



August 15, 2023 e-newsletter  
A Bi-Monthly Publication

## Gallery Conversations "People" August 2023

by Linda Flowers and Brian Flaherty, Gallery Directors

The August 2023 Gallery paintings at the Watercolor Art Society of Houston (WAS-H) are a captivating exploration of the diverse facets of human connections and experiences. Curated by Linda Flowers and Brian Flaherty, this month's exhibition sheds light on the multifaceted concept of "People," moving beyond conventional portraiture and nudes to encompass a vibrant tapestry of emotions, relationships, dreams, and distant landscapes.

Comprising a total of 64 artworks by 37 artists, the August Gallery offers a rich visual narrative that transports viewers into moments frozen in time. The theme of human interactions is eloquently captured through vivid strokes, colors, and textures encompassing the spectrum of artistic styles.

Our judge was Leslie Cuenca, an accomplished artist, yoga and dance instructor, hailing from Havana, Cuba, and currently residing in Houston. With a background encompassing art, architecture, theology, and liberal arts studies in Italy, Leslie's creative journey is as diverse as her talents. As a professional dancer specializing in Latin dances and belly dance, as well as a dedicated yoga practitioner, Leslie shares her expertise as an art teacher across Houston's venues. Notably, she teaches at the University of St. Thomas, The Art League of Houston, HBU, and the YMCA. Discover Leslie's remarkable work at Cothren Contemporary.





Brian Flaherty, Leslie Cuenca, and Linda Flowers

For those unable to experience the gallery in person, the virtual platform offered on the WAS-H website ensures accessibility to many of the captivating works of art in this month's show. To see the online show, click [Online Gallery](#)

The Watercolor Art Society - Houston invites its viewers to embark on a journey through the intricacies of human existence. From vibrant depictions of relationships and dreams to the allure of distant landscapes, this exhibition encapsulates the essence of the human experience in all its diversity and vibrancy. Whether one has the opportunity to walk through the gallery's physical space or explore the virtual exhibit, the August Gallery will undoubtedly leave an indelible mark, reminding us of the power of art to unite, inspire, and reflect the myriad facets of our shared journey.

## Winners

### First Place - Rusty Tumbles, Rodeo Clown Karen Hamilton



Judge: "The expression, colors and textures are exquisite. The subject of the rodeo clown resonates in the heart of every Houstonian. This is a culminating figure in our society. He is a hero, entertainer, police and fireman all in one; putting himself on the front lines to help others. His expression captures the grit and heart behind his endeavor."

### Second Place - Mr DG Adam Zhao

Judge: "I love the use of negative space in this painting, it flows. The figure is painted beautifully and the perspective of the hand and cane in the foreground is very well done giving

this figure a dignified yet natural stature."



### Third Place - He Want To Give It To You Erik Sprohge



Judge: "The emotional quality in the two little figures is charming. The artist really captures the essence, purity and innocence of childhood through the figure's expression. The attention to detail is so delicate and sweet and the flower in the foreground pops with light."

## Honorable Mentions



Kay Salem  
"Jett Fusion Of Light"

Judge: The attention to detail in this painting is exquisite. You can tell the subject is a real musician because the fingers are placed correctly across the guitar chords, like he is really playing a tune. The lines for the chords, guitar strings and the subject's hair are very well done, as well as the use of shadow and light.



Carol Rensink  
"Disaster at the Watering Hole"

Judge: "The flow in this painting is striking. I love the position of the figures in different directions, the anatomical movement is capturing. I also love the flow of the ink between the figures, from a distance creating a very modern and decorative abstract composition that is very well balanced."



Naomi Rosborough  
"We Don't Do That"

Judge: "The lines and use of mixed media in this painting are very well done and very expressive. I love the use of color in just the right areas to give this face a lot of personality."

# Silent Auction

A notable highlight of the August show is the opening of a special silent auction. We were gifted five original watercolor paintings by Stanley S. Smith. To prepare for the auction, we had the largest piece, "Boliver Laundry V", professionally framed and matted. The remaining four pieces were matted only. Each painting is pictured below. The pictures don't do them justice - you can see some glare from our gallery lighting; however, you can feel the beautiful character of each piece. They will be hung in the August show, behind the winner's wall. If you would like to bid on these pieces, you can enter your name/phone #/bid amount on the clipboards below the pieces. If you can't come into the building, you can submit an online bid. Each painting below has a link. You will be notified on where your bid stands in the process via email.

Bid winners will be announced during the September General Meeting, on Sunday, September 10 @ 2pm. The paintings may be picked up at the meeting or afterwards.



## **"Boliver Laundry V" dated December 1999.**

Professionally framed by Les McDonald. With frame, this piece measures 40" wide and 32" tall.

