



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 25 issue 3

FALL
2015

Brushstrokes

WESTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION AN IMPRESSIVE PRESENTATION

The 2015 Western Regional Exhibition was held in the fun and friendly city of Steamboat Springs, Colorado and hosted by the very inviting Wild Horse Gallery. Owners Shirley Stocks and Richard Galusha, assisted by their exceedingly competent staff, presented an attractively hung display of the entries in the western show. It was no easy task for Juror of Awards Johanna Harmon OPA to make her decisions.

Those lucky enough to get to Steamboat Springs early had the opportunity to attend a free concert by Ziggy Marley, as well as see a rodeo, go river rafting or even do a little zip lining. Steamboat Springs was the perfect location for an exhibition in August.

The activities began with plein air painting, some artists choosing to paint the city's Yampa River while others drove to beautiful Fish Creek Falls, the site of the Coors Beer waterfall. Though the sky was overcast everyone said they had fun and enjoyed the outing. The painting was followed by an informal critique session, conducted by OPA Vice President John Michael Carter



John Richardson won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division for his painting "Pushing Strays"

OPAM and President Ken Cadwalader OPA. Carter noted that there was a lot of talent displayed in the artwork created in just a few hours. He encouraged all and thanked everyone for participating.

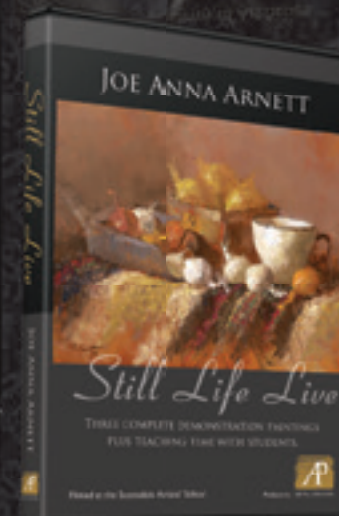
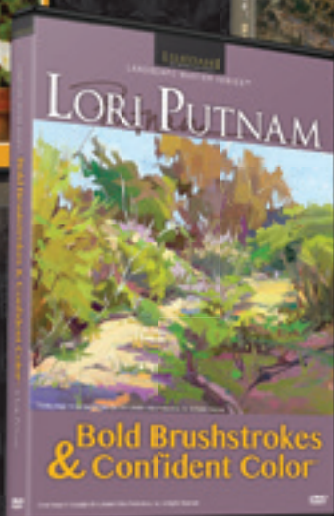
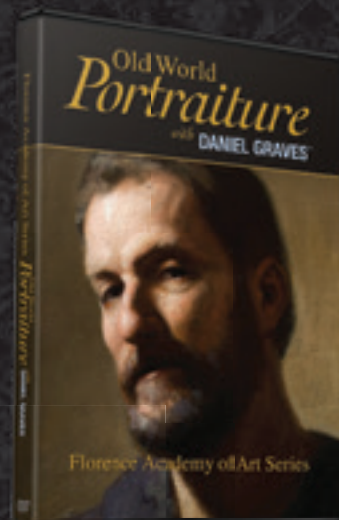
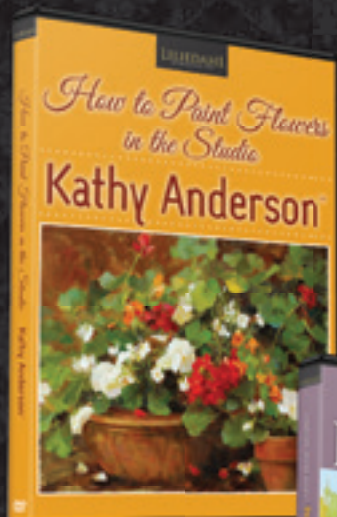
Many artists, residents and visitors attended the Friday night opening reception held during the First Friday Art Walk. One could hardly move during the awards presentation due to the packed gallery. Juror of Awards Johanna Harmon OPA announced the names of the artists who won awards and briefly reviewed why she made her decisions. It was gratifying that a large number of the winners were in attendance to receive their awards and recognition.

