



# OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 26 issue 1

SPRING  
2016

## Brushstrokes

### QUIET AMBIANCE THE HALLMARK OF THE 2015 EASTERN REGIONAL SHOW

The City of Indianapolis is made up of a diversity of areas. None could be more quaint and inviting than the neighborhood in which the 2015 Eastern Regional Exhibition was held, the historic Butler-Tarkington section. Not only was the area attractive, but so was the host gallery, Eckert & Ross Fine Art. From the moment we walked in the door we felt welcomed by the staff and co-owner Jim Ross. Housed on two levels, paintings flowed from the first floor, down the staircase to the lower level, with all paintings being displayed for well lit and easy viewing.

Weekend activities began with a portraiture demonstration on Friday morning by William Schneider OPA. Bill's model was Kristina Beligratis, daughter of Executive Director Kathryn Beligratis, who has, according to Schneider, the classic features of a J.W. Waterhouse (of the Pre-Raphaelite movement) model. It was inspiring to watch Bill transform a blank canvas into a beautiful likeness of the model, in only two and a half hours. At one point Bill commented that an artist should know when to stop painting. This seemed to indicate that he was done, but not so. He continued, enhancing his portrait to a greater degree.



Terry Rafferty won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division for "Stargazers"

Following the painting demo members and guests travelled to the Indianapolis Museum of Art for lunch, followed by an enlightening tour of the museum. Marty Krause, Museum Curator,

lead visitors through the museum, specifically calling attention to, and giving background of, the art work of Indiana artists such as T. C. Steele and William Forsyth. Many stayed after Mr. Krause's tour to further explore the museum.

The opening reception was held at the gallery on Friday evening to a standing room only crowd who were offered desserts that could not be beat. Ken Cadwallader OPA and Executive Director Kathryn Beligratis welcomed everyone, after which Juror of Awards, David Hettinger OPAM announced his award winning decisions. Hettinger noted the nuances he found in Terry Rafferty's "Stargazers", which made him award this painting the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division. He also called attention to "Chamisa", the countryside painting by Albert Handell OPAM to which he awarded the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division.

On Saturday morning members and guests returned to the gallery for a painting demonstration by Juror of Awards David Hettinger OPAM. Hettinger began by giving a background of his life and described how he currently teaches a class. Though Hettinger OPAM is

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# See *WHY* the **WORLD'S LEADING** **ARTISTS USE** *our* **BRUSHES**



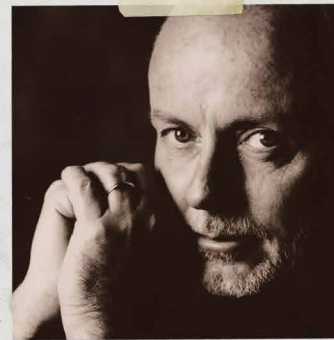
*Richard Schmid*



*Lori Putnam*



*Jeremy Lipking*



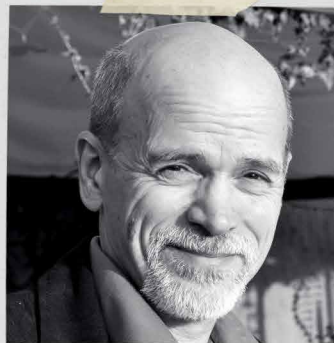
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Eastern Show con't.

possibly best known for his figurative paintings, he chose to paint a landscape for this demonstration, exemplifying how diversified he is in his profession. Following Hettinger's demo a number of artists and guests adjourned to the Meridian Restaurant, housed among the historic homes of Meridian Street, for a final get-together after sharing a most pleasant and relaxing weekend.

Congratulations to the following exhibition winners:

### MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

**Gold Medal: Albert Handell  
OPAM for "Chamisa" -**  
\$3,500 funded by OPA

### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

**Xiao S. Jiang OPAM for  
"Southern Shore" - \$500 fund-**  
ed by OPA

### ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

**Gold Medal: Terry Rafferty  
for "Stargazers" - \$4,000 fund-**  
ed by OPA

**Silver Medal: Anne Blair  
Brown for "Purrfect Spot" -**  
featured in Artist Focus section of  
*American Art Collector Magazine*  
- valued at \$3,100

**Bronze Medal: Karla M. Mann  
for "Fish on the Menu" - half**  
page advertisement valued at  
\$2,000 funded by *Fine Art Con-*  
*noisseur Magazine*

### AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

**John R. Kelley for "Metal Ket-**  
**tle" - \$1,000 funded by OPA**

**Mark Bonanni for "Estella" -**  
\$750 funded by OPA

**Andrea Bojrab for "It's a Cow's  
Life" - \$500 funded by OPA**

**Jason J. Sacran for "Out Back" -**  
\$500 funded by OPA

**Nancy L. Tankersley for "From  
the Earth" - \$500 funded by OPA**

**Stephanie A. Weidner for "The  
Weed" - \$250 funded by OPA**

**George Bodine for "The Change-**  
**ling - 1" - \$250 funded by OPA.**



Albert Handell OPAM  
won the Gold Medal  
in the Master Signature Division  
for "Chamisa"



"Purrfect Spot"  
by Anne Blair Brown  
was awarded the Silver Medal



An Award of Excellence  
was given to John R. Kelley  
for "Metal Kettle"



Mark Bonanni received an  
Award of Excellence for  
"Estella"

## JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By David Hettinger OPAM



OPA's Eastern Regional Exhibition was held at Eckert and Ross Fine Art in Indianapolis, Indiana. Eckert and Ross did a wonderful job of hanging the exhibition. The artwork was outstanding, presenting me, as juror, a real challenge.

For the first hour I simply enjoyed the work, every piece was a winner. Then came the challenge of deciding which pieces would be awarded the ribbons. As a juror I have my guidelines that include the elements of design, composition, use of medium and color harmony. To these elements

I add my own feelings: which piece made me think, which made me smile and which pieces told me a bit about who the artists themselves are. Some spoke to me on several levels, while others simply said "this is by a master" and there were plenty of masters in the show. Though there were only a few *actual* Master Signature members in the show, every painting in this year's Eastern Regional show was done by a master artist, in my book. Congratulations to all those who made it into this year's OPA exhibition.

---



Xiao S. Jiang OPAM  
won an Award of Excellence  
in the Master Signature Division  
for "Southern Shore"



"Fish on the Menu"  
by Karla M. Mann  
won the Bronze Medal



An Award of Excellence  
was given to Andrea Bojrab  
for "It's a Cow's Life"



Jason J. Sacran  
won an Award of Excellence  
for "Out Back"



## MEET THE EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION ASSOCIATE & SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER TERRY RAFFERTY

Terry Rafferty, born in 1954, grew up in Southern California but finds it difficult to stay in one place too long, with stops in Europe, the South Pacific, Washington, Montana and New Mexico. She currently splits her time between north Georgia and a trawler along the east coast. Initially self-taught, she ultimately took workshops with master teachers and in 2014 began a mentorship under Cindy Prociou. Along the way, she obtained a BA in Visual Art. Her award-winning work explores our relationships and interactions with the world through poignant narrative still lifes.



## MEET THE EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION MASTER SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER ALBERT HANDELL OPAM

Not only is Albert Handell OPAM well known for having held over thirty, one-man shows and having received over seventy prizes and awards but he is also part of many permanent collections throughout the United States. Additionally, he has co-authored a number of books describing his painting techniques and works, some of which have been translated into German. Handell is also renowned for his painting workshops, which he conducts nationwide and abroad.

Handell currently lives and paints in Santa Fe, New Mexico.





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*To me, every day and every color moment is different*  
- Michael Harding

## SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER RECOUNTS HIS WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

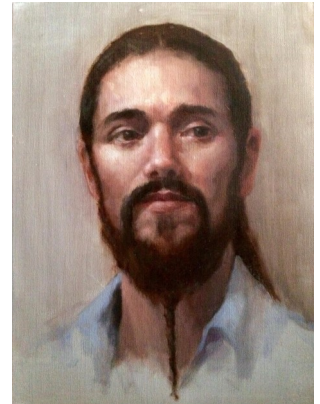
Thanks to a generous grant from the Oil Painters of America Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship Fund, I recently had the opportunity to study with Colleen Barry at the Grand Central Atelier in Long Island City, NY.

I have long admired Colleen's work and wanted to learn the secrets to her exquisitely rendered drawings, so I jumped at the chance to take a 3-day portrait drawing workshop with her. The workshop proved to be just what I was looking for. Arriving at GCA, I wended my way through the labyrinth of rooms to the workshop studio and proceeded to spend three full days learning to render a magnificent model, Andre, with simple pencil on paper. The secret seemed to be right in front of my eyes: I needed to slow down, and then slow down some more, look, and then look harder, see, and then see better. The result was my best drawing to date and a great sense of satisfaction.