Current Bid: \$200

To submit your bid online, click [Here](#)



**"Travlin Fox 204067" dated February 2009**

This piece is not framed but is matted. The size of the piece, with mat, measures 27-1/2" wide and 20" tall.

Current Bid: \$100



**"Boat Slip" dated April 1999**

This piece is not framed but is matted. The size of the piece, with mat, measures 25" wide and 19" tall.

Current Bid \$200

To submit your bid online, click [Here](#)



**"Bolivar Net" dated  
February 2009**

This piece is not framed but is matted. The size of the piece, with mat, measures 27-1/2" wide and 20" tall.  
Current Bid: \$100  
To submit your bid online, click [Here](#)



**"Work Ahead" dated  
January 2009**

This piece is not framed but is matted. The size of the piece, with mat, measures 27" wide and 20" tall.  
Current Bid: \$100  
To submit your bid online, click [Here](#)

**In Remembrance of Stanley S Smith**

These paintings were created by Stanley S. Smith. Stan was an integral member of WAS-H. In addition to serving as a Board Member and frequent volunteer, he was a key member of the WAS-H building design committee. The committee was responsible for the funding/support, design, and construction of the WAS-H building.

Stan studied architecture, graduating in 1951 from the University of Oklahoma. Back then, well before computers were available, building designs were presented via drawings and watercolors. Thus, watercolor was an important part of Stan's early career. Stan went on to enjoy a variety of architectural projects all over the world.

When Stan retired, he renewed his interest in watercolor. Stan's favorite painting subjects were buildings, boats, and water.

While Stan has left us, he continues to have an influence on WAS-H. These paintings are one more example of how his legacy continues to live beyond his years.

**September Monthly Show - Experimental**



It's time to try out new products and or new ideas! Artists are encouraged to think out of the box for the experimental show.

Judge: Annette Palmer

September Prospectus

Registration is now open: [Register](#)

Registration Deadline: Sept 6

Reception: Sunday Sept 10

## 54th Annual Members Exhibit - October

by Katherine Rodgers, AME Director

The 54th Annual Member Exhibit is fast approaching with a deadline for entries on September 27 at 3pm. We are looking forward to filling our Gallery walls with artwork from our talented members and having artist, Ken Call, be our juror and judge for the show.

Born and raised in Rochelle, Illinois, Ken Call went on to graduate from the American Academy of Art in 1980 with an associate degree in Illustration and Watercolor. He has worked as a national freelance artist for many years and spent 1993 and 1994 studying and painting in Paris, France. To date he has created over 500 illustrations for books, magazines, art publishers, advertising agencies and corporations. In the last few years, he made the transition to fine art and portraiture. "Many of my originals are hanging in galleries and homes across the country. Several awards have led to Signature status in the American Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, Missouri Watercolor Society, Montana Watercolor Society along with being a Master Signature member with the Transparent Watercolor Society of America and Illinois Watercolor Society." - Ken Call Ken Call will conduct a workshop at WAS-H October 2-4.



You can also participate in the AME by volunteering. Runners will be needed on the day of judging to move paintings for judging and installation and to assist with the reception. It's a great way to get to know your fellow artists. Click [HERE](#) to sign-up to volunteer.

Click to see the prospectus: [HERE](#)

**Here are the key dates:**

Registration begins: Tuesday, September 12 @ 10 am

Deadline to register: Wednesday, September 27 @ 3 pm

Judging/Installation: Saturday, September 30 from 10 am – 3 pm

General Mtg/Demo/Awards: Sunday, October 1 @ 2 pm

Reception follows awards.

Questions about the rules and regulations for the show may be directed to: Kat Rodgers, AME Director, [ame@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:ame@watercolorhouston.org).



The above painting won 3rd place in 2022 - Laurie Hammons, "Still Life in Blue & Ochre". The painting at the top of this article belongs to the merchant prize winner, Mohammad Bhatti, "Homeless".

**The Art Fair is Coming!**

# 2023 ART FAIR

*Local Artists, Original Art  
Priced to Sell!*

**Saturday, October 21**

**11 am - 4 pm**

Parking Lot @ 1601 W. Alabama

Rain or shine!



Watercolor Art Society - Houston  
1601 W. Alabama, Houston TX 77006  
[www.watercolorhouston.org](http://www.watercolorhouston.org)  
(713) 942-9966

This year's art fair is coming soon. More details on how to participate will be printed in the next eblast! Stay tuned!