Saturday morning began with a painting demonstration by Juror of Awards Johanna Harmon OPA, who did a portrait of a member of the Wild Horse Gallery staff. Johanna's descriptive presentation was informative and insightful as to how she creates one of her works. The demo was followed by an artists' luncheon at one of the local restaurants. Later in the afternoon members were invited to visit and tour the Steamboat Art Museum and learn about the museum's history and future plans for its expansion. Western artist John Fawcett was there to meet and speak

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Western Regional Show can't.

with visitors about his work and his background leading up to becoming an artist. On Saturday evening members and guests again met to eat, this time at the tasty Cantina Steamboat Restaurant where a good time was had by all.

A list of the award winners follows:

Gold Medal: John Richardson for "Pushing Strays" - \$4,000 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: David Dibble for "Monterey Pier" - award valued at \$3,100 funded by *American Art Collector Magazine*

Bronze Medal: Andrew Lu for "Under the Tibetan Sun" - award valued at \$2,000 funded by *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*

Award of Excellence: Sheri Farabaugh for "Green Lips" - \$1,000 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Elizabeth Robbins OPA "Sunflowers and Jade" - \$1,000 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Brian Slawson OPA for "Ghost Tour" - \$500 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Tim Deibler OPA for "Evening in Questa" - \$500 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Dave Santillanes OPA for "Lake of Glass (Study)" - \$500 funded by OPA

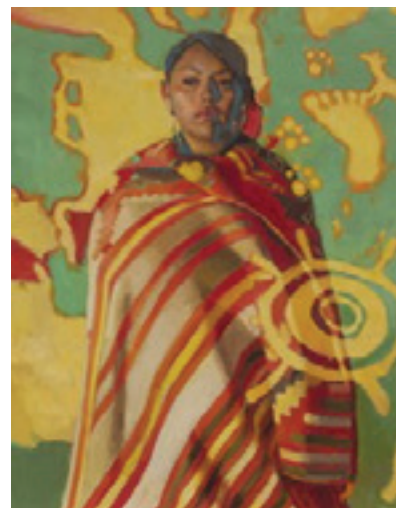
Award of Excellence: Ray Roberts for "Desert Vision"- \$500 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Carol Jenkins for "A Perfect Spot"- \$250 funded by Trekell & Company

Gold Medal – Master Signature Division: John Michael Carter OPAM for "January Morning" - \$4,500 funded by OPA.



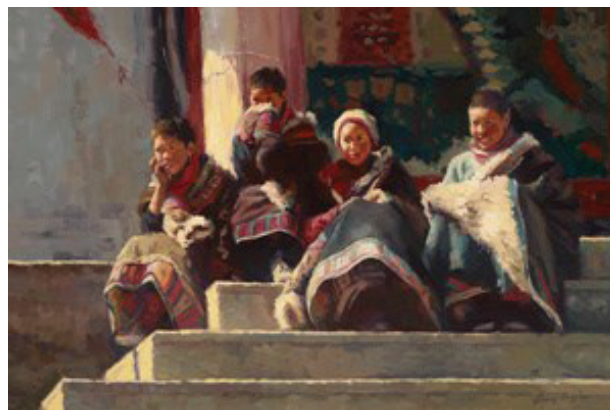
The warm and inviting Wild Horse Gallery



An Award of Excellence was given to Ray Roberts for "Desert Vision"



David Dibble won the Silver Medal for "Monterey Pier"



The Bronze Medal was awarded to Andrew Lu for "Under the Tibetan Sun"

DON'T MISS THE DATE

It will soon be time to renew your membership in Oil Painters of America, for the 2016 calendar year. To ensure that you will be included in the 2016 national exhibition catalog, payments **MUST** be received no later than January 31, 2016. Payments received after that date will be accepted, but your name will not appear in the catalog as a paid member. You will receive your renewal information in the mail soon.



JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By Johanna Harmon OPA

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Oil Painters of America (OPA) for the honor and privilege to serve as Juror of Awards for this year's Western Regional Exhibition and to everyone at Wild Horse Gallery in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for their hospitality in hosting the show.

Before stepping into the gallery, I knew being a juror would be a difficult and tremendous responsibility requiring objective observation of each painting. This sentiment was only amplified after experiencing the beautifully displayed exhibition of works waiting for review.

