



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

Brushstrokes

volume 25 issue 2

SPRING
2015

2014 EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION A STELLAR EVENT

When thinking of the most vibrant art communities in the country, Cincinnati, Ohio is probably not one that comes immediately to mind. Surprisingly though, Cincinnati is just that! It's rich in culture with an exciting, close-knit art community that draws its talent from a large metropolitan area spanning 3 states: Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. Artists from the area already know that Cincinnati is a wonderful place to live and work, but for the rest of us it took a visit to Cincinnati last fall during OPA's Eastern Regional Exhibition to truly appreciate what all the fuss was about.



Carol Reesor won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division for her painting "Little River at Townsend"

Held at the beautiful Eisele Gallery, OPA's Eastern Regional Exhibition was displayed in one of Cincinnati's oldest fine art galleries. Originally

built as a home for Joseph Ferris, a prominent member of the community, the stately home, built between 1807 and 1817, still retains its old world charm and elegance.

Over the years, owners Doug and Terry Eisele have built a successful business specializing in original paintings by noted 18th, 19th and 20th century American and European artists, as well as today's nationally recognized artists. In addition, they have earned high marks for their art restoration and conservation work, art evaluations and insurance appraisals, as well as a number of other art related services.

CONTENTS

Eastern Show	1
Juror of Awards Statement.	4
Meet the Master Sig. Winner	5
Meet the Assoc/Sig. Winner	6
Online Showcase Winners	11
Notes From Your Board	13
Dates to Remember	15

If you have not paid your 2015 dues, this is your final issue of the *Brushstrokes*!

Not sure if you've paid for 2015? Follow these steps to find out:

Go to the OPA website: oilpaintersofamerica.com

Go to Member Services on menu bar at top

Go to Member Log In

Enter Primary E-mail address + Password, Click Enter

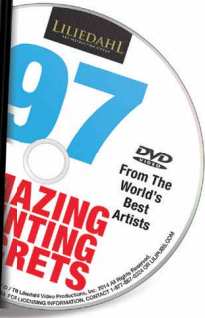
Go to My Information on menu bar at top

Go to Edit/View Info (middle of page)

Review Member Info Join Date (middle of page) and check Expire Date

LILIEDAHL™

ART INSTRUCTION VIDEOS™



Did you get yours yet?

Learn from Liliedahl's BEST
in over two hours of the most valuable segments
from our top-selling art instruction videos
—a \$97 value—yours FREE!*

Claim yours while they last at

www.FreeArtDVD.com

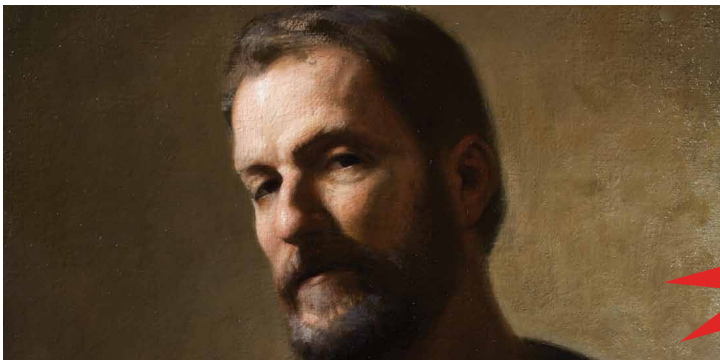
*plus S&H or **view online free**



Kathy Anderson "How to Paint Flowers in the Studio"

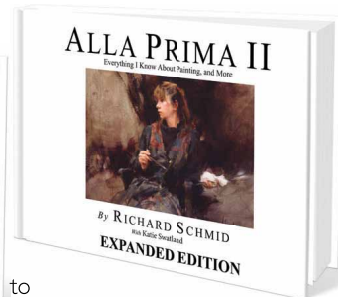
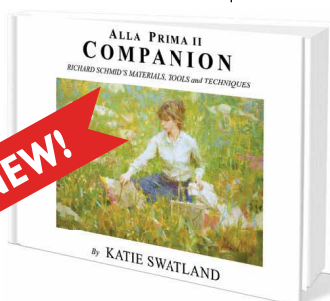


Lori Putnam "Bold Brushstrokes & Confident Color"



Daniel Graves "Old World Portraiture"

"Alla Prima II Companion"



to
Richard Schmid's
"Alla Prima II"



Lynn Gertenbach

"The One Hour Plein Air Landscape"

New DIGITAL DOWNLOADS Available! Save money with no shipping costs!

1-877-867-0324

LiliArtVideo.com

Eastern Show con't.

Our Eastern Regional Juror of Awards was Ohio resident and OPA Signature member Carolyn Lewis. Through hard work and determination, Carolyn has achieved a very successful art career receiving many awards and accolades along the way. Her easy-going, approachable style and wonderful sense of humor have made her a favorite among artists. Attendees were delighted to watch her painting demonstration during which she offered great advice for both the novice and professional artist alike.

