



# OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 24 issue 1

SPRING  
2014

## Brushstrokes

### 2013 EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION DELIVERS!

Oil Painters of America's 2013 Eastern Regional Exhibition in Annapolis, Maryland brought a flurry of activity and excitement to McBride Gallery and to the many artists and visitors who walked through its doors opening weekend, October 19-21, 2013.

There were several factors that contributed to making this an amazing weekend! First and foremost, the city itself. As America's Sailing Capital, Annapolis is a vibrant and bustling cosmopolitan city. Drawing more than 4 million people a year to its shores, Annapolis offers visitors an abundance of high-end shops, restaurants, cultural activities and his-



Mary Qian won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature division for "Gaze"

toric sites to visit. Yet, while this city has embraced today's modern amenities it has more importantly managed to preserve its most important prized asset: its history. One can't help but feel as if the town has gone back into another period of time as they walk along quaint, brick-laid streets and stroll by homes and buildings dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Situated in the heart of downtown is McBride Gallery, set in a charming, historic, colonial style home just a few blocks from Annapolis' famous City Dock. The exhibition featured over 100 superbly painted works of art by top artists from across the eastern half of the United States and Canada. Juror of Awards, and our

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#### DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES!



If you have not paid your membership dues for 2014 this will be the **last issue** of the *Brushstrokes* you will receive. To check to find if you have paid for this year please follow these steps:

Go to the OPA website: [oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://oilpaintersofamerica.com)

Go to Member Service Menu

Go to Member Log In

Enter Primary E-mail address + Password

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Go to Edit/View Info (middle of page)

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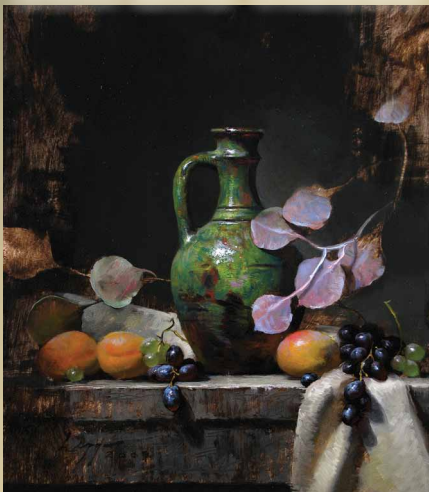


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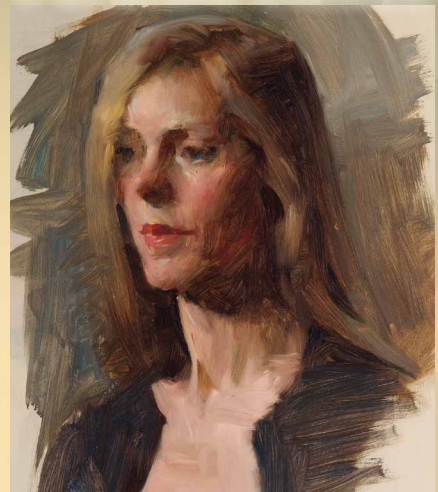
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Eastern Regional Show con't.

newest Master Signature artist, Nancy Howe certainly found it challenging to select the winners as the work was excellent across the board.

Special thanks to Cynthia McBride and her staff for their gracious hospitality. With over thirty years in the art business, Cynthia McBride has developed a long list of faithful collectors – all of whom came to view the exhibition. Based on sales, one would have to say they were very impressed! Opening weekend sales were strong and remained that way through the remainder of the exhibition.

Congratulations to all of the artists who exhibited and to those who took awards home. Top honors in the Associate/Signature Division went to Mary Qian for “Gaze” and Craig Tennant OPAM added another Gold Medal to his collection in the Master Signature Division for his painting “Jim’s Indian”.



The Silver Medal was won by Susan Budash for “A Pear Dressed for Dessert”



“By the Fireplace” by Vadim Dolgov won an Award of Excellence



Elizabeth S. Pollie OPA won the Bronze Medal for “Nine Days of Fog”

A complete list of all the winners follows.