As a juror, maintaining genuine objectivity and eliminating personal bias, is always my first priority. I adhere to a criteria of grading each visual element when determining awards. Such principle components consist of overall design, a defined visual concept, draftsmanship, use of shapes, values, color harmony, edges, paint quality, and conveyance of feeling; regardless of subject matter, style, and frame choice. It was fascinating to experience the arrangement of placement as results for each element were determined. In reality, there were more great works of art than awards available to celebrate their achievements.

I applaud the dedication and vision that inspired all of the outstanding art that was accepted into the exhibition, the award recipients and the commitment of OPA for providing opportunities to expand artistic insight and growth towards creating exceptional works of traditional and representational art.



Sheri Farabaugh's "Green Lips" won an Award of Excellence



"Sunflowers and Jade" by Elizabeth Robbins OPA won an Award of Excellence

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MEET THE ASSOCIATE & SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER JOHNE RICHARDSON

As an artist, I have a great passion for the outdoors, and a great affection for cowboys, and the western landscape. I look for interesting stories, and compelling visual drama, and try to speak to what moves me, emotionally, on the surface of my paintings. I don't feel the need, creatively, to add intellectual content in creating a dialog with the viewer- the subject inherently having interest, and substance, all on its own.

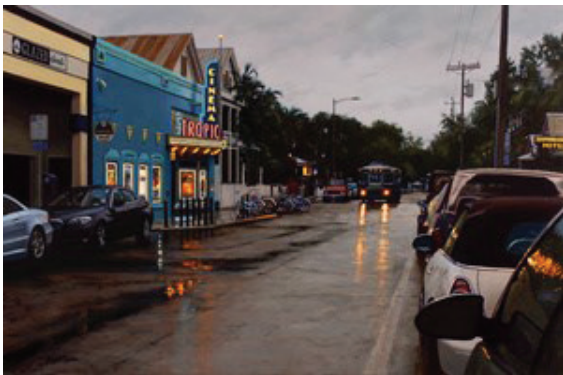
My figures tend to be presented large, and up close, to create an inescapable intimacy, and expression of character, or at a distance, to reflect the human scale within the enormity of the wide-open landscape.

Occasionally a steer wanders by, and I'll become entranced with the play of light on horns, or a fierce posture, or expression. And the elusive, curving brim of a cowboy hat, as it moves and changes in the light, is perhaps the most captivating and challenging subject I've ever encountered.

I get emotionally involved with my subject, whether it's a figure, or a landscape. When I paint, I try to tell the story of what moved me, and with the same energy and passion with which I absorbed the image initially. It could be the gesture, the color, the surface patina, the light... but mostly, it's the light."

Johne is a native of Kansas, with a love of the prairie, and other wide-open spaces. He has painted for more than thirty-five years, most of that in watercolor. He fell into oil painting comparatively recently, and when he got himself cleaned up (which he discovered was quite a bit more of a job than with watercolor) he realized it was a medium he could be content with, and for quite some time.

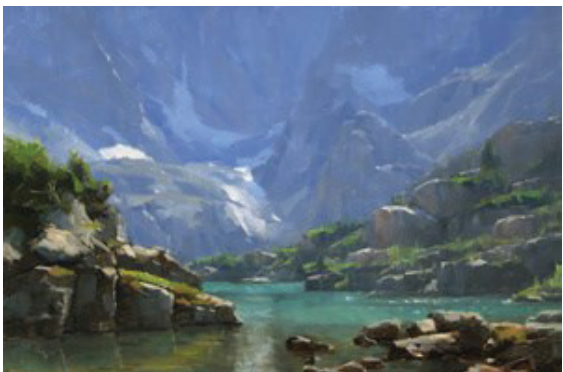
Johne lives in Overland Park, KS with his wife Janet. They have three mostly grown children, and any number of cats and dogs.



Brian Slawson OPA won an Award of Excellence for his painting "Ghost Tour"



Juror of Awards Johanna Harmon OPA describes her painting technique during the Saturday morning demo



An Award of Excellence was given to Dave Santillanes OPA for his painting "Lake of Glass (Study)"



Chula Beauregard chose a location along the Yampa River for her plein air painting





MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER JOHN MICHAEL CARTER OPAM

John Michael Carter OPAM attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago and received a B.F.A. from the Art Center College of Design. John Michael has taught at Scottsdale Artist School and Dallas Artist League as well as the Arts Club of Cincinnati. He is the winner of the First Place and the Artist's Choice Award at the 2002 American Society of Portrait Artists' International Portrait competition, 2003 Artist's Magazine Award at the OPA National Exhibition, Best of Show at the OPA 2004 National Exhibition, 2007 Best of Show at the IHA Exhibition, American Art Collector Award for Figurative Art at the 2012 Scottsdale Salon, Best of Show at the 2012 Hoosier Salon as well as many others.

