exhibition is held annually at Greenhouse Gallery in San Antonio, Texas.

Jerry Venditti's painting "Einstein's Blackboard II" has been juried into the 8th Annual International Juried Exhibition for the International Guild of Realism held at the Tempe Center for the Arts, in Tempe, Arizona.



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"Canyon Lake", oil, 12" x 16"



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DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 – Deadline for submission for 2013 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

Twenty-third Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention, Bennington, Vermont

Exhibit hosted by Bennington Center for the Arts - June 7 - July 27 - Juror of Awards: Charles Movalli OPAM

Canvas size: not to exceed 1200 square inches

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

2014 Western Regional – Mountainsong Galleries, Carmel, CA - Aug. 28 - Oct. 30 - Juror of Awards: Marilyn

Simandle OPAM - Canvas size: not to exceed 1200 square inches

2014 Eastern Regional - Eisele Gallery, Cincinnati, OH- Oct 20 - Nov 17 - Canvas size: not to exceed 1200 square inches

ON-LINE SHOWCASES

October 1 - December 15, 2013 - open to Associate and Signature members, with separate awards for each division

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FEB 2013



Nancy Guzik

MAR 2013



Linda Tracey Brandon

APRIL 2013



Jeff Legg

MAY 2013



Douglas Morgan

JUNE 2013



Kim Lordier

JULY 2013



Peggi Kroll Roberts

AUG 2013



Qiang Huang

SEPT 2013



Michael Orwick

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