**Gold Medal: Mary Qian for “Gaze”** - \$4,000 funded by OPA

**Silver Medal: Susan Budash for “A Pear Dressed for Dessert”** - \$1,000 funded by OPA

**Bronze Medal: Elizabeth S. Pollie OPA for “Nine Days of Fog”** - \$1,000 funded by OPA

**Award of Excellence: Vadim Dolgov for “By the Fireplace”** - award valued at \$3,100 funded by *American Art Collector Magazine*

**Award of Excellence: Dana R. Malcolm for “What Will Be”** - award valued at \$2,000 funded by *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*

**Award of Excellence: William A. Schneider OPA for “Final Chapter”** - \$500 funded by McBride Gallery

**Award of Excellence: Hai-Ou Hou for “Bearded Man”** - \$500 funded by OPA

**Award of Excellence: Brandi A. Neighbors for “Subtle Deception”** - \$500 funded by OPA

**Award of Excellence: Tony Damico for “Snow Tracks”** - \$500 funded by OPA

**Award of Excellence: Jan Peng Wang OPA for “Tibet Girl”** - \$500 funded by OPA

**Gold Medal – Master Signature Division: Craig Tennant OPAM for “Jim’s Indian”** - \$3,500 funded by OPA.

Copies of the OPA 22nd National Exhibition catalog are still available at a cost of \$25.00 each (3 or more for \$21.00). Copies of past years’ catalogs are also available. Please look under the Resources menu on the OPA site at: [www.oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com) to see which years are still available.

## AN EXCEPTIONAL OPENING WEEKEND

All of our regional exhibition opening weekends are fabulous – but this year's Eastern Regional Exhibition was exceptional! Here's a breakdown of each of the day's events.

### Friday, October 18

The morning was off to a great start as OPA members gathered at the McBride Gallery for coffee and bagels before heading down to Annapolis's famous City Dock to paint. After painting all morning, several artists met for lunch at a local seafood favorite, McGarvey's Saloon & Oyster Bar. Feeling more energized, the artists headed out for a few more hours of painting before gathering for an informative critique session led by OPA Board member John Michael Carter OPAM. Later, OPA members and their guests met for dinner on the patio at the 1747 Pub for another evening of fun and camaraderie.

### Saturday, October 19

If ever in Annapolis, a tour of the U.S. Naval Academy is a must see! Rich in history and one of the most beautiful college campuses in the country, OPA members took the morning to tour this impressive institution.

Afterwards, Juror of Awards and Master Signature artist Nancy Howe



Juror of Awards Nancy Howe OPAM spoke about her project "Painting a Brighter Future for Women"

talked about "Painting a Brighter Future for Women" a project that she launched in 2006 after touring northern Kenya with her family. Struck by the number of women of these pastoral communities living in extreme poverty, Ms. Howe decided that she wanted to help. Donations from the sales of her original artwork of these people goes towards an innovative and highly successful microfinance program that allows these women to generate sustainable income to support their families. This project has taken on a life of its own and has now been expanded to include other areas of the world, supporting a variety of programs benefiting women. (See her website for more information.)

After lunch, Master Signature artist John Michael Carter was on hand to demonstrate his award winning painting techniques for OPA members and

guests. As one of America's best known impressionist artists, it was a real treat to watch him as he painted from a model.

Winding down the day, artists and guests met for dinner at the bustling Boatyard Bar & Grill, a hang-out for sailors and locals. Another great night, giving OPA members a chance, yet again to socialize!

### Sunday, October 20

Brrrr...Sunday was a cold and windy day bringing only the bravest and heartiest artists out to the City Dock for the sunrise paint out. Kudos to all those artists who participated, showing their sheer determination and spirit!

By Sunday afternoon's opening reception, the weather had come around, making for a beautiful fall afternoon in Annapolis. The gallery was at capacity with plenty of visitors who just happened to stroll by during the opening. It was a real treat to hear Juror of Awards Nancy Howe OPAM announce the award winners and explain her choices as to why they received their awards. Always the consummate professional, Ms. Howe's thorough explanation of her selections was not only enlightening but very much appreciated by all of the artists and collectors present.

What a terrific way to end an amazing weekend.



Dana R. Malcolm won an Award of Excellence for "What Will Be"



"Final Chapter" by William A. Schneider OPA won an Award of Excellence





## JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By Nancy Howe OPAM



Thank you to all of the participating artists for the professionalism and dedication to your art that has resulted in your acceptance in this show and given me the opportunity to appreciate your art more fully as a juror. Thank you to OPA for their faith in selecting me as juror of awards---always a difficult task given the level of mastery of our members.