And my good fortune continued as, immediately following Colleen's workshop, I stayed on for another three days, this time portrait-painting with Ted Minoff and Patrick Byrnes, two superb painters whose work I have also admired greatly. Having just learned my stop-and-see lessons with Colleen, I was immediately able to apply those lessons to my paintings and voila! It worked again.

So thank you again, OPA; my art is better for the opportunity.

August Burns



2 of the works Burns  
completed during his  
workshop



An Award of Excellence  
was given to Stephanie A. Weidner  
for "The Weed"



"From the Earth"  
by Nancy L. Tankersley  
won an Award of Excellence



George Bodine  
won an Award of Excellence  
for "The Changeling - 1"

### LOOKING FOR 2016 PAINT OUT HOSTS

We are currently accepting applications from members who would like to host an OPA Paint Out. Paint Outs are held September through November, based on your schedule. You get to choose the location. For complete information about these fun events, please visit the OPA website and look under the Education + Events menu for "Paint Outs". Hosting information and an application may be found at the bottom of the page.



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## OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA CELEBRATES TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF FOSTERING REPRESENTING ART THROUGH OIL PAINTING

Don't miss OPA's Silver Anniversary, being celebrated in the great city of Dallas, Texas. Opening week activities begin Wednesday, May 11 and extend through Sunday, May 15.

### Wednesday, May 11

**12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - OPA's "Best Little Plein Air Competition in Texas" - Location: Southwest Gallery**

Let the competition begin! Attendees registered for the full convention may begin painting Wednesday afternoon. Canvas must be stamped by an OPA or Southwest Gallery representative prior to painting. Maximum canvas size is 320 sq. in. All paintings must be framed & wired for hanging to be in the competition & sale. Attendees who have paid the full convention registration fee are guaranteed one painting in the exhibition; however, two or more paintings will be considered based on the number of registered attendees, so please come prepared. Juror of Awards: John Michael Carter OPAM.

### Thursday, May 12

**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - Southwest Art Magazine's Pampered Paint Out - Location: Winfrey Pt., White Rock Lake Park, Dallas, TX**

For the 5th year, OPA is proud to have *Southwest Art Magazine* sponsor the ever popular "Pampered Paint Out". Registered attendees will be treated by *SW Art* to breakfast and lunch at one of Dallas's most scenic parks, White Rock Lake Park. This is a 1,873-acre natural area with woods, trails & wildlife. OPA has reserved Winfrey Point, a historic building that sits on a hill overlooking beautiful White Rock Lake. Attendees will enjoy a full day of painting and some well-deserved pampering, conversation and good food. For competition rules and regulations go to: [www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/pleinair](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/pleinair).

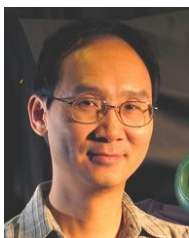
southwest  
art

**4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. - OPA Welcome Reception & Registration Check-In - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria – Poolside**  
After a full day of painting, and a little bit of pampering, it's time to unwind poolside at our Welcome Reception. Join OPA's Board of Directors and fellow artists for a drink and appetizers before heading out to dinner.

### Friday, May 13

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. - Coffee with the Exhibitors - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Grab a cup of coffee and visit the exhibiting vendors. You'll be able to view products, ask questions and collect samples. Don't forget to get your card stamped by each vendor to enter a special raffle basket drawing.



**9:00 a.m. – Noon - Still Life Painting Demonstration with Qiang Huang OPA - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Signature member Qiang Huang was born and raised in Beijing, China and now lives in Austin, TX. His interest in art developed while very young, and he was influenced strongly by his uncle, Hong-En Huang, a professional painter and art educator. Qiang studied with well-known artists such as David Leffel OPAM, Sherrie McGraw OPAM, Scott Burdick, and Carolyn Anderson. He attended the graduate school of the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, studying with the well-known figurative artist Zhaoming Wu. He is a guest artist with the Putney Painters and has painted with modern masters of representational art Richard Schmid and Nancy Guzik.

**Noon to 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break & Deadline for Plein Air Competition Paintings**

Framed and wired paintings must be turned in to Southwest Gallery by noon to be eligible for the plein air competition.

