



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 27 issue 2

SUMMER
2017

Brushstrokes

2017 NATIONAL EXHIBITION A DIVERSITY OF SIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES



Jan Peng Wang OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division for "Plateau Smoke"

Those attending this year's National Show and Convention were treated to a wide variety of events, the most prominent of which was the exhibition itself. Eisele Gallery of Fine Art hosted this show, featuring over 245 paintings by the finest representational artists in the United States and Canada. Paintings were attractively displayed throughout the multi-level, Mariemont, Ohio gallery, making it a difficult task for Juror of Awards William Whitaker OPAM to decide which should receive recognition.

Activities began Wednesday afternoon when artists were offered the

opportunity to paint anywhere in the Cincinnati area, inside or out, and participate in the "Beautiful Ohio" Wet Paint competition. Thursday offered artists a more formal setting for those who wanted to paint indoors at the historic Cincinnati Art Club. Here both female models and flower arrangements were available to be captured on canvas. Throughout the day *Southwest Art Magazine* treated artists to a Pampered Paint Out, beginning with a continental breakfast. After painting during the morning hours, lunch was served in a tent outside, with classic rock guitar music in the background. And for those who felt the need for further relaxation a massage was available for a brief,

but soothing, massage before returning to painting for a few more hours.

On Thursday afternoon *Southwest Art Magazine*, whose parent company F&W Media is based in Cincinnati, welcomed OPA members and guests to a reception at the Westin Cincinnati with appetizers, music and the opportunity to unwind for the day.

Friday morning started with the doors opening to the exhibitors' room. Throughout the convention visitors were welcomed by the many exhibitors who attended and who sponsored their own drawing for an exhibitors' gift basket, filled with a sampling of their products. Later, Juror of Awards William Whitaker OPAM gave a demonstration, showing his extraordinary skills as an artist. Working from a pencil sketch he had previously made, Whitaker created an inspiring painting of a frontier gunfighter in

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The Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was awarded to Jeanya Charles for "The Little Sister"

National Exhibition con't.

just a few hours while keeping the audience informed on his style and technique. After lunch, Johanna Harmon OPA presented a demonstration on painting a portrait. Harmon explained how she creates a painting, spending time describing how she prepares for the work and ending with a beautiful likeness of the model. The final presentation of Friday was given by OPA member David Mueller, who spoke on "Sophisticated Fundamentals", what he has learned, through his numerous experiences, to make him the accomplished artist that he is today.

The Opening Reception of the exhibition was held Friday evening at the Eisele Gallery of Fine Art, in the picturesque town of Mariemont. Doug Eisele and his staff worked hard to create a pleasant flow of subject matter throughout the gallery, making for a very inviting atmosphere as guests sipped refreshments and

ate appetizers during the gala event. Following the opening reception the awards and recognition ceremony took place at nearby Mariemont High School. Recently accepted Signature and Master Signature members were announced at this time and those present received pins, acknowledging their new status. Raffle basket winners' names were also drawn at this time.

All of this lead up to the most anticipated part of the evening – the announcement of the award winners. The Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division was awarded to Jan Peng Wang OPAM for "Plateau Smoke" and the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was awarded to Jeanya Charles for "The Little Sister". These paintings, as well as so many others, deserved the recognition they received.



"Boy" painted by David Gray won the Bronze Medal in the Associate and Signature Division



Lynn Wade won the Seascape Award of Excellence for "Places to Go"

Saturday morning started with a breakfast presentation, hosted by Blick/Utrecht, presented by resident artist Joe Gyurcsak. Gyurcsak spoke on the history of impressionism and how it became popular in the world of art. As in past years, this breakfast presentation was a great way to start the day. Guests then watched a group demo, featuring the varying painting techniques and styles of Jane Hunt, John P. Lasater IV, David Mueller and MaryBeth Karaus OPA.

Susan Abma interviewed this year's Distinguished Artist, Master Signature member Ned Mueller on Saturday afternoon. Mueller spoke of his artistic background as well as relating insights into his vast knowledge of creating an imaginative work of art. Following Mueller's interview, a panel discussion, moderated by Suzie Baker OPA, was presented. John Michael Carter OPAM, Johanna Harmon OPA, Jane Hunt, John P. Lasater IV and Ned Mueller OPAM imparted opinions and perceptions on how to become a successful artist.



The Silver Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was awarded to Ardith A. Starostka for "Little Bird"



The Board of Directors' Award of Excellence was given to Casey Childs for "Embrace"



Christopher Zhang OPAM won the Bronze Medal in the Master Signature Division for “Old Man Smoking Pipe”



The Silver Medal in the Master Signature Division was awarded to Sherrie McGraw OPAM for “On the Night of the Night Fires”



“Pueblo Man with Eagle Feather” by David Leffel OPAM won the Outstanding Composition and Technique Award in the Master Signature Division

National Exhibition con’t.

Some personal stories helped the audience relate to the life of an artist and made for an insightful and entertaining discussion.