The most important technical aspect I look for in judging the success of a painting is the structure of a compelling composition. Other important qualities such as expressive brushwork, good draftsmanship, or skillful use of color or values may become secondary if we fail to hold it all together with strong composition and connect with the viewer. I also look for the painting to have something to say---about how the artist feels about the subject or a concept to communicate. It does not necessarily need to tell a story, but I want the artist to connect with me rather than to merely paint the facts of what he or she sees on the surface. I understand this may be difficult to define, but I think we can identify it intuitively and feel it when we see it.

If your work fails to receive an award today, it does not mean that your art was not a great success for you. It may represent your most accomplished painting to date. You may have discovered some new process or breakthrough from painting this piece, or you may have learned some difficult lesson that will serve you well in the future. Each of those aspects may have more long term value for you than acknowledgement of your effort by receiving an award today. Perhaps thoughtful comments from your peers, admirers, or a judge may also serve to affirm your success and inspire further creativity. It takes courage and vulnerability to expose yourself and your work to judgment. With risk, there is reward.

Although many of the paintings I have juried here may be very successful from a technical standpoint in the ways artists agree are important, I take special note of work that stands out as being distinctively the hand of a particular individual, rather than clearly reflecting another artist's style. We all incorporate into our paintings aspects we learn from other's work to strengthen our ability to communicate well. But we should be careful in selecting the subject matter, techniques, and styles that suit our personality and purpose and employ them in service of our own language or artistic voice. There is an opportunity for us to contribute something new to the continuum of art history and to inspire other artists-- the unique aesthetics of our work and the processes we use to arrive at our finished product. And if we concentrate our efforts by looking within, we may also be fortunate enough to experience the exciting journey of self-discovery that is available to us through our art. It is a privilege for us to be involved in this discovery.



Brandi A. Neighbors won an  
Award of Excellence for  
"Subtle Deception"



"Snow Tracks" by  
Tony Damico won an  
Award of Excellence



**MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE  
GOLD MEDAL WINNER  
CRAIG TENNANT OPAM**

I have been painting western subject matter for the last 20 years and even though I have enjoyed myself immensely the New York illustrator in me has wanted out for some time now. I noticed my lack of interest lately and found it hard to go into the studio for a day of painting. I attributed this new feeling to either old age or just boredom with the subject matter. Even though I am old, I decided to blame the subject matter.



Having a fascination with fast cars, motorcycles and machines of all kinds I decided to paint what was really in my heart, forgetting about income and sales. I have owned my share of race cars, motorcycles and street machines and pretty much know the people that enjoy these things too. Combining machines with interesting people in paintings seemed like an exciting prospect to me. So off I went, following my dream. All of a sudden I loved going down into the studio to paint. Problem solved. I knew I wasn't THAT old.

As I transition out of the hardcore western art paintings of my past there is a new excitement in me to paint and a freedom to paint anything that is interesting to me. I want to thank OPA for giving artists like myself a format that allows us to submit paintings that are different than the art work people are used to seeing from us. Sometimes we are swayed by what sells and what people want to see rather than what's in our heart. Can a motorcycle painting sell? I don't know .... but it can sure win awards. Thanks OPA for the encouragement I needed.



"Bearded Man" by Hai-Ou Hou  
won an Award of Excellence



An Award of Excellence was  
given to Jan Peng Wang OPA  
for "Tibet Girl"



Craig Tennant OPAM won the Gold Medal  
in the Master Signature Division  
for "Jim's Indian"

**REVISING YOUR ARTIST INFORMATION**

Please Note: When updating your membership information (address, phone #, etc.) you must change it on both the OPA membership database **AND** the Juried Art Services website. These two sites work independently of each other. Also, please confirm that the name that appears on the OPA site is *exactly the same* as that which appears on the Juried Art Services site.





## MEET THE ASSOCIATE/SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER MARY QIAN

Mary Qian was originally from Shanghai, China, where she went through the traditional Chinese educational system focusing on the sciences while studying Chinese painting and calligraphy on her own. Mary came to the United States and attended Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah where she earned her BFA in Fine Arts and Illustration in August 1998. She then worked in the field of animation until 2008 when she began painting fulltime. However, well before coming to the US, she admired the ancient Chinese painters but found her true voice for painting when she discovered the western artists. It was the realism of Rembrandt, Velazquez, Repin- her particular favorites- that she found to be the artistic style that she had been looking for.

To quote Ms. Qian "I feel my art is like an open diary. It records my life, and the life around me. My paintings are my preferred way to explain myself to the world. They speak of the things I don't know how to put into words.

Painting is a process and it connects me, my sitters and the viewers. It is a bridge between past and present.