Mr. Carter's portraits include governors, senators and university presidents as well as corporate and civic leaders. His paintings hang in the collections of Phillips Petroleum Corporation, J.B. Speed Art Museum, the McDonald's Museum, the Patton Museum, the State Capital Museum, the governor's mansion, Frankfort, KY and in many other corporate collections.



John Michael Carter OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Masters Signature Division for "January Morning"

"A Perfect Spot" by Carol Jenkins won an Award of Excellence



An Award of Excellence was given to Tim Deibler OPA for "Evening in Questa"

ALL ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

Each year OPA awards four scholarships to applicants who would like to attend a workshop or class in representational oil painting. Three of the scholarships are awarded to active, Associate members and one is awarded to a full or part-time student currently enrolled in art school. Prior recipients may apply again. Applications are due by December 1. For complete details and an application please go to the OPA website and click on "Scholarships" under the "Education & Events" Menu.



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CHULA BEAUREGARD, RECIPIENT OF SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, RECAPS HER ADVENTURE

I am happy to report that my workshops were a complete success. For starters, I had the opportunity to learn from two people, due to the generous amount of money OPA granted for the Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship. Here is a synopsis of my experiences:

1. Jill Carver in Santa Fe, NM through the New Mexico Plein Air Painters - During Jill Carver's three-day workshop, we covered a great amount of material. Jill condensed her 5/7-day intensive workshop "Deconstructing the Landscape" to get the most out of our time with her. Her intentional and clear instruction illuminated many concepts of landscape painting. We had the privilege of painting at El Rancho de las Golondrinas two days in a row. Painting alongside the seasoned NMPAP members was also a joy and a pleasure. Overall, the workshop was rich with insight, and it was a ton of fun!

2. Lorenzo Chavez in Steamboat Springs, CO through the Steamboat Art Museum - Using some of the leftover funds from the first workshop, I was able to attend Lorenzo Chavez's workshop. It was a pleasure to get to know such a kind and talented person. We studied in many different places throughout Routt County, including a private 300-acre ranch at the base of the Zirkel Wilderness Area. Lorenzo walked us through the plein-air process, from the first impressions of a place to the finishing touches. I look forward to painting with him again!

Thank you for the generous scholarship. I have gained so much from these workshops, and I appreciate your support for my budding art career.



SUMMER 2015 ASSOCIATE ONLINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED



Marci Oleszkiewicz won the
First Place Award
for "Finding Her Name"

Once again the Online Showcase received many outstanding entries, spanning a wide variety of subjects and styles. We thank Juror of Awards Kathy Anderson OPA for her time and effort in jurying these entries in the 2015 summer competition. We also thank Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation for their continued support of this fun and well accepted competition.

Associate Winners

Gold: Marci Oleszkiewicz for "Finding Her Name"

Silver: Zimou Tan for "Grandma"

Bronze: Lori Putnam for "Spent Shells"

Honorable Mentions: Frankie Johnson for "Time for Wine", Stephen Frisk for "Marimba Player", Lisa Fricker for "Pool Fractal", David Riedel for "High Pasture", Lisa Eastman for "Blue Moon Fireflies", Wyatt LeGrand for "Accumulate", Jon

Tocchini for "Butter Knows Better", Anna Bain for "New Discoveries", Bibbi Anderson for "Some Enchanted Evening" and Robert Silverman for "Now What?".

The Fall, 2015 On-Line Showcase is accepting entries now through December 15. This competition is open to Signature members as well as Associate members, with separate awards being given in each division. To enter, visit the OPA website at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com and go to "Exhibitions" under "Education and Events" menu.



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Scottsdale Artists' School is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing the capabilities of artists and aspiring artists of all ages by teaching the applied fundamentals of fine art.

