

### BEVERLY McNEIL GALLERY HOSTS OUTSTANDING EASTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA



Marc Hanson OPAM was awarded the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division for his painting "Moonbeam"

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Located in the historic section of Birmingham, Alabama, the Beverly McNeil Gallery offered OPA artists and guests a beautiful exhibition of over 135 of the best paintings of OPA eastern region and Master Signature members. The Gallery presented a most attractive and inviting exhibition in this spacious gallery, allowing easy viewing of all paintings.

Activities opened Thursday afternoon with OPA President Kurt Anderson's PowerPoint presentation "Artists at the Cutting Edge: the OPA and the Rebirth of Representational Painting". Kurt spoke to the founding and mission of the OPA, and the many diverse traditions that our member artists practice and advance.

Kurt's lecture was followed by the Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony at the Gallery. Attendees enjoyed viewing the entries in the expansive, well-lit surroundings while meeting other artists and guests. Juror of Awards Roger Dale Brown OPAM held everyone's attention as he led up to the announcements of the Gold Medal winners. Neal J. Hughes won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division for "Morning Mist" and Marc Hanson OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division for "Moonbeam". A complete list of awards winners follows this article.

After the heightened suspense of the awards ceremony many attendees adjourned to Babalu Tapas and Tacos to relax and enjoy renewing old friendships and making new ones. Dinner at this Latininspired restaurant was a pleasant experience and a great way to end the first day of the activities.

Friday morning started with a painting demonstration by Juror of



The Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was given to Neal J. Hughes for "Morning Mist"

Eastern Show con't.

Awards, Roger Dale Brown OPAM. He created a restful, rural landscape of a barn while explaining his use of color and tonal gradations to create a sense of atmosphere. Following Roger's demonstration, guests were treated to a tasty brunch by Beverly McNeil as a thank you to all who attended.

Master Signature member John Michael Carter completed the day with an afternoon painting demonstration. Carter is well known for his lifelike portraits and figurative work. In just over two hours Michael painted a head study of a local woman who posed for the demonstration. She then purchased the painting for her own collection.

A complete list of winners follows.

### MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Marc Hanson OPAM for "Moonbeam" -\$3,500 funded by OPA



William A. Schneider OPAM won the Silver Medal in the Master Signature Division for "The Ermine Wrap"



"Path to Prosperity" by Ken Cadwallader OPAM won the Silver Medal in the Master Signature Division

Silver Medal: Ken Cadwallader OPAM for "Path to Prosperity" - half page advertisement in *Fine Art Connoisseur* Magazine valued at \$2,150

Bronze Medal: William A. Schneider OPAM for "The Ermine Wrap" - Artwork Archive Lifetime Account valued at \$1,250

Master Signature Award of Excellence: Calvin Liang OPAM for "The Fishing Boats" - merchandise certificate funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours valued at \$500

Master Signature Award of Excellence: Ruo Li OPAM for "Passionate Sea" - merchandise certificate funded by Maimeri Puro valued at \$250

# ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

**Gold Medal: Neal J. Hughes for** "**Morning Mist**" - \$4,000 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: Stephanie Deshpande for "Conversations" - featured in Artist Focus section of American Art Collector Magazine - valued at \$3,400

Bronze Medal: George Bodine OPA for "Veteran at Home" – full page advertisement in Southwest Art Magazine valued at \$3,380

Realism Award of Excellence: Grace M. Devito for "Cotton and Oak" - \$500 funded by OPA

Impressionist Award of Excellence: Tom L. Nachreiner OPA for "Chicago Light" - \$500 funded by OPA

Most Original Award of Excellence: David Boyd Jr. OPA for "Livewire" - \$500 funded by OPA

Animal Award of Excellence: Todd L. Carignan for "Fresh Milk for the Orphan Girls" -\$500 funded by OPA

Seascape Award of Excellence: David J. Tutwiler OPA for "Quiet Inlet" - \$500 funded by OPA

Figurative Award of Excellence: Mary Qian OPA for "Dayton Street" - merchandise certificate funded by Savior Faire valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA



The Silver Medal in the Associate & Signature Division was awarded to Stephanie Deshpande for "Conversations"

Eastern Show con't.

Landscape Award of Excellence: Jason L. Tako for "Beartooth Foothills" - merchandise certificate funded by Blue Ridge Oil Colors valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA

Portraiture Award of Excellence: Joseph Daily for "Admiration" - merchandise certificate funded by Savoir-Faire valued at \$500

Still Life Award of Excellence: Margaret M. Carrier for "The Bouquet" - merchandise certificate funded by Blue Ridge Oil Color valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA

#### **AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE**

**Katie Dobson Cundiff OPA for** "Sawmill" - merchandise certificate funded by Gamblin Artists Oil Colors valued at \$250

**Dawn E. Whitelaw for "A Kaleidoscope Moment" -** merchandise certificate funded by Liliedahl Video Productions valued at \$250

Hongnian Zhang for "Snowy Steamed Dumplins" - merchandise certificate funded by Blick Art Materials valued at \$250

Judy Maurer for "The Way of Water" - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$150

**Dottie T. Leatherwood for** "The Living is Easy" - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$125

Katherine F. Galbraith OPA for "Saddled Up" - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$100



David J. Tutwiler OPA won the Seascape Award of Excellence for "Quiet Inlet"



Jason L. Tako's "Beartooth Foothills" won the Landscape Award of Excellence





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### JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT ROGER DALE BROWN OPAM



It was such an honor to be asked to judge this contest. As always I am humbled to stand in front of a hundred and twenty something paintings that are all deserving of an award. I never take judging lightly. I know how hard it is for the artist to put their souls onto a canvas to be judged by a judge, by their peers and everyone that sees the show.