Saturday evening began with the presentation of awards for the “Beautiful Ohio” wet paint competition. Entries included portraits and still lifes painted on Thursday at the Cincinnati Art Club, as well as scenes from around the Cincinnati area. Juror of Awards Roger Dale Brown OPA awarded Kurt Anderson OPA the Best in Show in the Studio Division for “Peonies in a Glass Vase” and the Best in Show in the Plein Air Division to Mostafa Keyhani OPA for “Roebing Bridge”. But the evening was not finished yet. *American Art Collector*’s closing party was held at the nostalgic American Sign Museum, which brought back fond memories to many of the attendees who recollected some of the signs from their childhood. Dinner was followed by dancing and it took a long time to gather those riding the bus back to

the hotel – no one wanted to leave. Sunday morning began with the Annual Business meeting, open to all current OPA members. The financial report was given by treasurer, Kurt Anderson OPA, and was followed by a review of what is currently in place and what to look forward to in the future of OPA. Following the meeting a delightful presentation was given by renowned maritime artist John Stobart. His wit and wisdom enraptured all. His story was truly inspiring to those who have become artists and who know they may look for-

ward to many years of painting ahead, if Mr. Stobart may be used as an example. After Stobart’s presentation a one-on-one critique session was held for artists who wanted a personal review of their work by some of OPA’s Master and Signature members.

The following is a list of the award recipients for the 2017 National Exhibition and Convention.

ASSOCIATE & SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Jeanya Charles for “The Little Sister” - funded by OPA

Silver Medal: Ardith A. Starostka for “Little Bird” - funded by *American Art Collector Magazine*

Bronze Medal: David Gray for “Boy” - funded by *Plein Air Magazine*

Board of Directors’ Award of Excellence: Casey Childs for “Embrace” - funded by OPA Board of Directors, Artwork Archive and Revelite Fine Art Lighting



The Best Signature Award of Excellence was given to Pauline Roche OPA for “Taking Notes”



The Best Associate Award of Excellence was given to Justin Kunz for "Days of Purification"

National Exhibition con't.

Best Signature Award of Excellence: Pauline Roche OPA for "Taking Notes" - funded by FASO

Best Associate Award of Excellence: Justin Kunz for "Days of Purification" - funded by Cheap Joe's Art Stuff

Best Associate Honorable Mention: Eric K. Johnson for "Kip with Cigarette" - funded by Revelite and Artwork Archive

Outstanding Composition and Technique Award of Excellence: Ni Zhu for "The Light" - funded by Artwork Archive and Grumbacher



Terry Strickland won the Most Original Award of Excellence for "It's a Man's World"

Most Original Award of Excellence: Terry Strickland for "It's a Man's World" - funded by Blick Art Materials

Most Original Honorable Mention: J. Ken Spencer OPA for "Intuition" - funded by Blue Ridge Oils and SourceTek Art Supply

Presidents' Award of Excellence: Junn Roca OPA for "Oaks, Poppies and Lupines" - funded by past presidents Zhiwei Tu OPAM and Betty Schmidt

Art Renewal Center Realism Award of Excellence: Mary Sauer for "A Little Bit of Everything" - funded by Art Renewal Center

Realism Honorable Mention: Mike Wise OPA for "Delicate Balance" - funded by Trekell Art Supply and MasterPak

Ted Goerschner OPAM Memorial Impressionist Award of Excellence: Jason J. Sacran for "Jacob's Ladder" - funded by the Friends of Ted Goerschner OPAM

Impressionist Honorable Mention: MaryBeth Karaus OPA for "Fragile Morning" - funded by Liliedahl Video Productions, Jack Richeson & Co, and MasterPak

Animal Award of Excellence: Mostafa Keyhni OPA for "Red-backed Fairywren" - funded by Artwork Archive and M. Graham & Co.

Animal Honorable Mention: William A. Suys, Jr. OPA for "Golden Light Longhorn" - funded by Trekell Art Supply and Airfloat Systems



"The Light" by Ni Zhu won the Outstanding Composition and Technique Award of Excellence

John August Dietrich Memorial Figurative Award of Excellence: Meadow Gist OPA for "A Storm is Coming" - funded by RayMar Art

Figurative Honorable Mention: Ula Movchan for "Henry" - funded by Williamsburg Handmade Oil Colors and Masterworks Frames

Alden Bryan Memorial Landscape Award of Excellence: Joshua Clare for "Ditch Bank" - funded by Alden and Mary Bryan Arts Fund and the Vermont Community Foundation

Landscape Honorable Mention: Cindy Baron OPA for "Promising" - funded by Liliedahl Video Productions, Rosemary & Co. Artists Brushes and ArtFrames



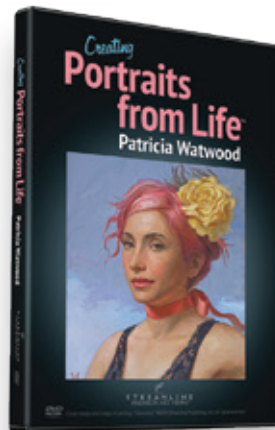
The Presidents' Award of Excellence was given to Junn Roca OPA for "Oaks, Poppies and Lupines"

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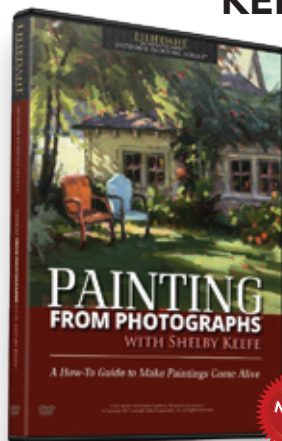
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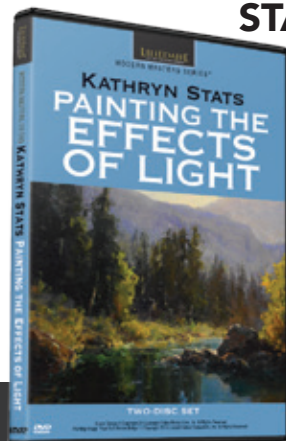
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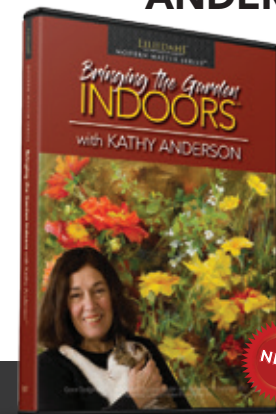
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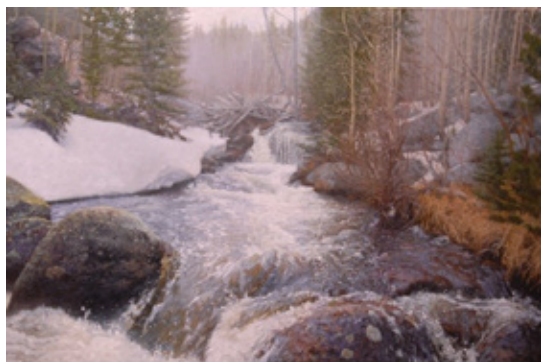


