November 2016

The 47th Annual Members Exhibit

by Denise Gowan, Annual Members Exhibit Director

The 47th Annual Members Exhibit (AME) was every bit the success for which we had hoped! With 169 entries and 90 paintings juried into the show, we were delighted by the participation of WAS-H members and the resulting beauty of the AME exhibit.

Internationally recognized artist Mary Whyte served as our AME Juror and was very complimentary of the exhibit. “The show has a nice variety of subject matter and styles that overall present very well.” While jurying the show, Mary took the time to explain what she looks for as a juror:

“When I jury a show, I first look at technique and evaluate how consistently the artist uses watercolor throughout the piece. I next consider composition and drawing. All elements must be precisely drawn and originally composed. I look for unique point of view. I then evaluate if the artist was successful in defining, then supporting, the main subject matter of the composition. The tiebreaker can often be how successfully the matting and framing enhance the overall piece. A professionally matted and framed artwork show the professionalism of the

(continued on page 3)

First Place - Ariane Edmundson, Texans #1
“This is watercolor at its best! Fresh, exuberant, and lively. The artist captivated the subject matter in a magical way.”

Second Place – Daniela Werneck, The Girl with Popcorn Dress
“Charming and delicate. Beautifully rendered.”

November Events Calendar
Take-In – Nov. 5, 10 am - 3 pm
Board Meeting – Nov. 7, 9:30 am
Paint-In – Nov. 12, 9 am - 3:30 pm
Les McDonald
General Meeting – Nov. 13, 1:30 pm
Demo Shirl Ricetti
Nov. Gallery Reception – Nov. 13, 4-6 pm
Paint-Out – Nov. 19, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Wed. Model Lab – 12:30 - 3:30 pm,
Open Studio – Fridays, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (when no workshops are scheduled)
Next General Meeting Nov. 13
Social 1:30, Meeting 2:00
Demo: Shiril Riccetti

“Featured Demo Artist”  Shiril Riccetti
by Louise H. Bateman, Vice-President

The WAS-H November 13, 2016 “Featured Demo Artist” is Shiril Riccetti. Riccetti started drawing when she was about 5 years old, and she has never stopped. She defines her work as drawings that have watercolor and uses contour drawing as a stepping-stone or tool to capture the essence of her work.

Riccetti states she has been fortunate to travel to Europe many times and when she does, she says, “Her sketchbook is glued to her hip!” There is nothing better than sitting on a stone wall, with birds flying around, and the smells of the local cuisine to help me to capture and absorb the essence of a place.” When she is ready to work on a larger painting, she takes out her sketchbook, puts on “Boccelli” or “The Tenors,” cranks up the volume, and starts to work.

Riccetti received her BFA in Fine Arts from the University of St. Francis. She continued her education at the La Romita School of Art in Terni, Italy; the University of San Francisco, San Francisco Art Institute and Rice University. Her fascination with Oriental painting led her to study with Roland Hou, Dao Truong and Weihong Riccetti’s international painting trips include the Mas Francisco Carrion and has been represented by Archway Gallery since 1993.

Therefore, we are particularly thankful and excited to tell you that Haley Bowen, granddaughter of our late patron and member, Jack Bowen, will be returning to work for WAS-H halftime in December. Haley will be focusing on membership and patron development, fund-raising, and outreach.

As the end-of-the-year giving season approaches, I hope you will consider the value that we as artists create both for ourselves and for the larger Houston community, and donate generously to the WAS-H annual fund.

Bottom line, we are vibrant and alive because of the energy and generosity of our members.

With warm wishes and with thanks, Lynne Riccetti

(continued from page 1) artist, tells viewers that she or she takes pride in

Happy Thanksgiving!

We have so much to be thankful for this year. Our wonderful WAS-H building glows with its new paint, clean carpet and bright gallery lights. We have just concluded a beautiful Annual Members Exhibit and outstanding workshop with Mary Whyte. And now we are preparing for our fun Christmas small paintings show. I hope you are dreaming up fun small paintings for December, because we always sell a number of them to visitors as gifts for family members and friends.

Over the last year our membership has increased to more than 600 members; our classes have grown both in number and in attendance. Our free senior class is bursting at the seams, and both Wednesday Model Lab and Friday Open Studio are full of energized and devoted artists. Our monthly Pais-Oo-Ns offer challenge and camaraderie, and our Pais-Oo-Ns are so popular that one can hardly find a seat!

On the other hand, the slump in the overall Houston economy has resulted in fewer external contributions to WAS-H. We did not get the $10,000 Houston Arts Alliance grant this year to support our 2017 International Exhibition, and our corporate grant requests have either been reduced or gone unfunded.