The quality of this show was amazing. What I loved about this show was the variety of subject matter that was represented. There was not one subject that overwhelmed the other and the artist's skill and craftsmanship within each subject was superb.

There are two things I initially look for when I judge. First, does the painting draw me in? Does it make me stop, give pause and ponder? Second, does it have the academics, drawing, proportion, design, color sensibility and/or sensitivity and general

composition to support that initial intrigue? Usually, for me these two things go hand in hand. I give consideration to the emotional aspect that draws me in, but I give much more consideration to why it draws me in, which inevitably comes back to academics. After narrowing down the field using this approach, I simply have to use my best judgment and decide who carried out these elements the best.



The Impressionist Award of Excellence was given to Tom L. Nachreiner OPA for "Chicago Light"



Todd L. Carignan won the Animal Award of Excellence for "Fresh Milk for the Orphan Girls"



The Bronze Medal in the Associate and Signature Division went to George Bodine OPA for "Veteran at Home"



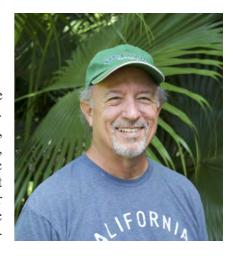
"Livewire" painted by David Boyd Jr. OPA won the Most Original Award of Excellence



The Realism Award of Excellence was given to Grace M. Devito for "Cotton and Oak"

### MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER MARC HANSON OPAM

Having grown up in a military family, Marc's youth was spent on the move. He was born in Oxnard, California and spent some of his early school years there. Soon his geographical resumé included Alaska, Florida, Arkansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Norway. After his father's retirement from the Air Force, Marc's family settled in the small northern California community of Loomis. Marc began college as a biology major, but soon applied to and was accepted into Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, majoring in illustration. After Art Center and a brief stint as a staff illustrator in Sacramento, California, Marc moved to Minnesota where he lived for 33 years while raising a family and pursuing his art.



"I have pursued a career as a painter for many years now. Along the way my methods, materials and focus have evolved. A naturalist at heart, the landscape is the perfect vehicle for expressing the joy I have for the world that surrounds me. My real interest and challenge as a painter is how to best manipulate the core principles of painting into effective visual statements. I'm most successful when I'm able to communicate that joy to the viewers of my paintings."

Marc teaches landscape painting workshops in many locations nationally. "I love working with other painters in their pursuit to better their craft. My goal is not to have them assimilate my style and technique, but to teach them how to more closely examine the subject and apply the principles that representational painters must follow to become effective visual communicators." Marc has shown his work in galleries and museums nationally and internationally.

Marc is a Master Signature Member of Oil Painters of America (OPAM), having won an Award of Excellence at the OPA National Exhibits in 2000, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011. In 2011 his painting "Right or Left" was awarded the Bronze Medal at the OPA National Exhibition in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Among his many awards, he's placed four times in The Pastel Journal's 'Pastel 100' competition. Marc has won numerous other awards for his work as well as having articles written about him in a variety of art related and trade magazines.



"Dayton Street" by Mary Qian OPA won the Figurative Award of Excellence



Margaret M. Carrier's "The Bouquet" won the Still Life Award of Excellence



The Portraiture Award of Excellence was given to Joseph Daily for "Admiration"

### DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF THE NATIONAL CATALOG

Remember that to be included in the 2020 National Catalog as a current member of Oil Painters Of America your dues payment MUST be received by January 31, 2020.



### MEET THE ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER NEAL J. HUGHES

Neal Hughes is a graduate of The Philadelphia College of Art (University of the Arts) and currently resides in the historic town of Medford, New Jersey.

Neal is a Fellow of the American Society of Marine Artists, as well as a member of the Salmagundi Club, Mid Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association, American Impressionist Society and Oil Painters of America.

A former illustrator, Neal has been painting professionally for over 35 years. His work is part of the permanent collection of the New Britain Museum of American

Art and he has been accepted into numerous juried exhibitions including the national exhibitions of the American Impressionist Society, Oil Painters of American, American Society of Marine Artists and the Portrait Society of America.

Neal's work has been featured in *Plein Air Magazine*, *Southwest Art, American Artist* and *American Art Collector* magazines. He has also won many awards from distinguished organizations, including being the grand prize winner of the Utrecht 60th Anniversary Art Competition, winning the top prize out of over 12,000 entries.



Beverly McNeil Gallery prior to opening their doors for the OPA Exhibition



Juror of Awards Roger Dale Brown OPAM presented a demonstration on rural landscape painting



The opening reception and awards ceremony was a well attended event

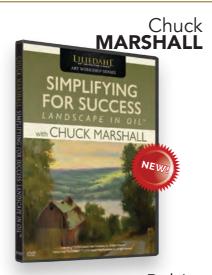


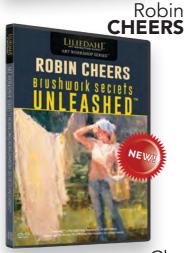
Friday afternoon portraiture demonstration by John Michael Carter OPAM

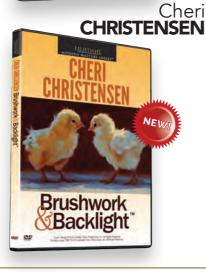
### NATIONAL EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DATE

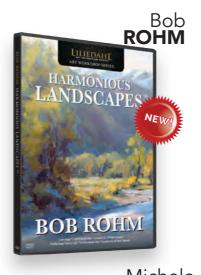
Don't miss the National Exhibition and convention Early Bird Registration rate of \$350 for OPA members. This rate is available to those who sign up by March 13th. After that date the rate increases to \$400 for OPA members. Onsite registration is \$425. For more information, see page 15.