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Craig Tennant OPAM won the Impressionist Award of Excellence for "Spring Jam"

National Exhibition con't.

Portraiture Award of Excellence: Johanna Harmon OPA for "Cari" - funded by Larson-Juhl and Michael Harding Handmade Oil Colours

Portraiture Honorable Mention: Susan Hong-Sammons for "the Graduate" - funded by Holbein Artist Materials, Ampersand Art Supply and Plaza Artist Materials & Picture Framing

Seascape Award of Excellence: Lynn Wade for "Places to Go" - funded by JFM Enterprises and Robin Imaging

Seascape Honorable Mention: Donald W. Demers for "Acadian Surf" - funded by Williamsburg Handmade Oil Colors and SourceTek Art Supply

Still Life Award of Excellence: Lindsay Goodwin for "Belle Epoque Paris" - funded by Savoir-Faire



The Donors' Award of Excellence in the Master Signature Division was given to Nancy Howe OPAM for "Oomingmak on the Rise"

Still Life Honorable Mention: Mark J. Farina OPA for "Crock & Pears" - funded by Masterworks Frames and Bella Muse Productions

Neil Patterson OPAM Award of Excellence: Christina C. Kuo for "Alluring" - funded by Past President Neil Patterson OPAM

Members' Choice Award of Excellence: Doreen J. St. John for "Symphony of the Wetlands" - funded by Savior-Faire

Members' Choice Honorable Mention: Mostafa Keyhani OPA for "Red-backed Fairy-wren" - funded by Gamblin Artists Colors

The Dorothy Drieaus Mellin Fellowship for Midwestern Artists: Adam Clague OPA for "Book Club" - funded by The Richard H. Drieaus Foundation

MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal - Master Signature Division: Jan Peng Wang OPAM for "Plateau Smoke" - funded by OPA and Friends of OPA

Silver Medal - Master Signature Division: Sherrie McGraw OPAM for "On the Night of the Night Fires" - funded by *American Art Collector Magazine*

Bronze Medal - Master Signature Division: Christopher Zhang OPAM for "Old Man Smoking Pipe" - funded by *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*

Most Original Award of Excellence: Rui Li OPAM for "Calm Noon" - funded by Southwest Art Magazine

Outstanding Composition and Technique Award of Excellence: David Leffel OPAM for "Pueblo Man with Eagle Feather" - funded by *Art of the West Magazine*

Realism Award of Excellence: Daud Akhriev OPAM for "Russian Tea Party V" - funded by FASO and Blick Art Materials

Impressionist Award of Excellence: Craig Tennant OPAM for "Spring Jam" - funded by FASO and Blick Art Materials

Donors Award of Excellence: Nancy Howe OPAM for "Oomingmak on the Rise" - funded by Friends of OPA and Cheap Joe's Art Stuff



Huihan Liu OPAM won the "Shirl Smithson Founder's Award for Master Signature Members and the Members' Choice Award for "Prayer Flag on the Pass"

Shirl Smithson Founders' Award for Master Signature Members: Huihan Liu OPAM for "Prayer Flag on the Pass" - funded by the Shirl Smithson Family

Members' Choice Award for Master Signature Members: Huihan Liu OPAM for "Prayer Flag on the Pass" - funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours

Members' Choice Honorable Mention Award for Master Signature Members: Jeffrey R. Watts OPAM for "Ruthie" - funded by Gamblin Artists Colors

JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By William Whitaker OPAM

Jurying a show like this is never fair. We are dealing with art, not science. Having been on the receiving end of art show judgement calls for decades, I am certainly aware of the effort, the feelings, hopes and dreams that go into our art and how frightening it can be to put our best effort out there for people to praise or condemn or worse, treat with indifference. I wish there were a better way to recognize quality and celebrate excellence. We all know of cases where a work has been juried out of one show only to win first prize in another.

Over the years I've seen the quality of the OPA art get better and better. This time there were so many submissions in the initial round that many very fine works were eliminated simply because there wasn't enough room for them. The show itself had so many first rate pieces exhibited on two floors that I did a lot of stair climbing before I even settled down to try and pick winners.

Having taught at university level and beyond since 1969, and having devoted my life to oil painting techniques, I fancy myself as especially open to all styles and techniques. Of course there are works that are of special interest to me as inspiration in my current efforts, but I tried very hard not to let my own stylistic preferences get in the way of my judgement. The design, concept, and compositions were universally excellent. It soon became apparent that I would have to judge the works on the visual sensitivity of the brushwork, the paint handling, the colors and values.