I want to paint people, because people intrigue me, especially during the process of communication in silence.

I hope viewers will feel what I felt in the moments of painting. See what inspired me!"

**We are pleased that Mary will present a painting demonstration at the 2014 National Exhibition and Convention.**



Entertainment at the opening reception



Board Member John Michael Carter  
OPAM demonstrates his painting  
technique on the  
sidewalks of Annapolis



On Friday artists painted at the  
famous City Dock



Naval Academy



Chilly temperatures did not daunt our  
hearty artists from participating in  
Friday's paint out



# OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA EXHIBITION AND CONVENTION

## IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE THE ARTS!

Everyone is invited to attend OPA's 23rd National Exhibition & Convention opening week June 4 - 8, 2014, in Bennington, Vermont. Please join us for an stimulating week filled with presentations, painting demonstrations, and networking opportunities that will inspire your work and sharpen your skills! Advance registration cost for OPA members is *only* \$265.00.

## HIGHLIGHTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

### Painting Demonstrations by:

**Juror of Awards Charles Movalli OPAM**  
**Alan Wolton OPAM**  
**Zhiwei Tu OPAM**  
**Roger Dale Brown OPAM**

**Daniel J. Keyes**  
**Lori McNee**  
**Derek Penix**  
**Mary Qian**

### Presentations include:



Peter Trippi

#### **Road Trip with Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine's Editor-in-Chief, Peter Trippi**

Join us for a fun and informative day as we begin with a presentation by the ever gracious Peter Trippi, publisher of *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*. Mr. Trippi will discuss some of the highlights of the "American Art: Colonial Period through Mid-Twentieth Century" exhibition currently on display at the Williams College Museum of Art in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Immediately following his presentation at the Bennington Center for the Arts, attendees will board a bus for Williams College Museum of Art where there will be plenty of time to visit the exhibition and enjoy lunch in this quaint college town.



Kristen Thies

#### **"How To Present Your Most Professional Self-Inspiring Ideas to Help Take Your Art to the Next Level" with Kristen Thies, CEO, West Wind Fine Art**

Come learn what steps are essential to taking your career to the next level. As CEO and owner of West Wind Fine Art Gallery, Kristen Thies has had no equal in her ability to successfully manage the careers of some of today's most highly regarded artists, including the prodigious Richard Schmid, Nancy Guzik, Kathy Anderson, Judy Stach and Daniel Keys. Her bestselling book "Wisdom and the Dreamer: Achieving Fulfillment in the Arts," continues to garner wide acclaim, offering artists sage marketing insight and inspiration in the field of Fine Art.



Daniel J. Keyes

#### **"Fluidity and Color" presentation and painting demonstration with Daniel J. Keyes**

Upon noticing a glimpse of artistic talent in him at an early age, Daniel Keys was encouraged by his parents to pursue his passion, namely painting; and being entirely home educated, time permitted him to develop his skill as a self taught artist. He started painting at the age of eleven using a paint set purchased with birthday money. It was during these impressionable years that Daniel discovered the work of master artist Richard Schmid, and began emulating Schmid's style in his own paintings. Since that time Daniel has had opportunity to paint with his mentor, and Mr. Schmid has become a sort of art adviser to him. Daniel's work is now praised, and collected, by many prominent art enthusiasts from all around the country. Join him, as he discusses some of his work and demonstrates his extraordinary painting prowess.



## **“Brand Building & Art Marketing Secrets Using Social Media and Blogging” with Social Media Expert Lori McNee**

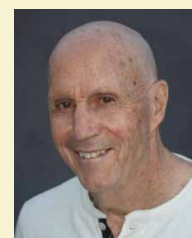
The buzzwords “branding” and “marketing” can be intimidating to many artists. OPA artist Lori McNee will explain the differences between these two necessary evils which are often used interchangeably and incorrectly. Learn the secrets of how these two business concepts work together with social media and blogging to build your art business. As the owner of FineArtTips.com, Lori blogs about fine art tips, marketing, and social media advice for the aspiring and professional artist. As a social media influencer, Lori ranks as one of the Top 100 Most Powerful Women on Twitter, has been featured in the Wall Street Journal and named a #TwitterPowerhouse by The Huffington Post.