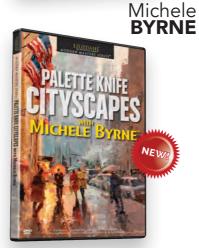
# FRESH IDEAS ON PAINTING

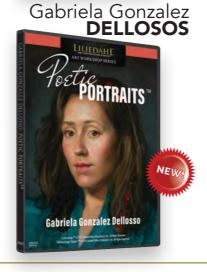






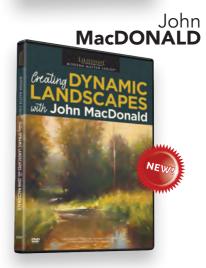














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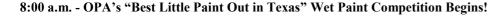




### Tuesday, May 12

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration Open Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

Registered attendees can pick up their registration packets and have their canvas stamped at the Admiral Nimitz Museum. On-site registration is available as well. Be sure to carve out some time to explore downtown Fredericksburg's trendy shops and restaurants.







OPA's "Best Little Paint Out in Texas" Wet Paint Competition begins bright and early Tuesday morning! Registered attendees\* will compete for a minimum of \$15,000 in cash and merchandise awards. A first, second and third place will be given in two categories: studio and plein air, with remaining awards given based on the discretion of the Juror of Awards.

Canvas must be officially stamped by an OPA or RS Hanna Gallery representative prior to painting. Maximum canvas size is 320 square inches. All paintings must be framed and wired for hanging to be in the competition & sale.

\*Please Note: Only attendees who have paid a <u>full</u> convention registration fee are eligible to participate in the wet paint sale & competition. Eligible convention attendees are guaranteed one painting in the exhibition; however, two or more paintings will be considered based on the number of participating attendees, so please come prepared. Please see the competition rules for the full details. Wet Paint Rules can be found at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/2020wetpaint



### Wednesday, May 13

8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Registration Open Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

Registered attendees can pick up their registration packets and have their canvas stamped. On-site registration is available as well.



### 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - OPA's "Best Little Paint Out in Texas" Wet Paint Sale & Competition

Both plein air and studio artists will have the opportunity to paint. OPA will provide models for artists wishing to paint indoors and some props. Or, feel free to bring your own props if you prefer. Plein air artists – you are free to explore the area! Volunteers will be on hand to give you suggestions on the best places to paint in the area.

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Welcome to Texas! Opening Reception Hosted by  $Southwest\ Art\ Magazine$ 

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 

After a full day of painting it's time to relax and enjoy some cold refreshments and light hors d'oeuvres at this year's Welcome Reception sponsored by *Southwest Art* Magazine. Food, drink, and a room full of artists – it can't get much better than that!



### Thursday, May 14

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Registration Open Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum



8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Southwest Art Magazine's Pampered Paint Out Location: TBD

Oh yeah! It's time for the ever-popular *Southwest Art* Magazine's Pampered Paint Out. Where else can you paint all day while being provided with a continental breakfast, delicious lunch and great music? And, did we mention a local massage therapist will be on hand too? All thanks to our good friends

at Southwest Art Magazine. OPA will provide models and props and plein air artists will find no shortage of subject matter in historic downtown Fredericksburg. Don't forget framed paintings for the competition are due at St. Joseph's Halle between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.



### 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Drop Off Deadline for the Wet Paint Competition Location: St. Joseph's Halle

Drop off at St. Joseph's Halle for the Wet Paint Competition begins promptly at 4:00 p.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. There will be plenty of volunteers on hand to make the process run as smoothly as possible. Paintings should be framed and wired for hanging. If you don't want to bring frames with you, OPA will offer participants the opportunity to purchase frames in advance for onsite pick-up. More details to follow.

### 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – "Up Close and Personal" with OPA's Distinguished Artist Zhiwei Tu OPAM Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum



Very few artists can boast having a museum named in their honor. From his humble beginnings to becoming one of China's most revered artists, Zhiwei Tu will talk with us about his journey to becoming one of today's most highly regarded artists. His story is one of courage and determination and will show us that nothing is impossible if we work hard.

Conference attendees will join Zhiwei Tu OPAM along with Kurt Anderson OPA, John Michael Carter OPAM, and Ken Cadwallader OPAM to talk about his life, as well as take a visual tour of this stunning museum and get the inside story behind this crowning achievement.

### Friday, May 15

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Registration & Exhibits Open Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

Attendees can pick up their registration packets at the Admiral Nimitz Museum and visit the exhibitors located right next store. Don't forget to make your "Wish List" before you come! And, artists who visit each exhibitor and have their exhibitor cards stamped are eligible to enter the special exhibitors raffle basket drawing!

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – "Breaking Through the Artist's Wall; How to Create and Sell More Art While Spending Less Time Marketing" with Dave Geada, CMO of BoldBrush and FASO Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

Sooner or later we all hit the artist's wall. No matter what we do, we can't seem to increase our art sales beyond a certain point. We end up caught in a never-ending tug of war between producing our art and marketing our art that ultimately limits our ability to our sell art.

Modern, commonly held beliefs about how to market art online have only made this problem worse. These approaches demand that artists spend a ridiculous amount of time marketing themselves on social networks, search engines, and more. What's worse, these approaches often don't work, leaving artists frustrated and disillusioned.

But what if there were a better way to market art online? One that required less time to accomplish and delivered more results? One that finally allowed artists to break through the artist's wall and increase both production and sales? Join Dave Geada, CMO of BoldBrush and FASO, as he shares a proven approach to breaking through the artist's wall. Learn how to market in less time, while increasing art production and art sales.