**1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - "Up Close and Personal" with OPA's Distinguished Artist Jeff Legg OPAM - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

OPA is delighted to have Master Signature artist Jeff Legg honored as this year's Distinguished Artist. His work is often referred to as "masterful" and attendees will hear Jeff talk about his personal journey toward becoming one of today's top artists, what inspires him and what he has learned along the way.

**3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - "The Art of Collecting" Moderated by John Pototschnik OPA - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

This session will provide a wealth of information for both artists and collectors. To help artists move forward with your sales, you'll learn about collectors - what they collect and how they make selections when purchasing fine art. As a collector, you'll learn about how other collectors make wise choices as they add to their art investment and how you can too. Join John Pototschnik OPA as he moderates this discussion comprised of avid art collectors: Houston veterinarian Tom Vining, Chairman of the Salmagundi Club in New York Tim Newton and OPA Board Member and collector Jim Bruce OPA.



**5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - OPA's 25th Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception - Location: Southwest Gallery**

Please join us as OPA celebrates 25 years of excellence in representational oil painting! As always, this year's National Exhibition promises to be of the highest caliber, and we hope all OPA members will take part in this once in a lifetime event.

**8:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Oil Painters of America's Awards & Recognition Ceremony - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria (Free and open to the public)**

This year's Awards & Recognition Ceremony will take time to reflect on OPA's 25 year history in the arts and recognize the achievements of our members, including the announcement of this year's Gold Medal award winners by Juror of Awards Kevin Macpherson OPAM. Raffle basket winners will be chosen as well. Raffle winners must be present to win. Join us for dessert after the awards.





## Saturday, May 14

**8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Breakfast & "Successful Elements of Design in Painting" presentation with Joe Gyurcsak from Dick Blick/Utrecht - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Join OPA artist Joe Gyurcsak for a sit down breakfast compliments of Dick Blick/Utrecht, followed by an in-depth lecture on the important elements of design that can strengthen a painting. Joe has led demos, lectures and workshops including NYC's Salmagundi Club, the National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society, Plein Air Easton, Forgotten Coast Plein Air, School of Visual Arts, Pratt Institute, Parsons, RISDY, NYU and more than 140 other art programs throughout the country. Experience Joe's uncanny ability to reflect on artists of the past. Joe has studied in great depth many of the masters of 19th century and has a unique ability to relate those findings to the current lesson at hand.

**9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Visit the Exhibitors - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Take a moment to wander after breakfast and check out all the exhibitors and their latest in art supplies. Artists who visit each exhibitor are eligible to enter the special exhibitor raffle basket drawing.



**10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Painting Demonstration by Juror of Awards Kevin Macpherson OPAM - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria**

OPA is honored to welcome back Master Signature artist Kevin Macpherson as its national Juror of Awards. Kevin is recognized as one of America's most accomplished Impressionistic plein air painters and we are delighted he has agreed to share his painting expertise with us. His discipline and dedication have earned him acclaimed success and numerous awards. He is a member of many top organizations and has obtained Master status in the Oil Painters of America, American Impressionists Society, and California Art Club, as well as being a member of the prestigious Salmagundi Club and Founding member and first president of the Plein Air Painters of America. His work has been featured in more than 75 publications, books, television series and videos. In addition to writing three popular books on landscape painting he has established stimulating artistic adventures including international venues and opportunities.

**1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - "Art in Motion" Painting Demonstrations - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

OPA is honored to have five of our most talented up and coming artists demonstrate their expertise. Attendees are encouraged to visit each artist to see the progression of their painting from start to finish. Artists: Mitch Baird OPA, Anna Bain OPA, Suzie Baker OPA, Aimee Erickson & Joe Gyurcsak.

**5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - "Best Little Plein Air Competition in Texas" Awards Reception - Location: Southwest Gallery**

This might be the "Best Little Plein Air Competition", but the artwork itself is going to speak volumes about the quality and level of talent being represented! No doubt, Juror of Awards John Michael Carter OPAM will have his work cut out for himself as he decides what paintings will receive this year's top honors. Award winners will be announced at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - American Art Collector's "25th Anniversary Silver Palette Celebration" - Location: Iron Cactus Restaurant, 1520 Main Street, Dallas, TX**

Once again, *American Art Collector Magazine* will host the ever popular closing party, this year at the Iron Cactus Restaurant overlooking Downtown Dallas. Come and enjoy a relaxing evening of music, food and a great time being with other OPA members and guests



## Sunday, May 15

**7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Continental Breakfast - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Grab a muffin and a cup of coffee or tea before sitting in with the OPA Board Members at the annual business meeting.