Lori McNee

## **OPA Distinguished Artist: “Up Close and Personal” with Alan Wolton OPAM and Editor-in-Chief of *SW Art Magazine* Kristin Hoerth**

A brilliant artist and nuanced thinker, Master Signature artist Alan Wolton will share personal and professional accounts of his extraordinary art career with Kristin Hoerth, editor-in-chief of *SW Art Magazine*. Of himself he says, “I like my paintings to stop passers-by who had only by accident caught a glimpse of the picture. What they see should be breath-takingly different, delightfully fresh, something emotionally appetizing and a joy. A subconscious visual high spiked by a happy relationship of colors, tones, forms and cleanliness.”



Alan Wolton OPAM

## **“Breaking into the Field of Portraiture” - a panel discussion with William T. Chambers OPAM, John Michael Carter, OPAM, Qin Ming, and Portrait, Inc. Executive Partners Julia G. Baughman and Ruth Reeves**

Ever wonder about getting into the business of portrait painting? This high-powered panel will share their many years of combined experience to help you gain valuable insight into what it takes to be a portrait artist. Panelists include Julie Baughman and Ruth Reeves, Executive Partners of Portrait, Inc., considered the foremost authority on fine portraiture, William T. Chambers OPAM, John Michael Carter OPAM, and Qin Ming, all superb portrait artists in their own right, having been commissioned to paint some of the foremost names in the world of business, the arts, academia and society.

## ***American Art Collector Magazine*’s “Quintessential Vermont” Party**

Join us, as our friends at *American Art Collector Magazine* play host to an amazing evening of dinner and dancing at the historic Park-McCullough House, one of the finest, most significant Victorian Mansions in New England. Situated on 200 acres, this thirty-five room mansion and accompanying carriage house will serve as the backdrop for what has become one of the most highly anticipated events during our National Exhibition & Conference. For the fifth straight year, *American Art Collector Magazine* has sponsored this fun, fabulous evening that you will surely not want to miss!

## ***SW Art Magazine*’s Pampered Paint Out**

Yes, artists need and deserve a little pampering now and then too. Slow down, take a break and allow yourself the opportunity to take in your surroundings and revitalize your spirit. Join SW Art’s Kimberly Moore and *SW Art Magazine*’s Editor-In-Chief Kristin Hoerth for a day of painting with plenty of great food and time to socialize with fellow artists. Nestled on 20 acres of southwest Vermont farmland in the beautiful and serene Village of North Bennington, Taraden Bed & Breakfast is surrounded by spectacular views of Mt. Anthony, the Taconic Mountains and the stately Green Mountains. Taraden has become a well known artist’s retreat thanks to owners Nan and Bob Lowary whose passion for the arts has made this a popular destination for artists and art organizations from across the country.

## **Opening Reception & Awards Ceremony**

The Exhibition and Convention reaches its climax with the awards ceremony, where Juror of Award Charles Movalli OPAM will announce this year’s award winners.

For a complete schedule of events, speaker and seminar details and other registration information, please visit:  
[www.oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com).

## FALL, 2013 ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

With over 600 entries submitted to the Fall, 2013 On-Line Showcase, open to both Associate and Signature OPA members, Juror of Awards Greg Scheibel OPA found it difficult to select only 16 paintings to receive awards.

**Signature First Place:** James Crandall OPA for “Arriving at Work”

**Signature Second Place:** James Tennison OPA for “The Colonnade”

**Signature Third Place:** Kathryn Miller OPA for “Autumn Faire”

**Associate First Place:** Jeff Merrill for “Warmth on the Bay”

**Associate Second Place:** Bruce Petrie for “Companions”

**Associate Third Place:** Adam Clague for “Babysitters”

**Honorable Mentions:** Charles Young Walls for “Standing Nude”, David Riedel for “White Vase and Red Silk”, S. C. Mummert for “Threadin’ the Aspens”, Laurie Kersey for “Sunset on the Rocks”, Carla D’aguanno for “Bella”, Lori Putnam for “Snow Shadows”, Tim Perkins for “Persian Dragon”, Michelle Jung for “California Rolling Hills”, Robert Akers for “Mali Midwife” and Brent Cotton for “The Gametrail”.

The first On-Line Showcase of 2014 is currently under way. Entries are being accepted through May 15, 2014. This competition is open to Associate members only and may be entered by visiting the OPA website at: [www.oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com) and going to “Exhibitions” under Education and Events menu.



James Crandall OPA's Signature member award winning painting "Arriving at Work"



Jeff Merrill's Associate award winning entry "Warmth on the Bay"

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## MEET THE SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER JAMES CRANDALL OPA

A professional artist all of his adult life, James Crandall OPA worked as a concept illustrator in the advertising and entertainment industry for decades, but has now turned his full attention to easel painting.