#### Friday continued

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. "How to Significantly Reduce your Shipping Costs" Presentation with Elaine Lockard, VP Sales & Marketing & Managing Agent for 'Shipandinsure.com'

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 



Do you often ship your work to exhibitions, collectors or galleries? If so, then this session is for you! Elaine Lockard, VP of Sales and Marketing for 'Shipandinsure.com' will explain how OPA members can save 10% to 40% on Federal Express Shipments, PLUS have your painting insured for its full value for damage and loss with no deductible - for real! Return shipments are covered under the program, also. You will save considerable amounts and have peace of mind with this exclusive benefit program.

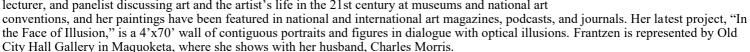
### 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Painting Demonstrations with Exhibitors Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

This session is all about our amazing exhibitors who are eager to show you the latest and greatest products their companies have to offer! Joining them will be some of today's top artists who will demonstrate their expertise using exhibitors' products. A boxed lunch will be provided for all registered attendees.

### 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Painting Demonstration with Juror of Awards Rose Frantzen Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

OPA is thrilled to have Rose Frantzen as this year's Juror of Awards. Living in Maquoketa, IA, Rose Frantzen is establishing a history as a working artist, creating figurative, serial, allegorical, and installation works in oil and multimedia, with numerous solo shows and participation in group exhibitions. "Portrait of Maquoketa," a collection of 180 portraits, painted of her townspeople, was exhibited at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery and is now an installation in the Figge Art Museum's permanent collection, which includes a 315 square foot anamorphic landscape, voice, and music. Other notable collections include the World Food Prize, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Dubuque Museum of Art, Iowa State University, and University of Iowa.

She has shown at Butler Institute of American Art, Brunnier Museum, Denver Historical Museum, Iowa State Historical Museum, and as a three-time award winner in the Portrait Society of America's International Portrait Competition. Frantzen is a frequent demonstrator, workshop instructor, guest lecturer, and panelist discussing art and the artist's life in the 21st century at museums and national art





### 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - OPA's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception Location: RS Hanna Gallery

Come join us for a very special evening honoring the amazing and talented artists comprising this year's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Exhibition. Whether you are new to painting or a seasoned pro, this exhibition will inspire and challenge you to be the best painter you can be.

### 8:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. - Oil Painters of America's Awards & Recognition Ceremony Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

OPA's Awards Ceremony celebrates the highest achievement and excellence in representational oil painting. Join us on Friday evening as we honor this year's National award winners and Wet Paint

competition winners. Presentations will also be made to recognize artists who have achieved the Signature and Master Signature designation in 2019.

### 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. - Awards Ceremony After Party! Location: St. Joseph's Halle

Time to celebrate! Wrap up this amazing day at the Wet Paint Exhibition highlighting the amazing work painted throughout the week. Be prepared to be wowed! Of course, a little food, drink, and music will make the evening better.

### Saturday, May 16

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration & Exhibits Open

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 

Attendees can pick up their registration packets and visit the exhibitors located right next door. Artists who visit each exhibitor and have their exhibitor cards stamped are eligible to enter the special exhibitor raffle basket drawing!

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – "Change Your Studies, Change Your Art" with David Dibble Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum



Artist and teacher David Dibble shares his process of doing small plein air and studio studies as a means of creating gallery paintings of greater clarity and conviction. Underscoring this approach is David's focus on the elements of value, shape, color and composition as vital story-telling elements. These principles will be demonstrated in both traditional and digital media.

Born in 1977, David Dibble was raised on a farm in Davis County, Utah, where he was influenced by the land-scape from an early age. He completed a BFA in Illustration from Brigham Young University and began land-scape painting in earnest in graduate school at the Academy of Art University. Following the Academy, he and his wife Liz moved to New York, where he worked as a color artist for Blue Sky Studios (20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox), creating Concept Design for such films as Rio, Epic, Ice Age 4, Peanuts, and Ferdinand. David and his family now reside in Orem, Utah, where he teaches Illustration at Brigham Young University and paints often in the surrounding mountains and valleys, focusing largely on agricultural themes.

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Visit the Exhibitors

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – "The Convergence of Value and Design in Painting" Luncheon Presentation with Joe Gyurcsak OPA, AIS, ISAP, Resident Artists Brand Manager of Blick/Utrecht Artists Materials Location: Fredericksburg Inn & Suites

This presentation will redefine key visual factors in the development of a painting. Through a series of lessons developed for students, Joe Gyurcsak OPA has discovered a convergence of two separate painting truths, realizing that value and design are inseparable. The motivation to unite these painting truths as one is illustrated thru examples of great works of art and color mixing exercises. Artists will experience new ways of thinking and seeing in regard to representational painting.

Joe Gyurcsak OPA Resident Artist for Utrecht Art Supplies, has demonstrated & lectured throughout North America. A Signature member of OPA, Joe is a sought-after speaker and frequent author on instruction and observation for *American Artist Magazine*.

1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Visit the Exhibitors

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - "Intellectual Property Protection for Artists" presentation by John DiGiacomo, Esq.,

Partner, Revision Legal

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 



John has extensive experience in internet law, intellectual property, corporate law, and international law. He has litigated matters in these areas in state and federal courts across the United States, including in front of courts of appeals and international arbitration bodies. He has also served as an adjunct professor of both trademark and Internet law for Michigan State University College of Law, teaching both in East Lansing, Michigan and in MSU's summer abroad program in Opatija, Croatia.