The opening reception was a full house, with collectors and art lovers taking in the elegant ambiance that truly showcased each painting beautifully. The evening's Associate/Signature Gold Medal winner, Carol Reesor, was extremely surprised by her good fortune as Ms. Lewis explained to the crowd what made Ms. Reesor's painting "Little River at Townsend" stand out. Master Signature artist C.W. Mundy was the

Gold Medal winner in the Master Signature division for his exquisite painting "Camden Harbor, Foggy Morning".

Congratulations to all of the artists who participated in the Eastern Regional Exhibition! Below is a complete list of the award winners:

MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: C.W. Mundy OPAM
for "Camden Harbor, Foggy Morning"
\$3,500 funded by OPA

ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Carol Reesor
for "Little River at Townsend"
\$4,000 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: Mary Qian
for "Erin"
award valued at \$3,100 funded by
American Art Collector Magazine

Bronze Medal: Karla M. Mann
for "Maasi Madian"
award valued at \$2,000 funded by
Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Mark A. Boedges
for "Spring Time"
\$1,000 funded by OPA

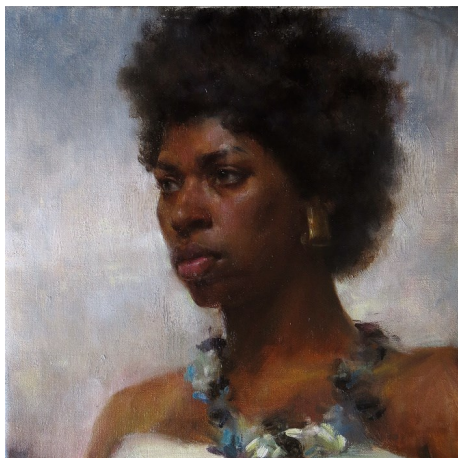
Christopher Z. Zhang OP
for "Two Tibetans in the Sun"
\$1,000 funded by OPA

Hodges Soileau OPA
for "Lady in Red"
\$500 funded by OPA

Marc Chatov
for "Grape Picker"
\$500 funded by OPA

Rob Rey
for "Fallen Seeds"
award valued at \$500 funded by
Larson-Juhl Custom Framing

Patricia Bellerose
for "The Sound of Jazz"
\$250 funded by PlazaArt.com.



The Silver Medal was awarded to Mary Qian for "Erin"



Mark A. Boedges won an Award of Excellence for his painting "Spring Time"



"Maasi Madian"
by Karla M. Mann
won the Bronze Medal



JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By Carolyn Lewis OPA

I was honored for the opportunity to be the Juror of Awards for the 2014 Eastern Regional Juried Exhibition held at the beautiful Eisele Gallery of Fine Art in Cincinnati, Ohio. I would like to thank the Oil Painters of America, especially Kathryn Beligratis and Ken Cadwallader OPA for all their help in making my husband's and my stay a very comfortable and enjoyable one. We met so many wonderful people during our visit. Thank you to all those involved for their hard work in selecting and organizing this prestigious exhibition. And also, I would like to thank the Eisele Gallery for their hospitality and the exceptional attention given to every detail. Most

of all, I would like to commend all the artists for participating in this exhibition by creating high caliber artwork you can be proud of. It made for a very difficult job in selecting the award winners.

It was nice to see so many works from accomplished and experienced artists, showing a wide range of diversity of styles. The quality of the work really impressed me and I spent many hours deliberating just how to give so few awards to so many deserving artists. I could have easily given another set of awards. I asked myself a number of questions as I looked at each piece carefully; did the work have visual impact, did the artist seem to have a clear sense of what they were communicating and what the work was expressing?

I've always liked the phrase "it's not what you paint but how you paint it". Every artist has their own "signature" or style of painting and I enjoyed them all. Besides looking for the usual, strong design, composition, values, color harmony, and good technical execution, I also looked for emotional content and the passion the artist conveyed. I wanted to feel the experience the artist had while creating it. Also, important to me was the artist showing their confidence in applying every stroke.

And last, but not least, my congratulations to all the artists, for without your creativity, this exceptional exhibit wouldn't happen. We are very privileged to have such a great organization as OPA that strives to represent our paintings in the best way possible to be enjoyed by all.

A DELIGHTFUL AFTERNOON

During the eastern regional exhibition OPA members spent the afternoon visiting The Taft Museum of Art, one of the finest small art museums in America. A National Historic Landmark built in 1820, the Taft is home to an extensive art collection that includes European and American master paintings including Rembrandt, Hals, Goya, Gainsborough, Reynolds, Turner, Ingres, Whistler, and Sargent.



President Ken Cadwallader OPA
and exhibiting artist Jan Zhang



The beautifully inviting Taft Museum of Art
Photo provided by Taft Museum of Art



Members and guests
admiring the paintings

MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER C.W. MUNDY OPAM

C.W. Mundy OPAM, an American Impressionist Artist, was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated with a Fine Art Degree and a Secondary Education Teaching Degree from Ball State University in Indiana and then worked on a Masters of Fine Art at Long Beach State (CA). From an early age, Mundy demonstrated a propensity for drawing and athletics. In 1978, he combined his love for art and sports and worked as a sports illustrator for over a decade. For a time, he was the official illustrator for Bobby Knight, head basketball coach at Indiana University. He received important commissions from the Pro Golfers Association, the United States Golf Association, and the National Basketball Association.