This is the method I followed:

1. I made a point of not looking at the ID card. I didn't look at the artist's name nor the title of the work. I know many of the artists and I didn't want that to influence what I was seeing.
2. I made an effort not to be influenced by the size of the work, whether the painting was hung high or low, whether it was optimally lit or exhibited in a corner. I went out of my way to spend extra time with works that were modest in size or not as well lit. I spent a great deal of time on the floor looking at those that were hung low.
3. I initially picked perhaps three times as many paintings as there were awards for and it was very hard to get the possible award winners down to even that many. After hours of looking at the paintings, they all became my personal friends. They were all worthy, all professional, all outstanding. The final cull was most painful to do.
4. I ended up making my final choices based on the tiniest things. If two works were equally excellent, yet one might have the tiniest flaw in an unimportant brushstroke, I would have to eliminate that one. Nothing was really fair about the process yet I did my very best.

Only at the end did I read the names of those I'd chosen and then look up their websites and see their body of work and read about their experience.

None of us wake up on a painting morning with the goal of turning out a mediocre work. Nor can we guarantee a masterpiece every time we paint a picture. If what we do were easy, we wouldn't call it art. After all we can do, Art is a magic something that just happens. It happens when it adds up to something greater than the sum of its parts.

This is a show that OPA artists can be proud of and inspired by.



The Most Original Award of Excellence in the Master Signature Division was awarded to Ruo Li OPAM for "Calm Noon"



Mostafa Keyhani OPA won the Animal Award of Excellence for his painting "Red-backed Fairywren"



Daud Akhriev OPAM won the Realism Award of Excellence in the Master Signature Division for "Russian Tea Party V"



The Art Renewal Center Realism Award of Excellence was given to Mary Sauer for "A Little Bit of Everything"



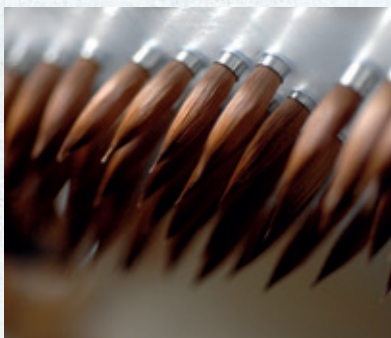
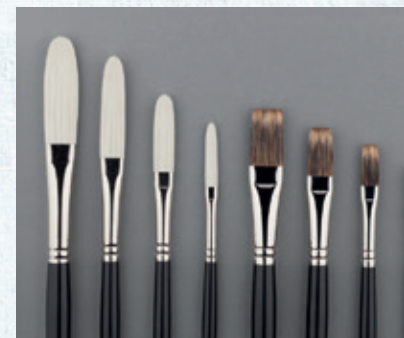
Jason J. Sacran won the Ted Goerschner OPAM Memorial Impressionist Award of Excellence for "Jacob's Ladder"



The Members' Choice Award of Excellence was won by Doreen J. St. John for "Symphony of the Wetlands"

2017 NATIONAL CATALOG AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Copies of this year's national exhibition catalog are now available for purchase at a cost of \$25.00 each (three or more for \$21.00 each). These may be purchased online by visiting the OPA website or by sending a check to: Oil Painters of America, P. O. Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2488.



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MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER JAN PENG WANG OPAM

Jan Peng Wang OPAM was born in Guangzhou, China, in 1958. Wang graduated from Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts and Studied Graphic design at Tokyo Communication Art College. In 1989 he moved to Canada, where he currently resides and pursues painting as his full time occupation. By devoting himself to the fine arts for many years, he has won many awards in Canada and the United States. He has participated in solo and group exhibitions throughout North America and Asia. His paintings can be found in corporate and private collections throughout many countries.

Wang specializes in still life and figurative paintings and uses oil paint to provide a sculptural element to many of his works. Classical figures are often combined with unexpected elements of daily life.



“Every artist is different in his own realistic way, but whether his artwork can touch hearts depends on its ability to pass artist's emotions. If this is a masterpiece that the artist creates wholeheartedly, the charm of the work will last for a long time. This is what I have been pursuing in artistic creation.”

MEET THE ASSOCIATE & SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER JEANYA CHARLES



Jeanya Charles grew up in Moscow, Russia with regular visits to the Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts and Tretyakov State Gallery where she admired representational painting. She started painting nine years ago after the birth of her youngest daughter.

Jeanya had a career as a clinical pharmacist supporting a group of physicians working with elderly patients. Part of the job involved seeing patients in nursing homes. Thinking that when you are in the nursing home it is too late to paint, she quit her job in 2010 and moved with her family to Boston. Not knowing anybody in the art community there, she started by making copies of old master paintings at the Museum

of Fine Arts (MFA). She spent every day for the first year there studying paintings, including those by Rembrandt, de Ribera, Murillo and Velázquez. After overcoming initial “stage fright”, Jeanya was able to have the amazing experience of connecting with the museum visitors and discovering that most of the guards were artists themselves. Through them she discovered the artist community in the area and was guided to a number of talented instructors. She took night art classes from the school of the Museum of Fine Art and Massachusetts College of Art and Design, most notably artist anatomy with Gerry Hoag and painting with Catherine Kehoe.

In 2012 she went to Colorado and worked with a number of gifted Colorado artists at the Art Students League of Denver before studying drawing and painting with Daniel Sprick and Andrea Kemp. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with Daniel and Andrea and considers them the biggest influence on her art.

Jeanya has done much traveling to see art in the museums of America and Europe. She is inspired, most of all, by the Dutch and Spanish masters, never to get tired of Rembrandt, Vermeer and Velázquez. For drawing, it is Nikolai Fechin whose drawings she has carefully studied. Nowadays, when traveling, her trips to museums are mixed with painting on location, although her main interest remains in figurative work.