John is highly sought after for his deep understanding of the intersection of law and technology. He has been published and interviewed concerning internet law, intellectual property law, and emerging legal issues by various media outlets, including the Economist, Intellectual Property Magazine, Canadian Public Radio, and other media outlets across the country and world. He is regularly asked to speak to conferences and corporations on his areas of expertise. In 2014, John was recognized as one of the most influential people under the age of 40 in

his home of Traverse City, Michigan, and in 2015, 2016, and 2017 he was recognized as a "Rising Star" by SuperLawyers.

John has been interested in technology since his first Apple IIGS, and still maintains a Linux server in his basement. He is highly involved in his community and has served as a board member on the Traverse City Downtown Development Authority and the Traverse City History Center, and as chairman of the board of pH Productions, a comedy theater in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood. He rarely leaves work behind, but, when he does, you can find him sailing on Lake Michigan, fly fishing, or spending time with his wife Brooke and his dog Grimace. John is a dual citizen of the United States and Luxembourg.





Saturday continued

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Visit the Exhibitors

### 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. – Artists at the Cutting Edge: The OPA and the Rebirth of Representational Painting with OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 

OPA President Kurt Anderson will give an overview of the current scene in representational oil painting, and speaks to its significance as the most vital and burgeoning movement in contemporary art. He will show how most of the leading painters today are part of a distinct lineage, master to pupil, intent on maintaining and expanding the great traditions in painting. And he will speak to the OPA's important role as the leading showcase and advocate for this art. This presentation has been developed specifically for OPA members to take and use in their own communities and will be available upon request.

President of the Oil Painters of America, Kurt Anderson OPA is a distinguished painter who has won top honors from many of the nation's leading art organizations and publications. He is the author or co-author of eight books on painting. In addition to having a BA in art, and a master's degree in accounting, Anderson spent four years as an apprentice in a traditional atelier, making him part of a master pupil lineage that can be traced back to the eighteenth-century master Jacques Louis David.

### 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. - Group Critique Session Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

There's a lot to be learned by listening to different perspectives and this session will bring together some of our most well-respected artists to contribute their viewpoints and knowledge on a handful of paintings that will be projected on screen for discussion. A terrific way to learn and be inspired!



### 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. - American Art Collector Magazine's Closing Celebratory Party Location: MarktPlatz

**Prost!** It's time to kick up your heels and have some fun! Let's celebrate a wonderful week in Fredericksburg at this year's closing party sponsored by our long-time friends at *American Art Collector* Magazine. Guests will enjoy some of the best Texas BBQ around and dance the night away to a wide variety of music. Bring your dancing boots – we've got a professional line dancer coming to get everyone dancing!

### Sunday, May 17

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - OPA's Annual Business Meeting

**Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum** 

Find out what's new in the organization and what the future holds as OPA's Board of Directors discusses the state of the organization. This is the time to ask questions and voice your opinions.

#### 9:30 a.m. to Noon – Group Demonstrations Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum



**Susan Hotard OPA** is an experienced and award-winning artist who lived in New Orleans over 31 years and now lives in the Houston suburb of The Woodlands, Texas. Susan had a cover story in *American Artist* magazine (July/August 2005) and earned the highest honor at The New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts and most recently won the Top Fifty Award in the Portrait Society of America's International Competition 2019. Since 2003, Susan has taught portrait, figure, and still life workshops in Texas and Louisiana. She enjoys the vibrancy of both the New Orleans and Houston art communities. She received a BFA in Interior Design from Louisiana Tech University and studied at The New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts and the Arts Student League in New York City.



#### Sunday continued



**Kelli Folsom OPA** is an academically trained artist working exclusively from life in oils. She creates museum quality paintings combining an old master feel with rich color and painterly brushstrokes. When collecting her work, you will be bringing a layer of refined beauty of the highest quality into your collection that uplifts the soul. Kelli is an award-winning artist who at a young age is already exhibiting in museum shows and garnering attention and inclusion in some of the highest organizations in contemporary representational art like Oil Painters of America, American Women Artists, American Impressionists Society and Women Artists of the West.

She received a B.F.A. from Lyme Academy of Fine Arts in Old Lyme, CT, the first impressionist colony in the U.S. established in 1899. It is here that she studied traditional life drawing, painting and sculpture with great emphasis on in depth study and classical techniques and the joy of working in a direct impressionist style in na-

ture. Every still life arrangement is set up in her north light studio and painted directly from life in a matter of one or two sittings. She paints directly so that her relationship to the subject is heightened in the moment in order to pass on that perception and experience to the viewer resulting in a painting that looks like a painting and not a photograph. Kelli chooses objects and arrangements to create the most aesthetically beautiful design and a feeling of abundance and intimacy. These arrangements are influenced by centuries of traditional painting from the Dutch Masters of the 1600s to French Academics of the 1900s.



**Rusty Jones** graduated from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical Communications and the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas with a Master of Science Degree in Medical Illustration. He is a Certified Medical Illustrator and a Fellow of the Association of Medical Illustrators. For over four decades Rusty provided highly technical medical art for major pharmaceutical companies, medical product companies, medical journals, surgical atlases and ad agencies.

Rusty's love of sports led him into sporting art which landed him illustration assignments with such notable magazines as Golf Illustrated, Golf Magazine, the Golf Journal, the Masters Journal and American Way Magazine. He also provided sports art for the Coca-Cola Foods Division for the Summer Olympics, the Dallas Cowboys NFL team and the Dallas Mavericks NBA team.

Now Rusty focuses his artistic skills painting the Western American landscape. Following in the tradition of John Singer Sargent, Julian Onderdonk, Portofino Salinas, Edgar Payne and many other great American painters, Rusty travels throughout the country painting the landscapes before him. "Painting outdoors takes passion. Without passion the wind, heat, snow and bugs will drive you indoors. I enjoy my time in the studio, but it doesn't make my heart race like it does when I am outside."