In the early 1990's, Mundy sought a different approach to painting and took on the challenge of painting in a more impressionistic style, going out of doors and painting "en plein air" and "from life". He studied with Dan Gerhartz OPAM and Scott Christensen, and with their encouragement and teaching, Mundy moved away from the restrictions of illustrative art to a looser brush style and freer expression in Impressionism. This painting style led Mundy to a series of European plein air painting trips, beginning with a trip to France in 1995 and continuing up through the present. With each trip and collection of paintings, Mundy produced a brochure and a documentary video, which was given to collectors who purchased his work.

Among his honors, Mundy was invited in 2003 to Master Signature Membership in the national organization ***Oil Painters of America***. In 2007, he achieved Master Status in ***The American Impressionist Society***. He is also a Signature Member of ***The American Society of Marine Artists***. Most recently, Mundy was invited to Signature Membership in the prestigious ***California Art Club***.

Local art organization memberships include the Hoosier Salon, Indiana Plein Air Painters, and Indiana Heritage Arts.

Mundy enjoys playing banjo with the bluegrass band *The Disco Mountain Boys*. He recently recorded his debut album, ***Road Trip***, published by Moon Surf Records.



"Two Tibetans in the Sun" by
Christopher Z. Zhang OPA
won an Award of Excellence



C.W. Mundy OPAM won the Gold Medal
in the Master Signature Division
for "Camden Harbor, Foggy Morning"



An Award of Excellence was
given to Rob Rey for
"Fallen Seeds"



MEET THE ASSOCIATE/SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER CAROL REESOR

Viewing Carol's work reveals a great deal about this self-taught artist's life and passions. Scenic vistas, abandoned buildings, rustic places, country roads, farms, skies and creeks all convey an unpretentious truth that allows the viewer a sense belonging to the scene, of peaceful solitude.

One of eleven children, Carol was born and raised on a small farm in Kentucky. Her interest in art began at an early age, sparked by watching an older sister draw horses. Fascination for art took over and a natural progression ensued. Many years of drawing eventually led her to painting. Though she experimented with several

subjects she did not get serious about painting the landscape until she attended her first plein air workshop from Robert Hoffman in 1996. "Though Robert's workshop was very intimidating it changed how I painted and inspired me to paint the land I loved." In this oil painting workshop she learned about mixing colors, always a challenge for her, with a dual primary palette and how to see and interpret the colors in the landscape. Hungry for more she began a quest to improve her art by learning from any source available which included books, DVDs and workshops. The artists who have influenced her work the most are Richard Schmid, Scott Christensen, David Curtiss, Matt Smith, Kathryn Stats, and Peter Wileman.

As her technique improved and her style developed Carol began submitting her work for consideration to art organizations and galleries. She is now a juried member of Oil Painters of America, Kentucky Crafted, and Central Kentucky Art Guild. Carol is the recipient of many awards, her most recent being Gold Medal winner in Oil Painters of American Eastern Regional Exhibition 2014, and Best of Show 2014 Madison Chautauqua festival of Art 2014.



Marc Chatov won an Award of Excellence for "Grape Picker"



An Award of Excellence was given to Hodges Soileau OPA for "Lady in Red"



"The Sound of Jazz" by Patricia Bellerose won an Award of Excellence

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Don't miss this year's National Exhibition & Convention being held at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art, in their Brilliance in Color Gallery, St. Augustine, FL. Registration by mail is due at OPA by Monday, April 13.

Registration online is due by Friday, April 17. To register online visit the OPA website at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Click on the 2015 National Exhibition link on upper, right side of the page.

TOP ARTISTS BANK ON RAYMAR QUALITY



RayMar Art
Supplies for the Artist

With a range of fine linen & canvas textures, paint your next landscape, still life or portrait on a RayMar archival panel.

Join artists Kathy Anderson, Aaron Westerberg and Jim Wodark in the gallery of art showcased in RayMar's Art Competition. Enter your oil and acrylic paintings at raymarartcontest.com

RayMarArt.com | RayMarArtContest.com | 888.809.3314 | [@raymarart](https://twitter.com/raymarart)

A PAINT-OUT APPEALING TO ALL AGES

Painters of all ages attended the **Wisconsin Paint Out**, held in Denmark, WI, last September 28. The day started out cool and cloudy and then came the rain. But the hearty artists stuck with it until 1:00 p.m., just as scheduled and had a great time! There were approximately 15 attendees. Host Molly Johnson is looking forward to another memorable Paint Out next year.



OHIO PAINT-OUT A TWO DAY EVENT

The Cincinnati Art Club was host to the OPA Great Paint-Out for the second year in a row under the direction of current President Todd A. Channer. The paint out, a two day event, was held in Eden Park, Ohio on September 27th and October 4th, and was heavily attended by artists and art patrons alike. The object of the club is to *advance the knowledge and love of art*, and what better way to do that than to have a paint out where people can participate, grow and learn.