Artist Credit: Susan Lyon

Upcoming workshop with Susan Lyons at Scottsdale Artists' School
Painting the Costumed Model in a Scene - January 25-28, 2016



MEET THE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER MARCI OLESZKIEWICZ

Marci Oleszkiewicz grew up in the city of Chicago in a family of four. Her mother home schooled all four children where each child's gifts were nurtured and encouraged. Marci's father was a carpenter and there wasn't a moment when he was not renovating or working on some project for their home. Looking back Marci attributes much of her creativity to seeing her father always working on something, creating something out of nothing. "My dad would say 'See Marci if you work at something little by little you will see your idea come about'. Seeing my Dad's work ethic and learning from my Mom the value of self-discipline as a home schooler, I believe gave me some of the foundational tools I would need later in life to succeed as an artist."



Marci's passion for art was inspired at a young age. As a child, she remembers sitting at her little desk making pictures. "It seemed I often communicated visually. Whether it was in a Christmas card to family or a personal journal entry, there was always a drawing to be found. I remember imagining my little creations coming alive as I made the final touches."

Although she has been studying art and painting for some time, it wasn't until 2007 when things started to move forward and she began to see what the future might hold for her as an artist. Upon entering several art competitions Marci was not only accepted in two of the top shows, the Oil Painters of America's National Exhibition and the American Impressionist Society's national show, but also received very substantial awards from both; an award of excellence from the OPA and the best of show award from the AIS. Not long after, she was included in *Southwest Art Magazine's* "21 Under 31" and had her first show at Gallery Russia in Scottsdale, AZ. "Receiving so many incredible honors, one after another, really encouraged and pushed me into becoming a full time painter." Since then Marci has continued to paint full time, focusing on her annual show at Gallery Russia. "I am always so encouraged to hear the response from my collectors every year, how they connect and are so touched by what I paint. It is my goal as an artist to do just that, to create works that resonate with the hearts of others, to speak clearly and deeply to the innermost being. To capture moments of life on canvas that convey beauty, joy, love and truth. I've heard it said if you paint from your heart you will speak to the hearts of your viewers, and that is my desire."

"The Lord has blessed me with this passion for art and I am delighted to be able to share with you the beauty and wonder I see in this created world."

BARBARA CARTER'S DEMONSTRATION AND LECTURE AT 2015 NATIONAL EXHIBITION BOTH INFORMATIVE AND IMPRESSIVE

The following article was written by Susan Blackwood OPA after attending Barbara Carter's seminar on fixing gold leaf and gold metal frames.

Walking into the lecture hall to see Barbara Carter's demo, I was immediately impressed by the long 20 foot table. Like a science lab, her table displayed various beautiful frames, sadly nicked and dinged and needing repair. Bottles and contain-

ers lined the edges filled with ingredients all necessary for fixing the problem scars. Barbara was wrapped in a lab apron ready to work her magic for us.

We all have damaged frames in our studios or shipped home to us from a show or gallery. They are sorry and so are we . . . especially if it is a gold leaf or gold metal frame. What do we do now with this expensive invest-

ment (frame) that no longer adds to the look and quality of our cherished painting???

Barbara to the rescue! As she glided from one frame to the next she showed us, right before our very eyes, how to patch any ding, nick or scratch. With the experience of years (Barbara was a gold leaf artist and for years, sold exquisite custom gold and metal frames to many of us

Carter Demo con't.

all over the USA.). She expertly described why some formulas work and some formulas fail. She gave us many recipes and told us where to get the supplies. As ingredients, rabbit glue didn't surprise me, but mica powder, gelatins and calcium carbonate did! She showed us how to apply the formulas, what tools to use and when to

touch or not touch and how long to wait before doing the next steps.

Barbara's outstanding lecture and demonstration is one of the many reasons that I love coming to the OPA conventions! Our organization is filled with brilliant people in many walks of life. Barbara is one of these people. We come to gather together and hear, not just about

art, but the many other aspects of art besides how to "hold the brush in our hand".

Thank you Oil Painters of America for inviting Barbara Carter to present this much needed information. Most of all, thank you Barbara for a terrific presentation!

PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Suzie Baker was featured in the July/August 2015 edition of *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine* as one of their "Three to Watch".