**John Cook** was born in Dallas, Texas and studied art at the University of Texas in Arlington. He continued his studies in Illustration at The Art Center School in Los Angeles, CA and graduated in 1964. He worked in Dallas as a freelance illustrator for thirty-two years before his first Solo show in 1999 at the Victorian Gallery Dallas. Then a dozen or annual show solo shows at the Southwest Art Gallery, Dallas. He often refers to his style of painting as "Impatient Realism" "Enough said. Exhibitions include the Prestigious W H Patterson Gallery in London England (Mayfair) 2003, with members of Parliament attending. Numerous exhibits in several states and national competitions including several Best of Show awards.

A special shout out to John and his wife Jean who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in August, 2020.

Noon to 2:00 p.m. Individual Portfolio Review Location: Admiral Nimitz Museum

A rare opportunity not to be missed! Meet one on one with an OPA Signature or Master Signature artist who will engage you in a productive dialogue about your work and provide suggestions on ways to improve. Conducted in a non-threatening environment this review will help you reach your full potential as an artist. Sign up at onsite registration.

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION INFORMATION** OPA has customized the registration process to meet your convention needs. Registration includes options to attend the entire convention or individual days. Attendees must pay the full registration fee to participate in the Wet Paint Sale and Competition.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION To register online, visit www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Click on the National Exhibition & Convention Registration link found on the OPA home page.

To register by mail, complete this registration form and mail it into OPA, PO Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL. 60039-2488, with a check or credit card information. Please, one registrant per form. Students must provide proof of student status.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!** Save money and secure your spot by registering right now. Last day to receive the early bird discount is Friday, March 13. Mailed in registration forms must be postmarked by March 13, 2020, in order to receive the Early Bird discount and must arrive in the OPA office no later than Friday, March 20, 2020.

Please Note: Full registration IS required to participate in the Wet Paint Sale & Competition. A one-day registration includes all activities and social events listed for that day.

Registration is NOT required to attend the 29th National Exhibition Opening Reception on Friday evening at RS Hanna Gallery or the Awards & Recognition Ceremony at the Admiral Nimitz Museum. Both events are free and open to the public.

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION NOTES - Advanced Registration Deadline by Mail is Monday, April 27, 2020 or ONLINE by Friday, May 8, 2020. To register via mail, complete the registration form and mail it into OPA, PO Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL. 60039-2488 with a check or credit card information. Please, one registrant per form. Students must provide proof of student status.

Online registration is available at www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Click on the National Exhibition & Convention Registration link found on the OPA home page.

Onsite Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020. Registration hours are listed on the registration schedule below. OPA members must have paid their 2020 membership dues to receive membership rates.

Cancellation/Refunds: An 80% refund of registration fees is allowed if a written request is sent to OPA headquarters 14 days prior to the scheduled start date of the convention. No refunds are made after this date. Requests for refunds must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 27, 2020, and must arrive in the OPA office no later than Monday, May 4, 2020. OPA assesses a \$25 administrative charge for all returned checks. NO refunds will be issued onsite or for failure to attend.

Confirmation: Online registrants should receive a confirmation email immediately upon registering. Mailed registrations will receive an emailed confirmation within 10-14 days from receipt of your registration. If you require a mailed confirmation, please make the appropriate indication on your registration form. Your confirmation will serve as your receipt.

Students: Students eligible for the reduced rate must provide a photocopy of a valid student ID from an accredited, degree granting college or university.

Special Requests: If you have any special requirements under the ADA, please e-mail your request to Rosemary Murray at mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com. Special needs must be received at the OPA office 30 days before opening day of convention to assure reasonable accommodation.

Inn on Baron's Creek 308 S. Washington Street Fredericksburg, TX 78624 Phone: 830-990-9202 www.innonbaronscreek.com

Standard Double Queen or Standard King:

Sunday thru Thursday: \$109 + tax

Friday & Saturday: \$199 + tax

Please mention Oil Painters of America to receive these special rates

Please Note: There are suites available, some with kitchenettes. Please ask hotel for rates if interested.

Free parking, complimentary hot breakfast each morning, free wi-fi, walking distance to the Admiral Nimitz. Minimum 2-nights on Friday & Saturday stay.

Fredericksburg Inn & Suites 201 S. Washington Street Fredericksburg, TX 78624 Phone: 830-997-0202

www.fredericksburg-inn.com

Reservation cut-off is April 10, 2020 and based on availability.

**Standard Double Queen or Standard King:** Sunday thru Thursday: \$109 + tax Friday & Saturday: \$179 + tax (Parking Lot)

Friday & Saturday: \$199 + tax (Poolside)

Please mention Oil Painters of America to receive these special rates

Second floor rooms accessible by stairs only.

Free parking, complimentary hot breakfast each morning, free wi-fi, walking distance to the Admiral Nimitz.

Sunday House Inn & Suites 501 E. Main Street Fredericksburg, TX 78624 Phone: 1-800-274-3762 www.sundavhouseinn.com

Please mention Oil Painters of America to receive these special rates

Standard Double Queen or Standard King:

Monday thru Sunday: \$115 + tax

Free parking, complimentary hot breakfast each morning, free wi-fi, walking distance to the Admiral Nimitz.