**8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - OPA Annual Business Meeting - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria**

The Annual Business Meeting is open to all attendees at the annual conference. At this meeting, the Board of Directors will review the year's major accomplishments in meeting our goals, the association's financial status, and new program initiatives for the coming year.

**9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Visit the Exhibitors - Location: The Crown Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Don't miss your last chance to visit our exhibitors and have your card stamped. The winner of the special exhibitor raffle basket will be chosen at 9:45 a.m. Winner must be present to win.



**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Painting Demonstration by Distinguished Artist Jeff Legg OPAM - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria**

Jeff Legg OPAM's luminous still life oils have garnered national recognition and numerous awards since he began painting full-time at the age 30. He was apprentice to a well-known regional artist and college art professor by the age of 12. This relationship laid the foundation for his painting and drawing skills. He later studied at Atelier Lack and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. As a Master Signature Member of the OPA, Jeff's work can be seen in distinguished galleries across the U.S. and is highly sought-after and collected here and abroad. His paintings have adorned the cover of *Southwest Art* and *Art of the West* magazines including feature articles. Other features include *The Artists Magazine*, *American Art Collector*, *Fine Art Connoisseur* and *North Light Books*.

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Lunch Break**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Art Critiques - Location: The Crowne Plaza Dallas Galleria** One of the best reasons to come to this year's convention is to be critiqued by one of our Signature or Master Signature artists in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. Find out what's working and what's not in your paintings and how to bring your artwork to the next level. Attendees may share recent photos of their work with one of our critiquers. Bring photos or your laptop. We will have limited Internet access.



"Fish" by Derek Penix won the First Place Award in the Associate Division

## FALL, 2015 ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Almost 500 paintings were entered in the Fall, 2015 On-Line Showcase, open to both Associate and Signature OPA members. OPA Signature member Kevin Beilfuss acted as the Juror of Awards for this ever popular competition, which is graciously funded by Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. Without their backing, the three yearly On-Line Showcases would not be possible.

### Associate Winners

**First Place:** Derek Penix for "Fish"

**Second Place:** Rob Rey for "Reaching Europa"

**Third Place:** Tina Garrett for "Lumire"

### Signature Winners

**First Place:** Elizabeth Pollie OPA for "Crossroads"

**Second Place:** James Crandall OPA for "Salumiere No. 2"

**Third Place:** Timothy C. Tyler OPA for "Olivia"

**Honorable Mentions:** Lori Putnam for "Be Mine", Emily Schultz for "When We Were Very Young", Frankie Johnson for "Pig Tails", Sue Smith for "River Road", Jack Saylor for "A Thirst for the Sea", Trent Gudmunsen for "Springtime at the River", Morgan Samuel Price for "Rainbow Eucalyptus", Maren Phillips for "Nearly Noon", Beth de Loiselle for "Out of the Ether" and Chuck Weber for "Creating Yourself".

The Spring, 2015 On-Line Showcase is open for entries through May 15. 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 the Education and Events menu.



Elizabeth Pollie OPA received the First Place Award in the Signature Division for "Crossroads"

## MEET THE ASSOCIATE ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNER DEREK PENIX

Derek Penix was born in 1980 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Penix grew up watching members of his family paint but didn't pursue painting until after high school. After trying his hand at painting and selling his first piece he knew this was what he wanted to do for the rest of his life.

Over the years Penix's work has changed greatly and continues to evolve with each painting. "I never want to be stuck painting only one way or only one subject matter. Variety is the spice of life and is especially that way for me with painting."

Penix has had the opportunity to work under Quang Ho OPAM and later with C.W. Mundy OPAM. "They have helped me immensely as an artist. I am so thankful that they have been willing to feed into my life as they have."

Penix has been recognized in many national competitions and publications. Even at a young age Penix was recognized in *South West Art Magazine's* "21 Under 31" in 2010 and *Oklahoma Magazine's* "40 Under 40" in 2014.