Painters came from Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Pennsylvania to take in the beautiful river vistas, parks, lakes and landmarks for a beautiful two days of painting. Afterwards the Wessel Gallery (located within the Cincinnati Art Club) became the showplace of their work with an energetic, lively art opening/exhibition, showcasing everyone's work.



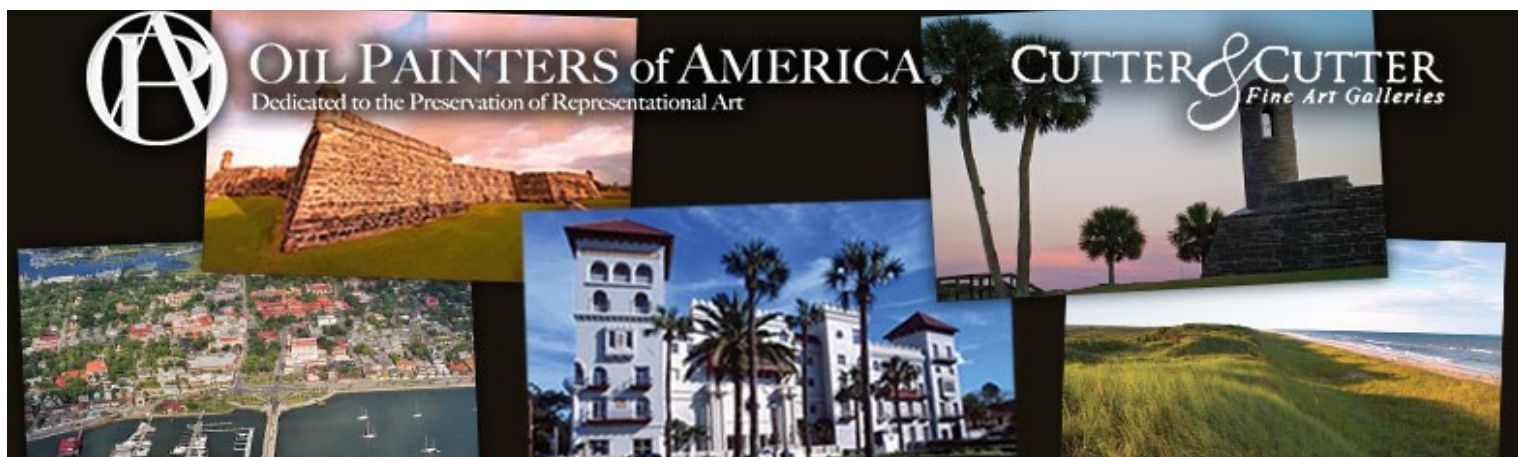
A very inviting opening table



Rick Koehler at Twin Lakes



Artists, left to right: Tom Tarvin, Martha Carmody, Kathleen Biale, Ray Hassard, Mary Beth Dowlin, Rick Kohler, Todd Channer, Flann O'Neill, Chris Griffin-Woods, D. J. Berard, Mike Strobel, Bob Hebenstrett, Don Schuster, Eileen McConkey, Christine Kuhr, Nancy Achberger, Carlos Navarro



THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION AND CONVENTION IN ST. AUGUSTINE IS SHAPING UP TO BE THE BEST EVER BEGINNING WITH THE PLEIN AIR COMPETITION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. OPA's City by the Sea Plein Air Competition Begins!

Location: Get your canvas stamped at Cutter & Cutter's Brilliance in Color Gallery
See page 9 of *Brushstrokes* for competition details.

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. OPA Welcome Reception - Location: Casa Monica Hotel – Poolside

It's time for you to relax and recharge at OPA's early evening poolside reception. Come enjoy some light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments while mixing with fellow artists and guests.



THURSDAY, APRIL 30

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Southwest Art Magazine's Pampered Paint Out

Location: Washington Oaks Gardens State Park – meet at the Pavilion

Southwest Art Magazine is once again treating attendees to a fantastic day of painting & pampering, this time at the beautiful Washington Oaks Gardens State Park, famous for its unique shoreline of coquina rock formations that line the Atlantic beach and gardens.

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. OPA "Iconic St. Augustine" Sneak Peek Mixer

Location: St. Augustine Art Association

Visit the OPA exhibitors and view the new *Iconic St. Augustine Exhibit* at the beautiful St. Augustine Art Association. Meet with collectors, artists and vendors. Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be available. The first 100 artists who walk in the door will receive a free gift. (One per artist, please)

FRIDAY, MAY 1

8:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Blick Art Materials "History of Oil Color" Breakfast presentation with resident artist

Joe Gyuresak - Location: Casa Monica Hotel

Blick Art Materials treats you to breakfast, while resident artist Joe Gyuresak examines the history of oil color, and discusses the technology behind artists' oil colors and how to make wise decisions in regards to archival art.