### **ADVANCED REGISTRATION FORM**

Registration Type	Early Bird Through March 13	Advanced Through May 8	Onsite May 12 – May 17	Total						
Full Registration includes wet paint sale & competition, OPA tradeshow, all educational presentations and social events including the Welcome Reception and AAC's Celebration Party.										
☐ OPA Member – Full Registration	\$350	\$400	\$425							
☐ Non-Member* – Full Registration	\$375	\$425	\$450							
☐ Student – must be a part-time or full-time student under the age of 25 and provide a valid student ID		\$200	\$225							
Daily Registration includes all convent  Registration is required in order		-	•							
Daily Registration	er to participate in	Advanced	Onsite							
☐ One Day – Thursday, May 14*		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member							
☐ One Day – Friday, May 15*		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member							
☐ One Day – Saturday, May 16* (Includes AAC Closing Party at the Marktplatz)		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member							
☐ One Day – Sunday, May 17*		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member							
Individuals/Spouses not registered to a  Ala Carte	attend the conve	Advanced								
Southwest Art Magazine's Welcome Reception Wednesday, May 13 (Member & Non – Member)		\$35	Onsite \$50							
American Art Collector's Closing Celebration Party at the Marktplatz (an outdoor venue) Saturday, May 16 (Member & Non-Member)		\$50	\$75							
Please type or print clearly and use black or blue ink. (Please, only one registrant per form)			TOTAL DUE:							
□ OPA Member	☐ OPA Member ☐ OPA Studen									
□ Non-member artist	□ Non-membe	er collector	□ Non-member guest/spouse							
Last Name	First		N	I.I						
Address			State Zip							
Phone ()	E-mail									
Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa	☐ Discover	☐ American Express <b>TOTAL DUE:</b>								
Credit Card Number:		Expiration Date:	orint clearly)							
Print Name on Card If credit card billing address is different from mailing address:		Signature	e print clearly)							
Billing Address  *Non-member artists may apply for membership onsite to qualify for me Or apply now at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com	City mber rate. Please b	ring 2 photos of your recent w	StateZip vork to be eligible.							

<sup>15</sup> 

#### INTRODUCING OPA'S NEWEST MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS

The OPA Board of Directors proudly announces the elevation to Master Signature status conferred upon Louis Escobedo, of Santa Fe, New Mexico and Michael Situ, of Irvine, California. This highly sought after OPA designation is achieved due to hard work, dedication to painting and exceptional talent in the field of representational oil painting. Congratulations to these two, well-deserving artists.



#### LOUIS ESCOBEDO OPAM

Louis Escobedo was born in Sweetwater, Texas, where his interest in art as a youngster was inspired by colorful finger paint. At age of six, his painting "Horseback" was chosen as the best painting in his elementary school.

He went on to receive a BFA in Advertising Art from the State University in Huntsville, Texas. After graduation he began his career as a technical illustrator and then a freelance illustrator. As a freelance illustrator in 1981 he received a gold medal from the Society of Illustrators in New York and several other awards from many organizations in Texas.

In 1985, he shifted his professional focus from illustration to fine art. He became adept experimenting with composition and design, and seeing life and objects from a philosophical point of view characterized by beauty, thoughtfulness, and around 1990 his new career in fine art took off.

Louis and his wife moved to Colorado in 1990, putting him within close proximity of the rugged landscape which helped build his reputation as a fine artist. Louis exhibited in galleries across the country including California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Illinois, Virginia, and in 1994, Louis was awarded the Gold Medal from the prestigious Oil Painters of America (OPA), an organization that champions the highest standards of representational art. The Gold

Medal Award is OPA's top accolade in its Juried Exhibition. In 2013 Louis returned to OPA and became an OPA Signature Member receiving many awards, including another Gold Medal from the National Juried Exhibition for his painting in 2014. He is one of only two artists to have received the OPA Gold Medal award twice in 27 years. Louis and his wife now live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Louis has won extensive awards and recognition throughout the United States for his works as well as having been written about in various magazines.

#### **Artist Statement:**

Whether its people walking down the street, a kitchen sink, or a beautiful landscape, I strive for my paintings to have imagination, color, and insight of all that I see and feel. I'm always striving to master my use of color, tone and texture.

Color is like a person's signature, if it's the right color, I have to have it. And when I find those colors I feel it immediately, like hearing music so beautiful that I have to stop whatever else I'm doing and listen. My paintings are from my point of view, which is composition, value, color, and emotion.



#### MICHAEL SITU OPAM

Michael Situ is a nationally recognized and award-winning artist in the United States. In addition to being a Master Signature Member of Oil Painters of America he is a Signature Member of American Impressionist Society, California Art Club and Laguna Plein Air Painters Association. He is a contemporary artist of the America and California Impressionism Style. He is known for his vivid, luminous and richly colored landscapes of the coasts, mountains and various scenes that capture his imagination.

Powerful compositions, strong brushwork, and a gorgeous sense of color all come together in perfect harmony, marking him as a master of plein air painting. At an early age he began to take interest in drawing and painting. Growing up in China where he studied at the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art, Situ developed a deep appreciation for nature and a passion for art.



Michael immigrated to America in 1989 and now lives in Southern California. He is a full time professional artist whose artwork has been exhibited in numerous prestigious national museums, major plein air competitions, and national juried exhibitions such as the Arts for the Parks Top 100 International Competition, the Oil Painters of America National Juried Exhibition, the American Impressionist Society National Juried Exhibition, the California Art Club's Golden Medal National Juried Exhibition, the Masters of Fine Art Salon International Juried Exhibition. He has been an exhibiting artist every year at the Festival of Arts - California's premier fine art show in Laguna Beach since 2002. Various national and international art publications such as Tianjin People's Fine Art Publishing House of China have published his art book "The Overseas Oil Painter of China-The Oil Painting of Michael Situ" in 2008. His second art book "Michael Situ" (Michael Situ's Oil Paintings) was published in 2018. *International Artist* magazine featured a 12 page article in 2006 on Situ. *Art of the West, Southwest Art, and Plein Air* magazines have highlighted and featured Michael Situ and his artwork. His paintings are collected at museums and numerous private collections throughout the United States, China and internationally.