In spite of this, we are blessed that our building is full of creative people and our lives are full of the friendships that we have made at WAS-H. More than ever, we are thankful for the donations of time and money of our members. With all of this wonderful activity, your directors, chairs, teachers and other volunteers have been running at top speed to keep all of our programs humming along at the lowest possible cost.

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(continued on page 5)
**Saturday**

**Paint-In**

Margaret Bock and David Muegge, Paint-In Co-Validators

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**October General Meeting Featured Artist Mary Whayne**

*by Louise H. Bateman, Vice-President*

WAS-H members were treated to a very special lecture by Mary Whayne at the October General Meeting, which was held in conjunction with the Annual Member’s Exhibit award ceremony and reception. Mary’s lecture was framed around:

*“3 Keys to Becoming a Better Artist”*

1. Don’t focus on what you want to do. Focus on what you want to be.
2. Instead of focusing on what you do well, focus on what you do differently as an artist.
3. Know what is essential to you – it is the key to your originality.

Mary asked herself, “What do I want to say and how can I say more?” Due to a life altering health issue, which is now totally resolved, she realized she wanted her work to be meaningful. She closed her frame shop and gallery, resigned from several boards, and moved to John’s Island, near Charleston. There, she became a neighbor and friend of the Gullah, descendants of coastal Carolina slaves. In her work, the Gullah people number among her most prominent subjects and through these portraits, she invites the viewer to glimpse the people and their culture.

When painting portraits, she prefers to paint with a live model and in plein air. She states, “Plein air uses all five senses: touch, taste, sight, smell and hearing, thereby enabling me to capture the essence of a person and place.” But she also understands that a 5-year old model, will at most sit still for three minutes, not three hours! So, she also uses reference photographs, memory and her imagination.

Mary spent three years painting portraits of people in vanishing jobs across the south, such as crabs, shrimpers, elevator operators and shoeshine people, to name just a few. This work culminated in a 2011 groundbreaking exhibition “Working South,” which opened in the Greenville County Museum of Art in South Carolina. One crabbler, who had never been more than two hours away from his home in Savannah commented, “I’m surprised that someone would want to paint a ‘nobody like me.’” She notes that one or two responses she usually gets after asking someone if she can paint them is, “You want to paint me?” or “I have to go fix my hair.” Rarely, does anyone ever refuse her request.

She is passionate about “painting from the heart” and feels this is the key to originality in her work, stating, “When you paint from “the heart” the painting is all yours, people will recognize your emotion in the painting.” In addition, “When you paint from the heart, you are fired up, and there are not enough hours in the day. You become blissfully happy.”

To achieve the correct composition, she uses many, many thumbnail sketches rearranging figures, background scenery, clothing, lighting, etc. For example, she painted a female boxer, where the original setting was a pasty white background wall with a sparring partner wearing a white t-shirt. Mary decided to paint the wall red, the sparring partner clothes dark, and then “doused” both with water to enhance the “sweetness factor.”

Mary says she regrets the paintings she didn’t do. And even when a painting doesn’t turn out the way she envisioned, she learns from it, “what not do next time.” Thank you Mary Whayne, for sharing your beautiful paintings and wisdom with the WAS-H community.

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**The 47th Annual Members Exhibit (continued)**

*by Denise Gowan, Annual Members Exhibit Director*

(continued from page 3)

**Directors Award, Mary Treanor, Dawn, “This is a gem of a painting, showing rhythm and an inventive arrangement of shapes.”**

(continued from page 3)

(award winners for the top five awards, Mary reflected what drew her to each piece:

**Congratulations to our top five winners, as well as, our five Honorable Mentions and our eight Merchandise Award winners!**

(See complete list of winners below.)

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**Paint-In Calendar**

November 12   Les McDonald
December  No Paint In
January 4   Nancy Stephensen
February 11 Mary Wilbanks
March 18*   Janet Hassinger
April 8   Eric Sprohge
May 13   Shirl Riccetti
June 10   Carol Watson & Beverly Alderholt
July 8   Keiko Yasonuka & Duncan Simmons
* Third Saturday
"Stepping Out ……… "

Carla Gauthier claims that she is not a plein air artist but a Studio artist, and yet her very practical advice and travel experience can be used for both inside and outside painting.

Her major advice is to "Step Out of Your Fears". When Carla is drawing a landscape or architecture as an outdoor scene, she aims for a "comfortable viewpoint" for the drawing. She suggests starting small. It is also important to have a comfortable stool or chair. When she chooses a scene or subject matter, she reinforces it by taking photographs.