10:00 a.m. – Noon "Art in Motion" – Painting Demonstrations by four artists at the top of their game: Marc Hanson OPA, Albin Veselka OPA, Dominic Avant, Margan Samuel Price - Location: Casa Monica Hotel

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. "Basic Techniques for Repairing Damaged Frames" presentation by Barbara Carter

Location: Casa Monica Hotel

Barbara Carter will discuss art water gilding and the application of metal leaf. She will demonstrate some techniques for repairing and finishing frames to their original appearance.



3:30 p.m. -5:00 p.m. Distinguished Artist William Whitaker OPAM & Kimberly Moore, Southwest Art Magazine

Location: Casa Monica Hotel

Warm, funny, and witty, artist William Whitaker OPAM describes how, having been told that the kind of painting he enjoys is dead, he takes quiet comfort in lovingly attempting to capture something the camera cannot see.

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Oil Painters of America's 24th Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception

Location: Brilliance in Color Gallery –Free and open to the public

8:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Oil Painters of America’s Awards & Recognition Ceremony

Location: Casa Monica Hotel –Free and open to the public

OPA’s Awards & Recognition Ceremony is a time to honor the achievements of our members, and to meet the award winners. Juror of Awards Huihan Liu OPAM, will announce the award winners.



SATURDAY, MAY 2

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Painting Demonstration by Huihan Liu OPAM

Location: Casa Monica Hotel – Doors open at 8:15 a.m.

Juror of Awards Huihan Liu OPAM needs no introductions, having earned an international reputation for his remarkable impressionistic realism. Join us for insights into how this Master creates a work of art.

1:00 pm. – 2:30 p.m. “Nature of Oil Painting – Environmental Health and Safe Studio Practices” with Scott Gellatly - Location: Casa Monica Hotel

Scott’s presentation explores the nature of oil painting – from the field to the palette – and examines materials and techniques to make oil painting safer and more permanent for our work, ourselves and our environment.



3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Painting Demonstration by 2014 National Exhibition Gold Medal Winner Louis Escobedo

Location: Casa Monica Hotel

Winner of the 2014 Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division, Louis Escobedo OPA will show his mastery of the use of color, tone and texture in oil painting.

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. “City by the Sea” Artists’ Reception - Location: Gallery Del Mar

The ever popular closing party will again be hosted by *American Art Collector Magazine*, this year at the Northeast Florida Marlin Association’s clubhouse overlooking the peaceful harbor of Camachee Cove. Enjoy the ambiance, entertainment, food and libations at this very special waterfront location.



SUNDAY, MAY 3

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. OPA Annual Business Meeting - Location: Casa Monica Hotel

9:30 a.m. – Noon Painting Demonstration by Maritime Master Don Demers Location: - Casa Monica Hotel

Join Mr. Demers, whose paintings focus on maritime subjects, which he draws from being an avid sailor and having been a crewmember aboard traditional sailing vessels.



2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Master Signature Artist Zhiwei Tu: “An Iconic Figure of our Age”

Location: Casa Monica Hotel

This is a rare opportunity to meet Chinese born artist Zhiwei Tu OPAM and take a visual tour of the stunning museum the Chinese government built in his name, housing an unbelievable collection of his masterpieces.

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Art Critiques

Meet with a Signature or Master Signature member to discuss your painting strengths and weaknesses. Bring recent photos of your work for this critique experience.

“CITY BY THE SEA” PLEIN AIR COMPETITION OPENS NATIONAL CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION

Cutter & Cutter Fine Art’s Brilliance in Color Gallery is working in conjunction with OPA to host a plein air event to kick off the 2015 National Convention and Exhibition. Painting will take place on Wed., April 29 and Thur., April 30. Marc Hanson OPA will be the Juror of Awards for this event, which culminates with the “City by the Sea” Artists’ Reception and awards ceremony on Saturday evening, May 2 at the Gallery Del Mar. (Not to be confused with the National Exhibition reception/ awards ceremony on Fri., May 1.) Ribbons to the first, second and third place winners.



Rules for this event are as follows:

- Artists must be registered to attend OPA’s entire 5-day convention to be eligible to participate,
- Each painting must be started and completed “en plein air” on Wednesday, April 29 &/or Thursday, April 30,
- All canvas, paper or board must be stamped with the OPA seal PRIOR to any painting being done,
- Oil is the only medium accepted and maximum painting size not to exceed 320 square inches unframed,
- One painting per artist guaranteed. Number of registered attendees determines if additional entry will be allowed,
- Paintings must be appropriately framed, mounted and securely wired for hanging (frames available in small sizes),
- Paintings to be delivered to Cutter & Cutter Fine Art’s Gallery Del Mar between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1,
- Paintings will be for sale on Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3 with 50% to artist.

Questions? Please call 815-356-5987 or e-mail: mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com

OPA 2015 NATIONAL EXHIBITION & CONVENTION ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

Mail Registration Due at OPA by Monday, April 13, 2015

One registrant per form, please.