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Williamsburg Handmade Oil Colors
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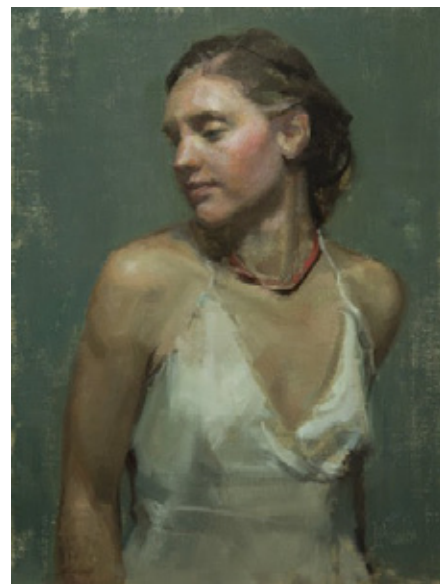
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Calvin Liang OPAM
Ned Mueller OPAM
C.W. Mundy OPAM
Joyce Pike OPAM
Zhiwei Tu OPAM
Jan Peng Wang OPAM
Alan Wolton OPAM
Christopher Zhang OPAM



Meadow Gist OPA won the John
August Dietrich Memorial
Figurative Award of Excellence for
"A Storm is Coming"



"Ditch Bank" by Joshua Clare
won the Alden Bryan Memorial
Landscape Award of Excellence



The Portraiture Award of Excellence
was awarded to
Johanna Harmon OPA
for "Cari"

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE LAST WEEK OF MAY, 2018

The 2018 National Exhibition and Convention will be held at the Steamboat Art Museum in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Convention activities will begin May 30th with the exhibition opening on June 1, 2018. Juror of Awards will be Craig Tennant OPAM. Canvas size not to exceed 1,200 square inches. More details will follow as they become available.



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Lindsay Goodwin won the
Still Life Award of Excellence
for the painting
"Belle Epoque Paris"



The Dorothy Drieaus Mellin Fellowship
for Midwestern Artists was won by
Adam Clague OPA for "Book Club"



"Alluring" painted by Christina C.
Kuo won the Neil Patterson OPAM
Award of Excellence

Remember that when revising your contact information with OPA you should also update the Juried Art Services site. These computer programs work independently of each other and updating one will NOT automatically update the other.



“BEAUTIFUL OHIO” WET PAINT JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT

By Roger Dale Brown OPA

I was very inspired to see and be a part of such a wonderful addition to the OPA National Convention. The Wet Paint portion of the convention added an element of excitement to the event. It was such a treat for me to see the artists in their element painting on location and from life. Having the variety of genre of plein-air, still life and figurative played to the individual artists strengths. There was something for everyone.

The work the artists produced was excellent, and as always in competitions, it was very hard to make a decision. With only a handful of awards to pass along, when there are so many deserving artists, was quit a daunting task.

For me, what makes an award winning piece of art is strong academics, coupled with the artist applying their own unique design and composition to a scene. I always say that academics and technique are only tools for expression, not a means to an end itself, and vise versa.

Expression alone shows lack of maturity and can be quit boring. When there is a balance of expression and academics, a good painting is the result. When an artists has skill in their academics such as drawing, design, color, value and perspective, they can then have the confidence to be expressive successfully. You can see their sense of freedom with the application of paint, mark making and edge work.

It was an honor to be asked to judge so many accomplished artists.

The following is a list of the 2017 Wet Paint Competition Award Winners:

STUDIO DIVISION

Best in Show: Kurt Anderson OPA for “**Peonies in a Glass Vase**” - funded by *Southwest Art Magazine*

Second Place: Ned Mueller OPAM for “**Gerard Painting**” - funded by *Western Art Collector Magazine*

Third Place: Susan Ploughe OPA for “**Casually Cool**” - funded by *Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine*

Fourth Place: Aimee Erickson OPA for “**How to Forget**” - funded by Holbein Artists Materials

Fifth Place: William A. Suys Jr. OPA for “**Green and Red Gaze**” - funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours

Sixth Place: MaryBeth Karaus OPA for “**Quiet Roses**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

Seventh Place: Ilene Gienger-Stanfield for “**Enjoyment**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

Eight Place: Christine Lashley for “**Reds and Gold**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

EN PLEIN AIR DIVISION

Best in Show: Mostafa Keyhani OPA for “**Roebling Bridge**” - funded by *Southwest Art Magazine*



Artists taking part in the “Beautiful Ohio” Wet Paint event at the Cincinnati Art League

Second Place: Kathleen Hudson for “**Roebling Reflected**” - funded by *Western Art Collector Magazine*

Third Place: Eric Johnson for “**Dry Storage in California Ohio**” - funded by *Plein Air Magazine*

Fourth Place: Joe Gyurcsak for “**Country Road**” - funded by Guerilla Painter

Fifth Place: George Bodine for “**Roebling Bridge**” - funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours

Sixth Place: Christine Lashley for “**Stadium View**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

Seventh Place: David Mueller for “**View from Artist Heaven**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

Eight Place: Jill Stefani Wagner for “**From the Top**” - funded by New Wave Fine Art Products

MEET THE “BEAUTIFUL OHIO” WET PAINT WINNERS

STUDIO DIVISION WINNER KURT ANDERSON OPA

Kurt Anderson OPA is an oil painter who works in many genres – floral, figurative, portrait and landscape. These paintings have won him top honors with the Oil Painters of America, the Salon International and the Open Market National. He also won Grand Prize in *International Artist* magazine’s Floral Painting Challenge.