She advises to "work as if it's a warm-up, not a finished piece of art." Carla also says that to think of this work as a warm-up, you, add on more." Carla also says that to think of this work as a warm-up, you, add on more."

Carla says that "light gray pencils allow you to draw without erasing", and it "doesn't fight with watercolor." For paper and a sketchbook, Carla has tried Kilimanjaro's sketchbook, which has one page sketching paper and one page watercolor. She also writes notes on the sketching paper. Sketching is for everywhere. Even as she was waiting in the jury duty room, she filled 6 - 8 pages in a sketchbook.

Carla Gauthier has offered this very practical, useful, and energetic approach to drawing and painting, whether on the road or in a studio. Her popular filled classes and workshops reflect her positive attitude toward art, and her enthusiasm is shared.

Carla says, "Paint more bravely," she adds enthusiastically, and "do not be so scared." She meant the famous saying "Do not be so scared." She laughs that she has an affinity for Kilimanjaro's sketchbook, which has one page sketching paper and one page watercolor. She also writes notes on the sketching paper. Sketching is for everywhere. Even as she was waiting in the jury duty room, she filled 6 - 8 pages in a sketchbook.

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Shirl Riccetti

Do you have travel stories?

Carla Gauthier

New Members

Gloria Allford
Jocelyn Baldwin
Ann Bolag
Bill Browning
Laura Clayton
Georgianna Doebbler
Kathy Elder
Terry Higgins
Sandy Issanti
Maria Barbara Lambrozio
Chong-Ok Matthews
Myann Nguyen
Margaret Wheeler
Mary Williams

Brushes By the Beach®

Plein Air Contest

on Galveston Island, Texas

Opening: Saturday, March 11th, 10 a.m.
Closing: Sunday, March 12th, 5 p.m.

For entry information, contact:

VDB Burke Gallery

408-976-7350

WAS-H is very excited to be able to host Stephen Quiller as our Spring Major Workshop Artist March 13-17, 2017. And he will be our "Featured Demo Artist" at our March 12th, General Meeting.

Quiller is an internationally known painter who has written six books on water media and color and done many artist instructional videos. He lives with his wife in Creede, Colorado, where he has his own gallery. He is a Delphian Fellow and signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the National Society for painters in Acrylic and Casein, Rocky Mountain National Watermedia and Watercolor West.

He has received the 2014 Gold Medal of Honor, (2013) Louis Kaep Award, (2011) Ralph Smith Memorial Award, (2009) Nicholas Biafra Memorial Award, (2008) the Dudi Dgen Award, Hal P. Moore Award, Winsor & Newton Award, Louis Kaep Award and the Walter Greethouse Award from the American Watercolor Society, as well as major awards from the National Watercolor Society and others. In November of 2014 he was invited to the First ZhongShan International Master Watercolor Invitational Exhibition in China. His artist instructional videos and DVD subjects focus on color, composition and water media. He has signature lines of watercolor, acrylic, watercolor paper, palette and brushes produced by the Jack Richeson Company and has developed his own line of Quiller Color Wheel that is used by artists throughout the world.

Stephen's paintings have been on covers and the subjects of articles in many leading art magazines. He has served as a juror for most of the regional and international water media exhibitions and conducts a limited number of national and international seminars annually. However, he continues to spend most of his time painting on-location or at his studio in Creede, located near the headwaters of the Rio Grande in Southern Colorado. He paints beaver ponds, snow shadows, water reflections and mountain patterns, wild iris and aspen, reaching deeper to capture the essence of the rhythm and spirit of the San Juans. He paints primarily on-location with watercolors during the spring, summer and autumn seasons and when he travels internationally. During the winter months he paints in his studio, working larger and with water media: Watercolor gouache, acrylic and casein. Nature color and light are his inspiration.

He has painted professionally since 1972 and his works are enthusiastically collected. His paintings can be viewed at the Mission Gallery in Taos, New Mexico and during the summer months at the Quiller Gallery in Creede, Colorado. To view his work and learn more go to www.quillergallery.com.

by Shirl Riccetti

by Louise H. Bateman, Vice-President

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If you enjoy the new WAS-H website, you can thank volunteer Ksenia Annis for her hard work in updating the information to keep us all current. Ksenia, born in Moscow and trained in architecture, relocated to the US in early 2000. She worked as an architect before becoming a full time artist in 2008, opening Tummy Rubb Studios. She wanted to be a member and participate more.