Michael has been the recipient of numerous prestigious national awards including many plein air honors.

#### PAINT OUT PHOTOS FROM ACROSS THE UNITED STATES





North Jetty Fish Camp Nokomis, FL



Smith's Mesa Virgin, UT



Balboa Island Orange County, CA



The Burns Farm Franklin, TN



Laurel, MS





Emerald Isle, NC

### NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### SIGNATURE MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the names of the newest Signature members, as conferred at the December, 2019 board meeting. Congratulations to: Rob Adamson, Edward Aldrich, Carla Anglada, Stacy Barter, Lyn Boyer, Dot Bunn, Jim Carson, Bill Cramer, Diane Frossard, Stuart Fullerton, Jeremy Goodding, Jane Hunt, Neal Hughes, Joseph Iantorno, Carol Jenkins, Brent Jensen, Eric Johnson, Susan Lindsay, Amanda Lovett, Joshua Martin, Patricia McGeeney, Lori McNee, Farshid Namei, Kathie Odom, Derek Penix, Johne Richardson, Nathanial Skousen, and Romona Youngquist. We hope to see all of these recipients at the 2020 National Exhibition and Convention where they will be recognized and receive their OPA Signature pins.

# 2020 NATIONAL EXHIBITION & CONVENTION

The 2020 National Exhibition and Convention is being hosted by RS Hanna Gallery, in Fredericksburg, Texas. Everyone is invited to enter up to 3 paintings for jurying. Entries are due by midnight, January 24. Even if not juried into the show, this is a great opportunity to participate in the annual Wet Paint event, which offers an additional opportunity to win awards and to hear from many speakers on painting related topics. There will also be a wide variety of demos by well know artists during the convention.

Current members of OPA are invited to attend the General Meeting, held on Sunday morning during the Annual Exhibition and Convention. During this meeting the election of board members will take place. The following slate is submitted for re-election at that time:

Kurt Anderson OPA Suzie Baker OPA James Bruce OPA William Chambers OPAM

#### **NEW BOARD MEMBER**

The board welcomes Stephanie Birdsall OPA as its newest member. Stephanie received her formal training at the City and Guilds of London Art School in England. After returning to the United States she has focused on painting from real life and experience and is in the small group which has become known as the Putney Painters.

#### "HAVE A HEART" AWARD

The board voted to create an award to be given to OPA members who have distinguished themselves by their charity work. More details to follow as they become available.

# PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

**Anna Rose Bain OPA** was a featured artist in the December 2019/January 2020 edition of *Southwest Art*.

**Todd Carignan** was part of a twoman show entitled "Fur, Feather & Fair Winds" at the New Elements Gallery in Wilmington, NC in Oct and Nov., 2019.

Mary Ann Cherry's home art studio was featured in the January/ February 2020 edition of *Art of the West*.

**Bruce Habowski** participated in an exhibition at the Kefauver Studio and Gallery in Damariscotta, ME with the opening reception in November.

**Sheryl Knight** was one of the featured artists in the Artist Focus section of the January *American Art Collector*. She was noted for her style and color palette.

**Katie Liddiard** was listed as one of three Artists to Watch by the editors of *Southwest Art* magazine in the December/January edition.

Patty McGeeney is pleased to have won the Third Place Award in the Portrait Society of America's Members Only Competition (in the non-commissioned category) for "Prairie Wind".

**Kami Mendlik** was a featured artist in the January/February edition of *ART of the WEST*.

Sherry Blanchard Stuart OPA won first place for "Dinosaur Popup Book" at the Portrait Artists of Arizona exhibition, Portrait, figure & Small Works Show at QC Fine Arts Gallery.

**Cecy Turner** was one of the distinguished artists interviewed in the current *ART* of the WEST magazine.

**Jing Zhao** was noted as one of the "Artists to Watch - The Editors' Choice for Up-and-Coming Talent" in the current *Southwest Art* Magazine.

### IN MEMORIAM

With deep sympathy to family and friends, we note the recent passing of Lee Radtke of Lake Zurich, Illinois, an OPA member since 2014.



#### DATES TO REMEMBER

**September - November - 16th** Annual Great Paint Out held throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico

For more information, visit: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com and go to "Paints Outs" under the "Education & Events" menu.

**September 1** – Deadline for submission for 2020 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

**October 15** - Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Associate status. Two options are available for application. Visit the OPA website and look under the "Member Services" menu for "Information/Join/Renew/Rejoin" for complete details.

**December 1** – Deadline for submission for 2020 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

#### **NATIONAL EXHIBITION**

Twenty-ninth Annual National Juried Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition RS Hanna Gallery, Fredericksburg, Texas

Convention: May 12 - 17, Wet Paint Competition May 12 - 14, Exhibition: May 15 - June 13, 2020

Exhibition Juror of Awards: Rose Frantzen

Wet Paint Competition Juror of Awards: John Pototschnik OPA

Canvas Size: not to exceed 1,200 square inches, Entries due by: January 24

#### **REGIONAL & SALON EXHIBITIONS**

August 23 - October 3 - Salon Show - Quinlan Visual Arts Center in Gainesville, GA

Canvas Size: not to exceed 864 square inches

More details to be announced as they become available

**September 4 – October 2 -** Western Regional Exhibition - Montgomery Lee Fine Art in Park City, UT More details to be announced as they become available

October 2 - 30 - Eastern Regional Exhibition - Reinert Fine Art Gallery in Charleston, SC

Canvas Size: not to exceed 1,200 square inches

More details to be announced as they become available

#### **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.**

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