## Events and Reminders

### Paint-In

Saturday, September 9

9:30 am - 3 pm

[Register](#)

Diane Zimmerman, Instructor  
Still Life Painting

### General Meeting

**Monthly Artist Demo**

Sunday, September 10

Starting @ 2 pm

Annette Palmer, Demo Artist  
Gallery Reception follows

## Lost and Found

Lost & Found: If you have found an item in the WAS-H building or parking lot, please bring it to the office. We have a small lost and found box and will try to get the item to its owner. If you have lost an item at WAS-H, please send a note to [admin@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:admin@watercolorhouston.org) or call the office.

## It's Getting Hot in Here!

*We've set our thermostat to ensure that our space is comfortable for most people. There*

may be times when the room feels too cold or too hot for you. Please consider this when attending your next class by dressing appropriately. Too hot? This may work: [Its Hot!](#)

## Upcoming Classes



**Weekend Workshop**  
Basics of Flower Painting  
Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti  
Saturday & Sunday  
August 12 & 13  
10 am - 4 pm  
[Register](#)



**One-Day Workshop**  
Pen, Ink and Watercolor  
Joanie Hughes  
Saturday, August 19  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
[Register](#)



**Weekend Workshop**  
Birds of a Feather  
Les McDonald  
Saturday & Sunday  
August 26 & 27  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
[Register](#)



**5-Week Class**  
Introduction to Watercolor 1.0  
Kat Rodgers  
Saturday & Sunday  
August 30, Sept 6, 13, 20 & 27  
6 pm - 9 pm  
[Register](#)



Members Only  
Critiques - Beginners & Intermediate  
Cheryl Evans  
Friday, September 1  
4 pm - 6 pm  
[Register](#)



VIRTUAL 1-Day Class  
Watercolor Skills in Mixing Color  
Jason Michael Bentley  
Sunday afternoon  
September 3  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
[Register Here](#)



VIRTUAL 6-Week Class  
Loose Streetscapes in Watercolors  
Vanidas Mangathil  
Monday Mornings  
September 4, 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 9  
9:30 am - 11:20 am  
[Register](#)



4-Week Class  
How We See: Drawing Using Line,  
Shape & Form  
Arthur Deatley  
Tuesday Mornings  
September 5, 12, 19, 26,  
9 am - 12 pm  
[Register](#)



4-Week Class



VIRTUAL 4-Week Class

Chinese Brush Painting Poinsettias &  
Butterflies  
Peihong Endris  
Tuesday Afternoons  
September 5, 12, 19,.26,  
1 pm - 3:30 pm  
[Register](#)

Finding your Inner Abstract Artist  
Kim Granhaug  
Wednesday Evenings  
September 6, 13, 20,.27,  
6 pm - 8 pm  
[Register](#)

[View All CLASSES](#)



**SENIOR CLASS**  
Wednesday Mornings  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Seniors 55+  
[Register Here](#)



**Model Lab**  
Wednesday Afternoons  
12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Draw and paint from  
live models.

[Register Here](#)



**OPEN STUDIO**  
Thursday Nights &  
Friday Mornings  
Members Only

No instruction  
[Register Here](#)

Share your news and ideas!

#### WAS-H 2023-2024 Leaders/Coordinators

Karen Stopnicki [President](#)  
Donna Van Fleet [VP](#)  
Kathleen Cooper [Secretary](#)  
Janet Traylor [Treasurer](#)

##### Education

Cheryl Evans [In Person Classes](#)  
Susan Giannantonio [On-Line Classes](#)

##### **Monthly Shows**

Linda Flowers/Brian Flaherty [Gallery](#)

Kat Rodgers [AME](#)  
(& night Open Studios)  
Yvonne Sternes [Building](#)  
Kelly Medrano [Communications](#)  
Jan McNeill [Historian](#)  
Paula Fowler [Membership](#)  
Tosha Gibson [Paint Ins](#)  
Nancy Moody [Volunteers](#)  
Carla Gauthier [Art Fair](#)  
Carol Rensink [Model Lab](#)  
Mike Doan (Friday) [Open Studio](#)  
Laura Mossman [WAS-H Office](#)

*News* or articles  
[Washrag](#)

*Class/workshop* ideas  
[Education](#)

Other recommendations  
[President](#)

For all other questions about WAS-H email [WAS-H Office](#) or call 713.942.9966

[Classes/Workshops](#)

[Membership](#)

Watercolor Art Society-Houston | [www.watercolorhouston.org](http://www.watercolorhouston.org)



Founded in 1975, the Watercolor Art Society – Houston (WAS-H) is a non-profit organization bringing the excitement of water-media to the greater Houston area with outstanding exhibitions, world-class instruction and dedicated community outreach. Year-round opportunities are provided to every level of painter, from novice to the seasoned expert. Art lovers can also enjoy year-round exhibitions in our gallery in the Museum District.

Watercolor Art Society - Houston | 1601 W. Alabama, Houston, TX 77006-4101

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