## MEET THE SIGNATURE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER ELIZABETH POLLIE OPA

Elizabeth Pollie's exposure to the arts came at an early age. Taken to museums, enrolled in classes by her parents and influenced by her father's love and practice of art and architecture, she was always clear about her path in life. "Working within the field of visual arts never seemed like a choice, but rather a place of true belonging." She enrolled in college art classes while still in high school and went on to receive an education at a formal art school. She earned her B.F.A. at The College For Creative Studies where she later taught. Pollie worked as a freelance illustrator and had her illustrations published in 3 *Communication Arts Illustration Annuals* as well as *Booth Clibborn's American Illustration*. She left the field of editorial illustration to pursue a full time painting career.



Harboring a deep love of travel and art history, Elizabeth has combined her travels with her painting practice. The images that she creates are imbued with a sense of poetry, mood and depth.

Her paintings reside in both public and private collections here and abroad and have received much national recognition. She is a Signature Member of the Oil Painters Of America.

Elizabeth has found a deep sense of peace within the rekindled practice of representational painting in America. Of this movement Pollie reflects, "It is a celebration, an homage and in many ways a joyous homecoming. I am pleased to be a part of it."

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### PHOTOS FROM THE EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION



Upper level of Eckert & Ross Fine Art



Lower level of Eckert & Ross Fine Art



Artists and guests at the Friday night opening reception



William Schneider OPA with model Kristina Beligratis and her mother, Exec. Dir. Kathryn Beligratis



David Hettinger OPAM imparts insights into his painting technique during his demo

## NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Don't miss helping OPA members and guests celebrate 25 years of promoting and preserving representational oil painting. Attend this year's National Exhibition and Convention at Southwest Gallery in Dallas, Texas, beginning May 11. See centerfold of this issue for a program of events. Advance registrations are being accepted online through May 6, at a cost of \$325 for the entire convention. Onsite registrations will be taken at a cost of \$375. If you have questions concerning registration, please call Rosemary at: 815-356-5987.

If you would like to learn more about the workings of OPA plan to attend the annual General Meeting, being held on May 15, at the national show.

Have you considered requesting a critique through the OPA Critique Service but never followed through? If so, the National Convention offers you the opportunity to pursue this desire. Critiques are offered during the National Convention at no

charge (as compared to the usual nominal fee of \$25). Bring photos of your work, or your laptop. Critiques are being offered on Sunday, May 15 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you are wondering about incorporating a different color paint in your art, contemplating changing brushes, or maybe just need to re-stock your supplies, now is the time. We are pleased that the following exhibitors will be attending this year's national show to show you their wares:

Bella Muse Productions,  
Cheap Joe's Art Supplies,  
Gamblin,  
Grumbacher,  
Jack Richeson & Co.,  
MasterPak,  
Michael Harding Handmade Artist  
Oil Colours,  
Natural Pigments,  
New Wave Fine Art Products,  
Rosemary & Co. Artists Brushes,  
Trekell Fine Art Supplies,  
Williamsburg Artists Oil Colors.

### ART STUDENTS WELCOME

For those who teach or conduct workshops, please remember that OPA offers a Student Membership classification. If you know of an in-

dividual who is a declared art major enrolled full-time in an accredited college or university he/she may be eligible to become an OPA member. If accepted, a Student Member has the privilege of full participation in the activities of the Association, both on the national and regional levels. Student membership does not include the right to vote or to hold office. Work will be reviewed prior to initial acceptance. Original work only. Copies from other artists or published material will not be accepted.

### BOARD VACANCY

OPA is looking to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Board of Directors. If you would like to find out more about board responsibilities or apply for this volunteer position, please contact Executive Director, Kathryn Beligratis at: [mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com](mailto:mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com). Members with a financial background are of particular interest at this time.

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## JUST THE FACTS

OPA is constantly trying to stay up to date with social media. Not only has OPA added a blog to our list of member benefits, but you may connect with OPA through any of the following sites:



[oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://oilpaintersofamerica.com)



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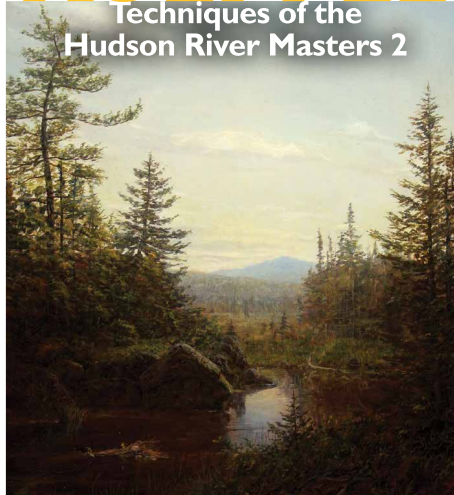
## Cesar SANTOS