At home in northern California and on travels in the southwest U.S. and Europe, he finds subject matter in everyday life, and is always looking for an intriguing play of light or the unstaged gestures of people at work or play.

An ongoing series of paintings depicts life in his maternal grandfather's hometown of Lucca in northern Tuscany. Living abroad for months at a time, he does sketches and collects reference for studio paintings to be done back in the States.

His work has earned him a growing reputation in the traditional market, with a wall of awards and almost routine inclusion in juried exhibitions. His recent solo show at the Lee Youngman Galleries in Calistoga, California saw a third of the paintings sold before the opening reception.

As well as being a member of OPA, he is an Artist Member of the California Art Club.







## MEET THE ASSOCIATE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER JEFF MERRILL

Jeff Merrill comes from the quiet solitude of Idaho and has always been sensitive to the beauty around him. After living in Spain for two years as a missionary he returned to study illustration at Brigham Young University. He worked as an illustrator for more than a decade before marrying and starting a family. In 2011, he completed an M.F.A in figure painting at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. There he was able to study with many inspirational teachers including Zhaoming

Wu, Baoping Chen, and Huihan Liu OPAM, among others. Although, his primary passion is the human figure, he loves plein air painting and its implicit challenges. "I paint outside to hone my skills, of simplifying shapes, perceiving color, and visual expression. It helps me focus in the studio and keep my eyes fresh." Jeff is currently a Professor of drawing and painting at BYU-Hawaii, where he lives with his wife and three children.

Of his process he states, "My primary focus in painting is founded in the principles and elements of design. I paint things because they move me but I strive to present them in a compelling and balanced way. Much of my motivation to paint comes from the inherent duality of the painting process. On one hand, it's incredibly abstract and disorganized, but on the other hand it has beautiful purpose and strength when it maintains its representational integrity. Working within these two forces creates a sort of reconciliation of opposites. It moves me to find solutions that satisfy my desire to balance these disparate elements. Beyond the technical processes of painting my ultimate goal is to express in visual terms something that isn't readily definable in words. This involves beauty and truth, introspection and observation, as well as our own mortality and eternal purpose."

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## THE SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA PAINT OUT

Hostess Phyllis Steimel said of the North Carolina Paint Out "The weather was perfect! We gathered first at the Waterworks Visual Arts Center for coffee and donuts. There, artists received information about places to paint with maps. We had the largest turnout we have had for one of our paint outs. We ended the day with a reception and display of our day's work at this site. Salisbury is a gem for artists, featuring restored historic sites and beautiful rural scenes."



North Carolina painters stand in front of the historic Dr. Josephus Hall House, a pre-Civil War mansion.

## The Beginning of Autumn

New instructional video by

Daniel F. Gerhartz



Painted on location in Wisconsin's cool autumn light, "The Beginning of Autumn" will be sure to inspire. Follow Daniel in his highly descriptive approach as he shares his thoughts in detail from start to finish in this Plein air painting. In each frame, you will see the subject Dan was viewing as well as synchronized palette shots that show his color mixtures throughout the painting.

[www.danielgerhartz.com](http://www.danielgerhartz.com)

## NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

With the 23rd national exhibition and convention a feature of this newsletter, it is a good time to remind OPA members that you are invited to attend the annual business meeting. It is held during the national convention so that as many members as possible may attend. Mark your calendars to attend the meeting on Sunday, June 8, at the Bennington Center for the Arts.

Part of the general meeting is the election of members to the Board of Directors. This year the following slate is submitted for election:

Kurt Anderson OPA

Suzie Baker

James Bruce OPA

William Chambers OPAM

Konrad Hack OPA

Above members' terms will expire in 2016.

In an effort to continually improve OPA, we will be sending a survey, via email, to all members in the next few months. Your response and return will be greatly appreciated.

Did you know? If you are 70½ or older, current tax legislation permits you to make gifts to your favorite charities by transferring up to \$100,000 of your IRA assets to qualified charities without increasing your taxable income. Such contributions must be made directly to the qualified charity. And, these gifts can apply to your minimum age-related required distribution. This information is provided as an educational service and is not intended as legal or tax advice. Consult with your tax, legal adviser or IRA administrator who can advise you and who can transfer your IRA donation

directly to OPA (EIN 36-3789172). If you have questions, please feel free to contact OPA director Jim Bruce at 405-607-7000.