Registration Type	Advance	Onsite	Total
Full Registration includes plein air painting and competition, OPA tradeshow, all educational presentations and social events including the Welcome Reception and AAC's "Seaside Celebration"			
<input type="checkbox"/> OPA Member – Full Registration	\$325	\$350	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Member* – Full Registration	\$350	\$375	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student – must be a full-time student and have a valid student ID Please note: students must register by mail or onsite & submit a valid student ID.	\$225	\$250	
Daily Registration	Advance	Onsite	
*Includes all convention events and social activities on the specified day. A Full Registration is required in order to participate in the plein air painting competition.			
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Friday, May 1*	\$125 member/ \$135 non-member	\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Saturday, May 2* (includes AAC's "Seaside Celebration")	\$125 member/ \$135 non-member	\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Sunday, May 3*	\$125 member/ \$135 non-member	\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	
Ala Carte	Advance	Onsite	
Individuals not registered to attend the convention may register for the following events			
<input type="checkbox"/> OPA Welcome Reception – Wednesday, April 29 (Member & Non –Member)	\$35	\$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Art Collector's "Seaside Celebration"- Saturday, May 2 (Member & Non-Member)	\$50	\$50	
		TOTAL DUE:	

Please type or print clearly and use black or blue ink.

Please indicate if you are:

☐ OPA Member ☐ Non-member artist ☐ Non-member collector ☐ Non-member guest/spouse ☐ Non-member F/T student

(Please, only one registrant per form)

Last Name _____ First _____ M.I. _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Total Payment Amount: \$ _____ **Method of Payment:** ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express
 Credit Card No. _____ Expiration Date: _____

If credit card billing address is different from mailing address:

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Mail form to: Oil Painters of America, P. O. Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2488, to be received by Monday, April 13, 2015.

For complete registration information, visit the OPA website: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com.



"On an Evening Such As This" by Charles Iarrobino won the First Place Award in the Associate Division



Howard Friedland OPA received the First Place Award in the Signature Division for "Waiting for the Master"

FALL, 2014 ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Over 800 paintings were entered in the Fall, 2014 On-Line Showcase, open to both Associate and Signature OPA members. Thank you to Juror of Awards Dan Beck OPA for the time and effort he put forth to jury this well accepted event. As always, we also thank Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation for their continued support. Without their backing, the On-Line Showcase would not be possible.

Associate Winners

Gold: Charles Iarrobino for "On An Evening Such As This"

Silver: Lori Putnam for "Down to the Sea"

Bronze: Susan Hotard for "Texas Tim"

Signature Winners

Gold: Howard Friedland OPA for "Waiting for the Master"

Silver: Elizabeth Pollie OPA for "In A Beautiful Pea Green Boat"

Bronze: Mitch Baird OPA for "Vivien"

Honorable Mentions: Errol Jacobson for "Footlights", Louis Escobedo for "Simplicity", Miguel Malagon for "Jackie", Michelle Jung for "Rocks and Surf", Lisa Fricker for "Tom", Chisho Maas for "Zen Master", Matt Linz for "Boy Reading", Julie Davis for "General Store", Troy Kilgore for "Morning on Main" and John Philbin Dolan for "Pottery".

The Spring, 2015 On-Line Showcase is open for entries March 1 through May 15. This competition is open to Associate members only and may be entered by visiting the OPA website at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com and going to "Exhibitions" under Education and Events menu.

ON-LINE SHOWCASE JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT By DAN BECK OPA

While definitely an honor to be asked to juror the OPA Fall, On-line Showcase, it is also a lot tougher than one would think. Because of how many really strong paintings were entered, I spent several hours on two consecutive days, then waited until the third day to be sure. And like we all know if we have entered shows, there were many other worthy paintings that didn't place on this day by this judge. That being said, it's special to be able to bring some attention to this show's winners. I feel they all showed remarkable skill and also exhibited noteworthy artistic merit.

Hats off to everyone who entered, and to Oil Painters of America for providing such excellent forums to showcase the best of contemporary traditional paintings.



MEET THE SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER HOWARD FRIEDLAND OPA

Howard Friedland OPA studied at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Science, in New York City and also studied with Michael Lynch, Ned Jacob, Mark Daly, Laura Robb, Carolyn Anderson, Mitch Billis, Scott Christensen, Zhiwei Tu OPAM and Matt Smith. An early member of OPA, Howard has won many awards with OPA as well as at numerous other national and regional exhibitions including, Salon International at Greenhouse Gallery. He has been invited to show his work in the C.M. Russell Auction and Kimball Art Center Museum Auction.

Howard became a Signature Member of the OPA in 2003, won the 2007 Award of Excellence for Best Signature Member at the OPA Central Regional Show in Topeka, Kansas and the 2008 Award of Excellence Best in Show Award at the OPA National Show in Missoula Montana. Howard is the co-founder of Montana Painters Alliance and has juried for OPA as well as Paint the Parks Art Show.



MEET THE ASSOCIATE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER CHARLES IARROBINO



Born in Annapolis, Maryland in 1952, Charles studied painting and printmaking at Virginia Commonwealth University and Syracuse University; graduating with a BFA in Painting and Printmaking. A member of The American Impressionists Society and Oil Painters of America, over the past three decades he has had numerous one-man shows on the East Coast as well as in his adopted state of New Mexico.