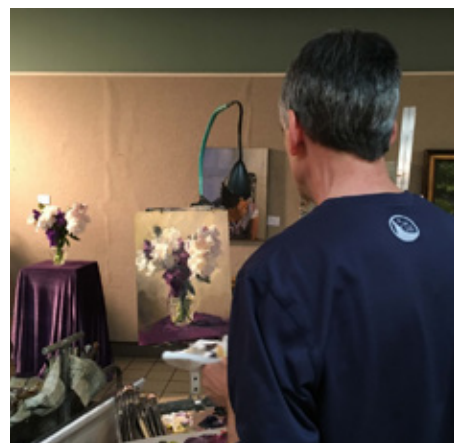
“I try to paint the essence of what I’m seeing, painting only so much detail as is necessary to capture that essence” Anderson says. “This concept is, of course, at the center of the naturalist/impressionist tradition in painting. But it has been my life’s study, and it is the challenge that excites me every time I take up a brush.”

Anderson received his primary artistic education with four years in the traditional atelier (or studio system of training) under Minneapolis artist Richard Lack. This makes him part of a master-pupil lineage that can be traced back to 19th century masters such as Jacques Louis David. Anderson received his BA in studio art from the University of Arizona, where he also received a master’s degree in accounting.

Anderson is represented in many major collections. His 20 foot mural "Prairie Sky" is on permanent display at the library of Iowa State University. Anderson's official portrait commissions range from the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court to the president of Iowa State University.

Articles about Anderson have appeared in *The Artist’s Magazine*, *International Artist*, *Australian Artist* and *Southwest Art*. He has been featured in seven books and is author of *Realistic Oil Painting Techniques* (North Light Books).

Since 2010 Anderson has been on the board of directors of the Oil Painters of America, and currently serves as vice president and treasurer. Anderson lives in Tucson, AZ with his wife Dale LaFleur and their two children Henry and Ada.



EN PLEIN AIR DIVISION WINNER MOSTAFA KEYHANI OPA



Mostafa Keyhani OPA was born in Iran in 1954 but now lives in Toronto, Canada.

It was during his years as a secondary school student that he was encouraged by one of his teachers to pursue his artistic talents. As a result, Keyhani became completely devoted to painting.

Keyhani’s work is essentially in the field of modern impressionism, with light playing an important role in his work, as well as movement of colors. His work is about capturing the essence of certain light through effortless brushstrokes and movements. He is known for his use of thick sculptural paint and strong, spontaneous brush work. He continues to work with subject matters that best capture the essence of abstract or modern impressionism.

JUST A REMINDER

Members may advertise upcoming workshops on the OPA website for the nominal fee of \$25 per listing. You may list as many workshops as you would like for up to six months. To post your workshop, or find those already listed by other OPA members, visit the OPA site and find “Workshops” under the “Education & Events” menu.

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MEMBERS' CHOICE WINNERS

One of the fun parts of being a member of OPA is being afforded the opportunity to cast your vote for your favorite paintings at the national convention. Only OPA members are eligible to vote for their top selections for both a Master Signature painting and an Associate & Signature painting.



*American Art Collector's closing party
at the American Sign Museum*



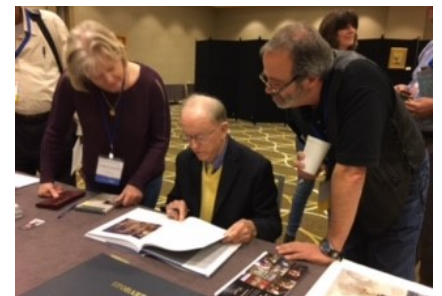
Opening reception at Eisele Gallery



*Demo by Juror of Awards
William Whitaker OPAM*

RAFFLE WINNERS

Thank you to all who bought tickets for the raffle baskets at the national convention. This is a good way to support OPA, through the money we receive from the tickets, and acquire some useful painting related articles, donated by our vendors. Congratulations to this year's basket winners: Angie Campbell, Karen LaValley, Eileen McConkey, Ann Steverson and Kathy M.



Speaker John Stobart OPAM

MEET THE DOROTHY DRIEHAUS MELLON FELLOWSHIP FOR MIDWESTERN ARTISTS WINNER ADAM CLAGUE OPA

Adam began his endeavors into art by creating comic-book superheroes but broadened his horizons until he entered college, receiving a Master of Fine Arts degree from Pensacola Christian College. It was during his studies that Adam met his wife and fellow painter, Andrea Orr Clague. The couple now lives near Kansas City, Missouri and enjoys pursuing art together.

His own instruction came from master painter Brian Jekel, who gave expert teaching on the skills of representational painting. He loves sharing what he has learned by instructing workshops. Later this year, he will launch his online video course, "Learn to Paint Dynamic Portraits and Figures in Oil" (for more information, please visit: ClagueFineArt.com).

Adam has a passion for faithfully capturing the beauty of God's creation in paint. He strives to share the beauty he sees with others and seeks to glorify the Lord through his work and life.



SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER RECAPS HER EXPERIENCE By Tina Garrett

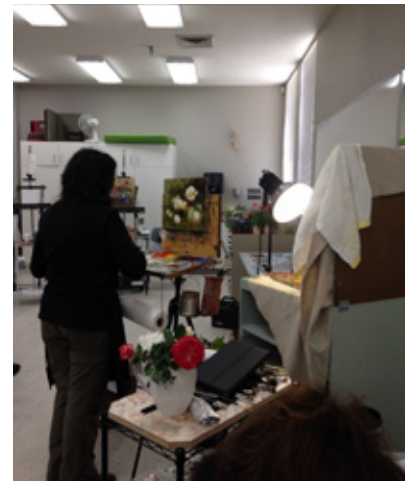
I'm so thankful to Oil Painters of America for awarding me one of the Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships! I believe I'll always be learning, and workshops are one of the best ways to really take your work to the next level.

I've wanted to add floral elements to my figurative work and have done so in very small ways such as a rose behind an ear and a girl sitting in the midst of a hydrangea bush. But in terms of painting an actual floral painting, I had been intimidated. Plants are complicated and when you get a bunch together it seems impossible to know where to start, but that's where Kathy Anderson's teaching genius really lies.

Kathy simplified this complicated subject matter by beginning very carefully with her arrangement or set up. I was so happy to see she and I shared this in common. I can take a week or so getting the right pose and clothes and lighting on a model and then even longer in the editing stage if I'm working from a photo. It should have been obvious maybe, but this one simple step really matters and I was very excited to watch Kathy work with the flowers, clipping and bending, plucking and adding to create a composition worthy of her painting skill.

Kathy starts with a wash and wipe out method that is new to me. This simple method really helps you get your bearings and part of the wash can even be seen in the finished painting, giving so much depth and interest. Kathy also introduced me to a few new brushes and colors, which really matters if you want a realistic floral painting, but surprisingly some of the flowers were so vibrant, color straight from the tube is what you need! Kathy's complete brush set is available from Rosemary & Co.

I left Kathy's workshop with a true respect for her work and real admiration for her work ethic. She stayed in the evenings to finish her demonstrations and we were invited to stay and watch whenever possible. Kathy is so generous with her information, I left her workshop no longer a pansy, lol, but really excited to paint them! Look for some floral elements in my new works!



Kathy, demonstrating her style



One of Kathy's workshop creations

SPRING 2017 ASSOCIATE ONLINE SHOWCASE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

With over 400 entries in the Spring, 2017 Online Showcase picking the top three, plus 10 honorable mentions was not an easy feat for judge Tom Bluemlein OPA. We thank Tom for the time and effort he put forth to jury this array of varied styles and subject matter.

As always, without the continued support of Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation this competition would not be available to our members. We thank both Dorothy and the Foundation for their contributions for this endeavor.



Mark Daly's Online Showcase award winning painting "Harbor Lights, Camden"

First Place: Mark Daly for "Harbor Lights, Camden"

Second Place: Kyle Stuckey for "Flower"

Third Place: Tina Garrett for "String of Pearls"

Honorable Mentions: Jeff Morrow for "Middleburg Hounds", Jerry Sumpter for "Eve", Deborah Tilby for "Spring is Springing", Ni Zhu for "Face It", Robert Papp for "A Study in White", Jeremy Winborg for "Winter Warmth", Alan Wylie for "Through the Tangle", David Kapszukiewicz for "Transition", Nathaniel Skousen for "Toil of Love", and Gail Rein for "Grace in Motion".

Submissions for the 2017 Summer On-Line Showcase are being accepted now through August 15. The Summer Showcase is open only to Associate members. However, the Fall Online Showcase is open to both Associate and Signature members, with separate honors being awarded in each division. Fall entries will be accepted October 1 through December 15. The cost remains \$14 per entry with no limit to the number of entries you may submit. Visit the OPA website for entry info and to view all the award winning entries.



MEET THE SPRING ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER MARK DALY

Mark was taught to draw by his mother, Elizabeth Daly and Woodhull Young, a marine painter and curator of the Vanderbilt Museum. More recently, CW Mundy OPAM has mentored Mark in oil painting.

Mark has been blessed with several God-given talents. Besides painting, he is a composer of original mandolin music and a voting member of the Grammys. He has been a visionary leader of several successful businesses. He is author of *Five Steps to Board Success* and has served on many business and not-for-profit Boards. Mark has leveraged the wisdom gleaned from his musical, business and life experiences to be a better painter.

I paint memorable impressions of life's joys. I view painting as an inspired, personal journey. Beyond oil paint, passion, purpose and hard-work are key ingredients in every painting I create. I use both direct observation of nature and imagination. To start a painting, I visualize the composition, then let my heart and mind capture a strong sense of light, color harmony, and confident brushwork. My goal is to create timeless works of enduring excellence.

Daly's work has been featured in solo and group shows and is in many private and corporate collections, worldwide. He has received prominent awards in national juried art exhibitions. Mark is a member of the American Impressionist Society (Signature Member), Oil Painters of America, the American Society of Marine Artists and the Greenacres Artist Guild. He has studios in Ohio and Maine and travels worldwide to paint.