OPA will be looking for a new Executive Board member to be added in the next few months. If you are interested in applying for the position, please send a resume to: [kbeligratis@oilpaintersofamerica.com](mailto:kbeligratis@oilpaintersofamerica.com).

We apologize for mis-spelling the name of one of our newest Signature members. In our Winter, 2013 edition we incorrectly spelled the name of Michele Usibelli OPA.

Remember that when entering information concerning the size of a painting in a competition, the measurements should be HEIGHT X WIDTH. Also, photos should be of UNFRAMED paintings.

## THE SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS PAINT OUT

The Texas OPA Paint Out in San Antonio Texas was attended by numerous members as well as local plein air painters. To quote hostess Charlotte Cox "one of the things I love about San Antonio is that if you mention plein air I know artists will come out of their homes to enjoy the companionship of like minded artists. The first day was cold but artists came and painted San Jose Mission along the Mission Trail. Some artists that had not been to this particular mission fell in love and stayed the entire 3 day paint out while others ventured to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens to paint the various Texas landscapes that can be found in one location. The Greenhouse Gallery was so receptive, throwing a small reception on our behalf and hanging all the great artwork in the main gallery. It was wonderful and very special to see all the great works of art hanging together at the end of the event. What a lovely time in San Antonio meeting new friends."



Artists from the San Antonio, TX paint out gather at the Greenhouse Gallery reception

One site to paint was the Mission Espada





## PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

**Daniel Mark Cassity** has been invited to participate in "American Still Lives" - a museum exhibition produced by David Wagner, at the RW Norton Museum of Shreveport, LA. The exhibition is intended to travel after being displayed at the museum.

**Teresa Cowley's** painting, "Angela in Profile", was accepted into the National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society, Online International Fall Exhibition 2013.

**Michael Chesley Johnson** is owned an apology by OPA. We incorrectly elevated him to the status of Signature member when reporting his news in the Winter, 2013 edition of Brushstrokes. We apologize for this mis-information.

**Tricia Kaman's** artwork won a Merchant Award at the California Art League show, in Pasadena, CA and an Honorable Mention at the Arts and Design Society, 22nd Juried Southeast Regional, at Northwest Florida State College, Niceville, FL. She was also juried into many exhibitions in January

and February. Lastly, two of Tricia's images, are currently on loan to the Ohio's Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden in Bexley, OH.

**Barron Postmus** received top honors at The American Plains Artists Annual Juried Exhibition and Sale at the Kerr Arts and Cultural Center in Kerrville, TX. The same piece also was given the Plains Sky award and the ribbon for the Golden Spur (Artists' Choice). Additionally, Mr. Postmus has been selected to be the featured artist at this year's Cattlemen's Western Art Show and Sale in Paso Robles, CA.

**Monique Sakellarios, OPA** is having a solo exhibit at the Whistler House Museum of Art in Lowell, MA. The show will run from February 19th through March 29th, 2014. The exhibit will include forty new paintings by Monique.

**Betty Schmidt** has been juried into the 2014 National Juried Exhibition "Women's Work" by the Northwest Area Arts Council in Illinois.

**Jo Sherwood's** exhibit "The Best of Burros" will be hosted by the Santa Fe Art Collector Gallery in Santa Fe, NM. This collection is dedicated to Sherwood's late husband, Peter, of almost 49 years, who faithfully carried her easel around the world, helping her capture these benevolent burro cameos.

**Carol E. Swinney OPA** won the *Plein Air Magazine* Juror's Choice Award in "American Parks II Through the Beauty of Art" inaugural display. A second painting won an Honorable Mention. Carol's work is also included in the book *Art of the National Parks, Historic Connections, Contemporary Interpretations*. Carol was honored as Featured Artist at the Empire Ranch Foundation's annual "Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale".

**David Tanner** was chosen as a finalist in the January, 2014 RayMar Art Painting Competition and was also selected as part of the "FAV 15%" (jury's favorite 15% of the entries) in the January, 2014 Bold-Brush painting competition.

### THE MARCELINE, MISSOURI PAINT OUT

The Marceline, Missouri paint out was hosted by Darrell Gardner and held on Saturday, September 7. Being the boyhood home of Walt Disney, Marceline area offered many opportunities for the day's painting, included the Disney barn, dreaming tree and muse-



um, local farms and the beautiful Green Hills of north Missouri, though most artists opted to paint in-town scenes. The day's weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed themselves so much that plans are already underway for the 2014 paint out.