What are the things you've done for WAS-H? I'm helping with website maintenance. Why did you volunteer to work on our website? I was glad to have the opportunity to help from home (I work from home), on my own schedule. Working on the website also helps me to stay informed about all WAS-H events, exhibitions etc.

What do you really like about WAS-H? I like the positive, "can do" attitude of board members and people I met here. Everybody just gets stuff done without complaining that's so common in other organizations.

Tell us about yourself and your background and current work in art. Read more about Ksenia here on her wonderful website, www.tummyrubb.com.

What would you like to see WAS-H do/ become/achieve in the future? I really like that WAS-H invites prominent artists for demos and workshops, I hope that continues. In terms of suggestions - maybe exhibitions in spaces outside of WAS-H gallery could be considered.

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How did you first become interested in WAS-H, why and when did you join? I was looking for a figure group to join. WAS-H, why and when did you join? I was looking for a figure group to join and read about Wednesday figure lab opening Tummy Rubb Studios. I was glad to have the opportunity to help from home (I work from home), on my own schedule. Working on the website also helps me to stay informed about all WAS-H events, exhibitions etc.

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Name_____________________________________________  
Email ____________________________________________  
Tel. (H)____________________(C)__________________  
Title #  
___________________________________________  
Price ________________  Medium ______ Surface________  
Title #  
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Price ________________  Medium ______ Surface________  
Title #  
___________________________________________  
Price _________________ Medium ______ Surface________  
Signature ______________________ Date __________  
11 November 2016

December Gallery Exhibit  
Small Paintings  
Reception: Sunday, Sunday, December 11, 4 - 6 pm  
Pick up paintings: Friday, January 6, 10 am - 3 pm  
Questions: Chris Bunger, ccbung@gmail.com, 713-501-8089 or Diana Burke, vdburke@gmail.com, 936-828-6453  

Note: This show only! Framing regulations are atypical, please read prospectus carefully.

Juror: Carla Gambhir  
Carla’s work combines her love of architectural detail and attention to qualities of light that transform commonplace scenes. Her works read like snapshots of people going about their daily life oblivious to us looking on. Although now residing in Houston she was born and educated in Canada and has lived and worked in the U.S. and Europe. Carla has a BA in Fine Art and Art History and a Bachelor of Education. She is a signature member of the NWS, Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour, and WAS-H. She has paintings in collections throughout Canada, the U. S. and Europe. Carla continues to paint and teach in watercolors and oils.

Eligibility and Requirements  
■ Artist must be a current WAS-H member.  
■ Up to five entries per artist.  
■ Fee of $5 per entry.  
■ Artwork Regulations:  
  • Original composition.  
  • Completed in the last 24 months.  
  • Not painted under supervision or in a class.  
  • At least 80% watermedia.  
  • Surfaces: paper, clayboard, or Yupo only.  
  • Painting has not won a WAS-H award.  
■ Framing Regulations:  
  • No restrictions on frame style or width of edge.  
  • Any color of mats and liners  
  • Paintings not to exceed 16” in height or width, frame included.  
  • All must be strung with wire for hanging.

Awards  
■ Cash awards for first $100, second $75, third $50.  
■ Honorable Mentions awarded a ribbon – no cash.  
■ Only one award per artist.  
■ Winners are notified by phone.

Sales  
■ WAS-H accepts a 20% donation for sale of artwork.  
■ Artwork may be taken when purchased.  
■ Price does not include sales tax, which will be added at time of sale.  
■ A 9% fee is taken out of credit card sales.  
■ All sales include frames.

Liability  
WAS-H will not be liable for damage before, during or after the exhibit. Artwork that adheres to these guidelines will be accepted with the provision that WAS-H reserves the right to refuse any entries that are inappropriate for a family venue.

Abbreviations  
Medium: WC – watercolor, A – acrylic, G – gouache  
Surface: P – paper, YP – Yupo, CB - clayboard

Registration Form (NOTE: Each painting MUST be titled).  

Name ____________________________________________  
Tel. _________________________  Price_______________  
Title _____________________________________________  
Framed Size______x______ Medium______ Surface______  

Name ____________________________________________  
Tel. _________________________  Price_______________  
Title _____________________________________________  
Framed Size______x______ Medium______ Surface______  

I grant WAS-H permission to reproduce the artwork for publicity, documentary or educational purposes. I accept the terms of the prospectus and confirm that the artwork meets the stated regulations.

Mary Whyte Workshop  

10 November 2016

11 November 2016
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(713) 977-4729

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Please call
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e-mail vikki: artsupply@swbell.net