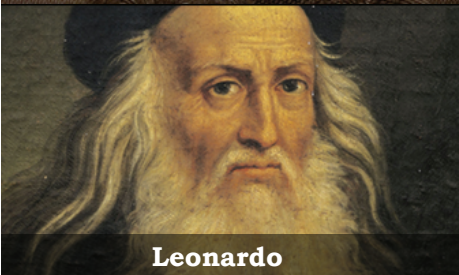
2017 GREAT PAINT OUTS

Members of OPA host Paint Outs yearly, throughout the membership area. This year we are pleased to announce that we will be having Paint Outs as far west as Hawaii and as far north as Alaska. Please review the list below to find the Paint Out nearest to you, or nearest to where you will be travelling this fall. This is a great way to make new acquaintances as well as get other artists' perspectives on painting. If you would like contact information concerning one of these events, or if you would like to host a Paint Out, please visit our website and look under the Education & Events menu for Paint Outs.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>HOST'S NAME</u>
9/3/2017	Haines	AK	Donna Catotti
9/6/2017	East Boothbay	ME	Corinne McIntyre
9/16/2017	Huntsville	AL	Danielle Day Damson
9/16/2017	San Diego	CA	Kevin Inman
9/16/2017	Woodbury	CT	Ellie Boyd
9/16/2017	Winnsboro	SC	Barbara Yongue
9/22/2017	Deming	WA	Karen Bakke
9/30/2017	Anna Maria	FL	Cory Wright
10/6-10/8/2017	Emerald Isle	GA	Irene Bailey
10/7/2017	St. Augustine	FL	John Gamache
10/14/2017	Boston	MA	Adam Adkison
10/21/2017	Weatherford	TX	Stuart Roper
11/18/2017	Paia	HI	Deb Lynch



Michelangelo



Leonardo



Donatello



Raphael



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Mian Situ, OPAM



Kevin Macpherson, OPAM



James Crandall, OPAM



Kathleen Dunphy, OPA

NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oil Painters of America welcomes two new members to the Board of Directors: Jane Hunt, of Boulder, Colorado and William A. Suy, Jr. OPA of Pewaukee, Wisconsin.

Check out OPA's newly designed gold, silver and bronze medals, designed by Master Signature Member William T. Chambers. We appreciate the time and effort he took in designing these much sought after exhibition awards. Thank you, Bill.



The 2017 eastern show will have lots of extras to offer. Beginning with a plein air paint out and competition there will also be painting demonstrations by Juror of Awards Howard Friedland OPA, John Michael Carter OPAM, Katie Dobson Cundiff OPA, and Marc Hanson OPAM. Interspersed throughout the program will be dinners at local restaurants and lots of opportunities to socialize with fellow artists and friends. To register please visit the OPA website.

Remember that any purchase you make on Amazon could benefit OPA if you sign up for Amazon Smile. Designate Oil Painters of America as the organization to receive a donation and a small portion of your purchase price will be sent to OPA. There is no additional fee for this service.

If you were at the national exhibition this year, you received a welcome gift of a luggage tag, showing that you are a member of Oil Painters of America. If you did not attend the show and would like to purchase a luggage tag, they may be purchased from OPA at a cost of \$4.00 each.



PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Ellen Buselli OPA's painting "Eben's Magic Flower" is being exhibited at The Butler Museum of American Art in their 81st National Midyear Exhibition. This painting also was a BoldBrush Award winner.

Ramona Dooley is pleased to announce that her painting, "A Resting Place" won First Place Oil at the National Greeley Art Exhibition in Colorado in held in April. Also her painting "Lakeside Loosestrife" was juried into the Bennington Art Center Small Works Show in Vermont.

Joseph Gyuresak was the Grand Prize winner at the 13th Annual Plein Air competition in Easton, Maryland for his painting "Garage Port Glory".

Dennis Heckler was a co-featured artist for the month of May exhibition at Rivers Gallery in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Eileen Hendren was pleased to participate in the Spring Profusion of Floral and Form exhibition, held in May at Nicoles Studio & Art Gallery.

Michelle Jung has been elected to the status of Signature Member by the California Art Club as well as by the American Society of Marine Artists. Ms. Jung has also been honored by being named an Art Renewal Center Associate Living Master for her landscapes, especially those featuring water. Lastly, she

has been invited, for a second time, to participate in the Salmagundi Club's Master Exhibition this fall.

Nancy & Lisa Quatrocchi are pleased to announce the opening of their Mother & Daughter Art Exhibit "Paintings Inspired by Nature's Gift" at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Morristown, N.J. Nov. 1-30th.

Michelle Schleider was the winner in the Art Muse Contest in the Emerging Artist category for her painting, *Turquoise Splendor*. Her work will be featured at the Jack Meier Gallery in Houston, TX.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Marcia Grieve, Maple Valley, Washington, an OPA member since 2007,
Bill Langenberg, Bloomingdale, Illinois, an OPA member since 2006,
Gary O’Gara, Florence, Oregon, an OPA member since 2010,
Tommy Thompson, Florence, Alabama, an OPA member since 2007. Mrs. Thompson emailed OPA to say how much her husband had enjoyed being a member of OPA and how he encouraged many artists, such as their daughter Michelle Rideout and Charles Thomas Cox OPAM to become members.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September - November Great Paint Outs, see page 17 for complete listing

September 1 – Deadline for submission for 2017 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

October 15 – Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Please visit the OPA website for requirement revisions, effective 2017 applications.

December 1 – Deadline for submission for 2017 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-seventh Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention - Steamboat Art Museum in Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Convention: May 30 - June 2, Exhibition: June 1 - September 3, 2018

Juror of Awards: Craig Tennant OPAM

Canvas size not to exceed 1,200 square inches

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

2017 Western Regional - Illume Gallery of Fine Art, Authentique Gallery of Art & Design and The Mission Gallery, Saint George, Utah - November 8 - December 9, 2017

Juror of Awards: William Schneider OPA

2017 Eastern Regional - Anderson Fine Art Gallery in St. Simons Island, Georgia

Opening Program: November 15 - 19 - Visit OPA website for calendar of events

Juror of Awards: Howard Friedland OPA

2018 Salon Show - Crooked Tree Arts Center in Traverse City, Michigan

Details to follow

ON-LINE SHOWCASES

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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