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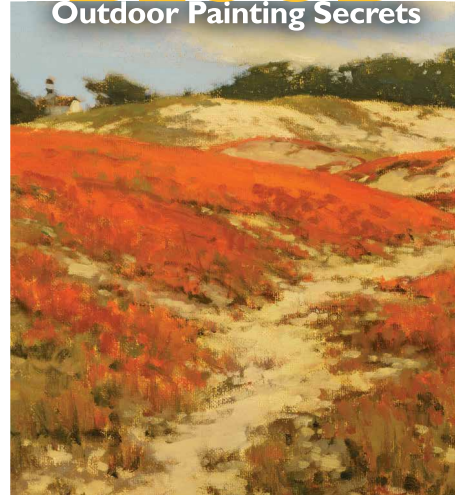
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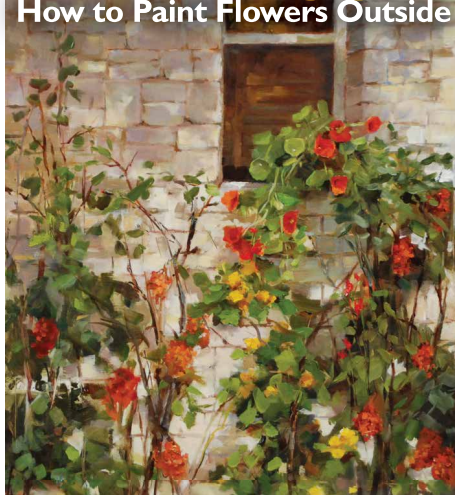
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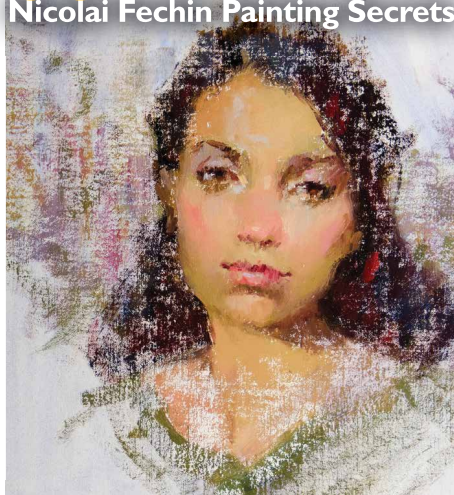
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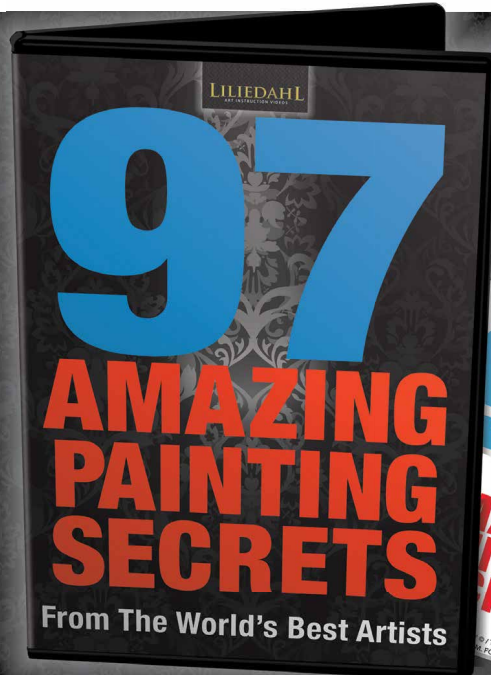
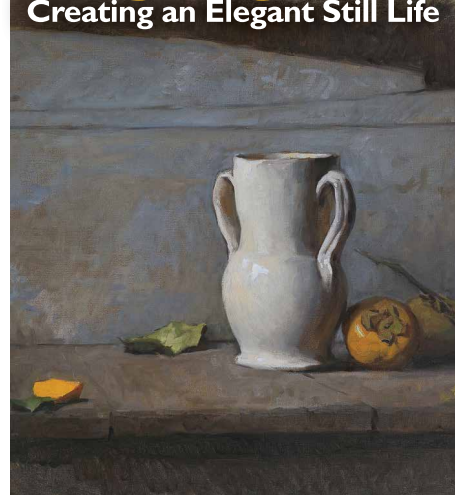
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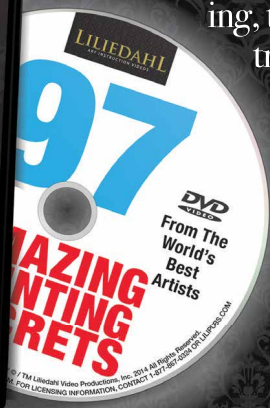
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## PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

**Marc Chatov OPA** won third place in the Portrait Society of America's 2015 Members Only Competition for the portrait "Robert E. Matthews". Marc's painting "The Ol' Coffee Mill" won the Over 60 Competition from *The Artists' Magazine* and was featured in the March issue. Lastly, the same painting was a finalist and featured in the *International Artist* magazine.