Standing in front of the NOMO Art Center in Marceline, MO: Ruth Smoot, Adam Smoot, Gloria Gaus, Mary Gibson, Kaj Lofgreen, Gloria Gooch, Stephen Rust, Nora Othic, Debra Payne, Colette Brumbaugh, Amanda Murray, Nyle Gordon, Adam Clague, Andrea Clague, Peggy Wilson, and Richard Johnson is kneeling. Taking this photo was host Darrell Gardner.

## THE CINCINNATI, OHIO PAINT OUT



Artists gather for a group picture

On Saturday October 5th and 12th, 2013, over 40 artists gathered for OPA's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual "Great Paint Out" held in Eden Park, one of Cincinnati, Ohio's most beautiful parks and home to the nearby Cincinnati Art Club. The day of painting originally planned for October 5<sup>th</sup> was so successful, the paint out was extended to include the rain date of October 12th. An opening reception for all of the participating artists and their works was held at the Cincinnati Art Club's Wessel Gallery with live Celtic music, compliments of the Silver Arm Band. Both OPA and CAC members came together and not only painted and exhibited together, but also educated the general public about art and plein air painting, in the end, producing a strong unity as one. The participants look forward to this being an annual event, thanks to OPA in making that possible. Todd Channer hosted this event.



Participants showing off their paintings at the Cincinnati Art Club Presidents Lounge

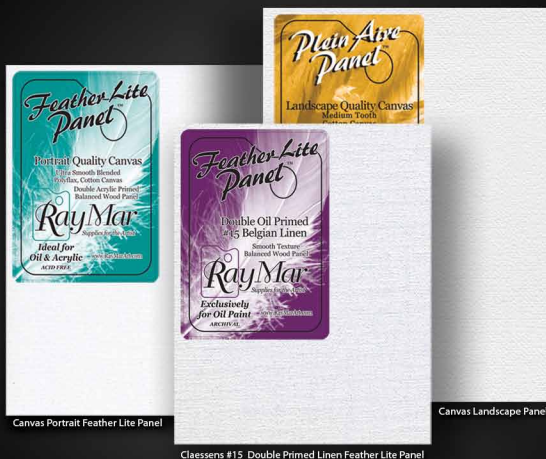


Decorations at the reception were attractive and innovative



The Ohio scenery was breathtaking

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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

September 1 – Deadline for submission for 2014 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

October 15 – Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is having been juried into three OPA National Exhibitions or two National Exhibitions and three regional and/or salon shows. (Regionals/salons must be within the last 5 years.)

December 1 – Deadline for submission for 2014 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship.

### **NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS**

Twenty-third Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention - Bennington Center for the Arts, Bennington, Vermont - Educational events and awards ceremony: June 4 - June 8, 2014, Exhibition: June 7 - July 27, 2014  
Juror of Awards: Charles Movalli OPAM

### **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 - Juror of Awards: Carolyn Lewis OPA - Canvas size not to exceed 1200 square inches

### **ON-LINE SHOWCASES**

March 1 - May 15 - open to Associate members only

June 1 - August 15 - open to Associate members only

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

### **MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBER EXHIBITION**

2014 First Master Signature Only Exhibition - Mountainsong Galleries, Carmel, CA - July 25 - August 24

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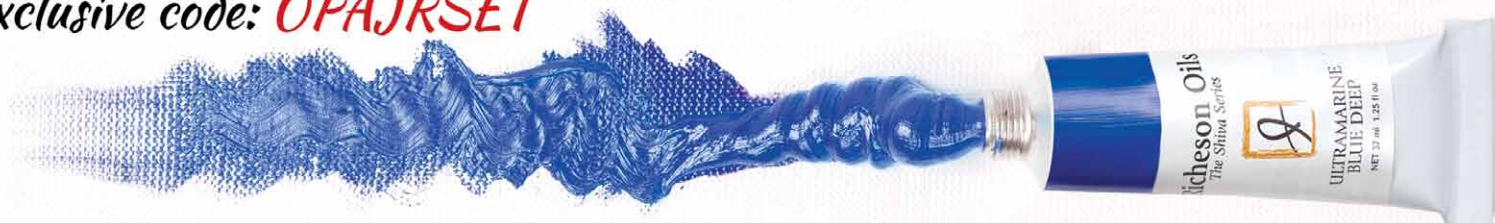
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