A lifelong fascination with color expressed itself initially in abstract painting, but since moving to northern New Mexico the brilliant high desert light dictated a change in the direction of his painting. Years of attempting to capture aspects

of that light resulted in an artistic output dominated by landscapes, street scenes and gardens. Numerous visits to France and his ancestral home, Italy, have provided an opportunity to explore water subjects, such as the canals of Venice and have provoked a growing interest in human interaction, as can be seen in his numerous paintings of cafes and open air markets.

“I favor a painterly approach to the handling of the materials whereby a recognizable illusion is achieved, while at the same time the paint itself is celebrated and brushstrokes are not only visible, but are intrinsic to the success of the image. The completed painting should be a world unto itself, analogous to nature, but not strictly imitative.” Santa Fe has been his home since 1981. He lives there, very happily, with the light of his life, Melissa, and eventu-

11TH ANNUAL GREAT PAINT-OUT

2015 marks the eleventh year that OPA has been hosting Paint-Outs throughout the United States. These offer a great opportunity to paint, as well as meet other artists. For more information, or to sign up to host an event, please visit the OPA website and look under the Education & Events menu for “Paint Outs”. We look forward to another great year of painting and camaraderie.

NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

We are pleased to announce the elevation of three Signature members to Master Signature status. During the December Board meeting, the following three artists were conferred with their new title of Master Signature Member: Charles Cox OPAM, Xiao Song Jiang OPAM and Christopher Z. Zhang OPAM. These new Masters Signature Members will be introduced at the Awards and Recognition ceremony held on May 1 at the 2015 National Exhibition and Convention.

Charles Cox OPAM developed his interest in art while in high school and pursued his education, getting his B.A. in art at David Lipscomb Univ. While a student he also taught painting. Cox then worked for 30 years as an illustrator at the Methodist Publishing House and freelanced for publishing houses and ad agencies. Eventually Cox retired from illustrating to pursue painting fulltime. His painting style is painterly-realistic, emphasizing drawing, inventive use of color, edges, effects

of light on subjects, bravura, brushwork, a varied and textured surface, and good composition.

Xiao Song Jiang OPAM was born in Wuhan, China and studied fine art at the China Academy of Art, where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree. He was eventually selected to further develop his skill at the provincial Hubei Art Academy.

In 1988, Song immigrated to Canada and developed a passion for its vivid scenes of the broad North American landscape. He travelled from coast to coast and gained experience forming his unique style of a mixture of brush and knife with attention to the unique natural detail, richer handling of light, shadow and depth in each piece, which has won him numerous awards in North American exhibitions and art festivals. He now lives by the lake in Toronto, Canada with his wife and son.

He is influenced by the beautiful land and friendly people. Through his paintings, he wishes to express

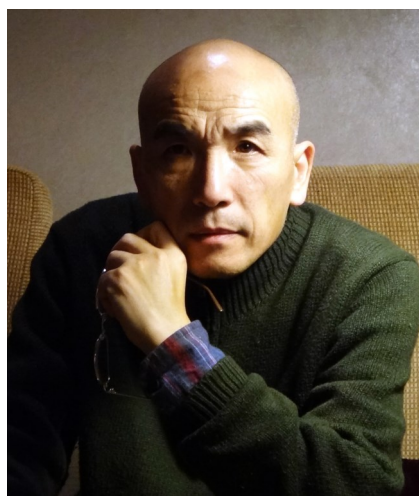
his love to the North American landscape and its entire people.

Christopher Z. Zhang OPAM was born in Shanghai, China and acquired a BFA degree in China and a MFA in the United States.

As a professional artist, Zhang focuses on two types of subjects (1) the Chinese minorities and their indigenous cultures and traditions and (2) classical ballet dance. He was strongly influenced by the Russian realistic painting of the 19th century and the Soviet times. After coming to the United States, he studied the Western art theories and many original master pieces from the Renaissance to modern ages: fascinated by Rembrandt's unique lighting and shading, Velazquez's fluent brushwork, Monet's and Renoir's brilliant coloring, Ruben's and Delacroix's magnificent composition. After a trip to Europe, he concluded that he must follow the model of realism of both Eastern and Western European styles of the 19th century. Specifically, to combine the Impressionist colors with the big and rough brushstrokes of Russian realism.



Charles Cox OPAM



Xiao Song Jiang OPAM



Christopher Z. Zhang OPAM

Notes From the Board con't.

SIGNATURE MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

The Board of Directors is pleased to congratulate the following 14 OPA artists who recently became Signature Members: Joe Anna Arnett, Nikolo Balkanski, Kevin Beilfuss, Adam Clague, Louis Escobedo, Mark Farina, Barbara Jaenicke, MaryBeth Karaus, Fongwei Liu, Davis Perkins, Pauline Roche, Ann Kraft Walker, Kathie Wheeler, and Mike Wise. These new Signature Members will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony on May 1 at this year's National Exhibition.

SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Eighteen artists applied for the Shirl Smithsonian Memorial Scholarship last fall. The following artists were named as recipients of this scholarship, to be used in 2015: Chula Beauregard, Christina Body, Kim Hill and Claire A. Miller (student). This scholarship is awarded annually.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Don't forget to join the Board of Directors and other OPA members at this year's annual, General Business meeting. The meeting is being held at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 3

during the National Show and Convention. All OPA members are invited to attend. Election of Board members is part of the annual General Meeting. The following slate is submitted for election at the May meeting:

Susan Abma
Ken Cadwallader OPA
Michael Carter OPAM
Howard Friedland OPA
Stuart Fullerton, Esq.
Zhiwei Tu OPAM

NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

While attending the Board meeting you will be able to welcome our newest Board member Stuart Fullerton, Esq. Fullerton grew up in north central Wisconsin and studied ancient Greek and Latin at Harvard. After a year studying archeology in Greece and Turkey, he returned to Harvard to attend law school. An accomplished artist, Fullerton is a long-time member of Chicago's Palette and Chisel Club and of the Plein Air Painters of Chicago.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

The Board has approved a Student Membership classification. Membership is now being offered to college students at the reduced rate of \$35 per calendar year. Benefits to student members are the same as for those of Associate and Signature members,

including the possibility of winning cash and merchandise awards in competitions. A student must be enrolled full-time in an accredited art program and must provide proof of student status to retain this classification.

STOCK DONATIONS NOW ACCEPTED

An account has been established at Wells Fargo Brokerage for the acceptance of donations of stock to OPA. If you are interested in donating stock to OPA, or for further information about this account, please contact OPA's Development Director, Bob Wulff, at: bwulff@oilpaintersofamerica.com.

NEW SHIPPING OPTION

Henceforth, the uncrating fee will be waived for artists who send their painting to the national or regional shows in a strong box (which will be returned at the end of the show). For those artists not using a strong box the standard uncrating fee of \$25 still applies.

A **new benefit** is being offered to OPA members. All OPA members who order a StrongBox™ from Airfloat Systems will get a 20% discount off every box. To obtain this discount, enter the code "opa" on the checkout page.

The Boulder, Colorado Paint Out was held on Oct 11th at the South Boulder Creek trail. It was a gorgeous day and we had 15 attendees and an informal critique session – very fun!

Back row: Larry DeGraff
Middle row: (from left) Will Spear, Ken Knox, Suzanne Cote, Melissa Arthur, Jane Hunt
Front row: Steve DeOrio, Jan Kirkpatrick
Not pictured: Heather Arenas, Linda Mooney, Scott Ruthven, Rhonda McCay, Nancy Haley, Lindsay Ternes, Margueritte Meier



IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we announce the recent passing of Robert Pike, husband of Master Signature Artist Joyce Pike. Throughout their many years of marriage, Bob was an avid supporter of Joyce's illustrious art career. Many of you have been taught or mentored by Joyce over the years or have had the opportunity to get to know her at one of our OPA events. If so, we hope you will consider sending a card to Joyce during this difficult time. We are sure she would be appreciate hearing from her friends in the art community. Please send a note as follows: Joyce Pike OPAM, Oil Painters of America, P. O. Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2488.

At the right is a portrait Joyce painted of her husband and long time companion, Bob.



DATES TO REMEMBER

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

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-fourth Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention - Cutter & Cutter Fine Art at their Brilliance in Color Gallery, St. Augustine, Florida - Convention April 29 - May 3, Exhibition: May 1 - May 25, 2015
Juror of Awards: Huihan Liu OPAM

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

2015 Western Regional - Wild Horse Gallery, Steamboat Springs, Colorado - August 7– September 7
Juror of Awards: Johanna Harmon OPA
Canvas size not to exceed 720 square inches - online entries being accepted beginning March 16
Uncrating fee waived for those artists shipping painting in a strong box.

2015 Eastern Regional - Eckert & Ross Fine Art, Indianapolis, Indiana - November 6 - December 5
Juror of Awards: Charles Cox OPAM
Canvas size not to exceed 1080 square inches - online entries being accepted beginning May 25
Uncrating fee waived for those artists shipping painting in a strong box.

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

**OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA
Representational, Inc.**

Post Office Box 2488
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2488
General Office Tel and Fax: 815-356-5987
Web: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Algonquin, IL
60102
Permit No. 65

*Try Richeson
Oils today!*



Richeson Oils

Richeson Oils are among the highest quality oils on the market. As printed colors can never truly match pigments, each Richeson Oil label is **hand-painted** to show exactly what color is in the tube.

- Traditional Old World pigments
- Professional quality, economically priced
- Brilliant, rich colors
- Balanced mixture of linseed and safflower oil to offer the highest quality to price ratio
- Buttery, reliable consistency
- High permanency, free from fading, darkening, yellowing and cracking
- Available in **70 colors**
- Milled in Kimberly, WI

Professionally formulated to satisfy
the most discerning master painter!

www.richesonart.com
To locate the dealer nearest
you, call: **1.800.233.2404**



Jack Richeson
& Co., Inc.