**Brenda Hendrix's** painting "Birds of a Feather" was juried into the Richeson 75 International Art Competition for Animals, Birds, and Wildlife.

**W.T. "Tootsie" Nichols** who is well known for her pet portraits was honored at "Fur Ball 2016" in February for her 18 years of service with the Rescue the Animals, SPCA. To further support the

cause, one of the lucky raffle winners received a head portrait of their pet, painted by Tootsie, for their raffle donation.

**Erica Norelius** is pleased to announce she won the third place award in the Figure and Portrait Challenge #90 for the painting "Introspection" from *International Artist Magazine*, December/January 2016, as well as having a one-page article in *American Art Collector*, January, 2016 issue, titled "Natural Poses". Norelius was also awarded fourth place in the Portrait Society of America's Member Only Competition, Landscape Category for "Rays of Light," in December, 2015.

Norelius recently returned from her eye-opening painting trip to Cuba, which is not officially open to US

visitors. She commented "While life is not easy for the Cuban people, their resilience and spirit is a source of inspiration."

**Ann Kraft Walker** is pleased to announce that she was a finalist in the January BoldBrush Painting competition with her painting "The Little Visitor". Additionally, "The Hidden Person of the Heart" was chosen as one of the entries in the Texas Top Ten competition held in conjunction with the Portrait Society of America.

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To submit information to "Painting Our Future" or to notify OPA of the passing of a member, please send information to:  
[cryan@oilpaintersofamerica.com](mailto:cryan@oilpaintersofamerica.com).

## IN MEMORIAM

With deep sympathy to the family and friends, we note the passing of the following OPA members:

D. Kendall Cooper, Cincinnati, Ohio, member since 2012  
Kathy Hinson, Johnson City, Tennessee, member since 2001  
Charles Movalli OPAM, Gloucester, Massachusetts, member since 1991  
Gerrye Riffenburgh, San Diego, California, member since 2000  
Thomas Warren, Dalton, Georgia, member since 2009

## CRITIQUE SERVICE EARNS HIGH PRAISE

Lynn Lyndley was highly complimentary of the OPA Critique Service. To quote Lynn: "I'm so grateful to OPA for this service, and today I plan to write Betty (Nance Smith OPA) with my thanks and appreciation for her thoughtful and thorough critique. Thank you and OPA for this most valuable critique service for OPA members! This is my third time to receive a critique, and each one has been extremely helpful and enlightening."

This service is offered to OPA members at a cost of \$25, or \$50 to non-members. However, critiques are offered at the national convention free of charge. Don't miss this opportunity.



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

September 1 – Deadline for submission for 2016 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 2016 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

### **NATIONAL EXHIBITION**

Twenty-fifth Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention - Southwest Gallery, Dallas, Texas  
Convention May 11 - May 15, Exhibition: May 13 - June 15, 2016  
Juror of Awards: Kevin Macpherson OPAM

### **REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS**

2016 Eastern Regional - Eisele Gallery of Fine Art, Cincinnati, Ohio - September 9 - October 8  
Juror of Awards: Charles Cox OPAM  
Canvas size not to exceed 1,200 square inches - online entries currently being accepted  
Uncrating fee waived for those artists shipping painting in a strong box

2016 Western Regional - The Marshall Gallery of Fine Art, Scottsdale, Arizona - November 4 – November 30  
Juror of Awards: Marc Hanson OPAM  
Canvas size unlimited - online entries being accepted beginning May 2  
Uncrating fee waived for those artists shipping painting in a strong box.

### **SALON SHOW**

2016 Salon Show - Castle Gallery, Fort Wayne, Indiana - September 30 - October 29  
Open to all current members of OPA  
Canvas size not to exceed 320 square inches  
Further information when details are finalized

### **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

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