Linda Demers was invited to show 5 paintings in the Celebrating the Farm Exhibition in Lexington, MA at the Francesca Anderson Gallery Sept 12-Oct 24. She has also been invited back to participate in the 31st Almost

Miniature Show which runs Nov 3 -Jan16.

Elayne Kuehler had "Calla Lilies" juried into the International Guild of Realism's 10th Annual International Juried Exhibition at the Principle Gallery in Alexandria, VA. The exhibition ran through September 18, 2015.

Lee Mitchelson's painting of the wild horses of Nevada, "Family Ties: The American Mustang" is part of the invitational exhibit "Facing the Wind - Wild Horses and Burros on our Public Lands" which began October 15, 2015 and ends March 15, 2016. This is a traveling exhibit with four venues. October through March it is being hosted by Denver International Airport. The exhibit,

curated by Michael Gombeleski of Wind Dancer Foundation, is to enhance public awareness of the plight of America's imperiled wild equines.

Dave Santillanes OPA held a solo exhibition of his landscape art at Abend Gallery, in Denver, CO in September.

Craig Srebnik OPA was awarded Best of Show at the Emerald Arts Center National Juried Exhibition for his street scene painting, "Periwinkle Evening, Paris", in May at the Arts Center in Springfield, Oregon.

Bill Suys OPA was honored to have been selected to paint the Official State Portrait of past Wisconsin governor Scott McCallum. With the unveiling on June 8th. Bill is also happy to announce that he again is a dual finalist in the ARC Salon. He was a dual finalist in 2013 and a finalist in 2012.



Thank You OPA community, for your amazing support of the *Cold and Clear Well Project* and showcase piece "Pure Religion Is This"!

Stop by my updated website for news, partnering and to view new available works for the cause.

www.JonathanStasko.com

EAST BOOTHBAY, MAINE PAINT OUT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

Host Corinne McIntyre said “it was a glorious day here at Ocean Point in East Boothbay. There were 49 Happy Painters painting at the OPA Great Paint Out. At the end of the day, Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor hosted a show for us.”



FRONT ROW: Laurie Proctor Lefebvre, Suzanne Savage Brewer, Ed Buonvecchio, Erin McGee Ferrell, Hai-Ou Hou, Olena Babak, Judith McKenna, Liliana Thelander, Ellie Boyd, Ted Charron, Diane Dubreuil. SECOND ROW: Carole Palmer, Roberta Goschke, Bob Grant, Gail Morrison, Barbara Aras, Peter Yesis, Corinne McIntyre, John Caggiano, Livy Glaubitz, Sarah Greenier, Claudette Gamage, Penny Markley, Ruth Calder, Lisa LaMer, John Seitzer. THIRD ROW: Stephan Giannini, Diane Randlett, Ken Carlson, Tom Whittle, Suzanne Marinell, Luise Van Keuren, Mark Kelvin Horton, Andre Lucero, Bobbi Heath, Bruce Newman, Tom Greenier, Sally Smith, Oskar Thorarensen, Bruce McMillan, George Van Hook, Brad Betts

Generations of Craftsmanship



1903 Georges Senelar and Jean Sidler created the company in northern France.

1912 France enters WWI and Senelar endures difficulties due to lack of raw materials and factory artisans.

1931 Senelar innovates a formula for the composition and application for ornamentation on frames, which is still used today.

1938 Georges Senelar is called to serve in WWII. German occupation causes problems for the factory, yet they continue through the war.

1997 Senelar and Larson-Juhl joined forces.

2007 Larson-Juhl Senelar created one of the largest frames in the world, 21 feet wide, by 13 feet high for the home of artist Paul Cezanne.



2008 Christina Lacroix selects fifty Senelar water gilded frames for the renovation of the Architecture and Heritage Museum. Larson-Juhl Senelar receives the certificate “Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant,” which honors companies that keep the heritage of artisanal craftsmanship alive today.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 – Deadline for submission for 2015 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-fifth Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention - Southwest Gallery in Dallas, Texas
May 13 - June 15, 2016

Juror of Awards: Kevin Macpherson OPAM - Canvas size unlimited

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

2016 Western Regional - details not yet finalized

2016 Eastern Regional - details not yet finalized

ON-LINE SHOWCASES

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

OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA
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