



April 2017

N E W S L E T T E R

Watercolor Art Society - Houston

## 2017 International Exhibition Opening Reception a Smashing Success

by Dawna Hasara, 2017 International Exhibition Director

Magnificent, world-class water media pieces grace the walls of the WAS-H gallery as the start of the 40th Annual International Exhibition gets off to a vibrant beginning. On Sunday, March 12 the gallery came to life when the International Exhibition team was finally able to open the doors to allow our visitors in to view the glowing art covering our walls.

The day started off with a buzz as guests began arriving at the gallery to

view our renowned Juror and workshop instructor, Stephen Quiller, AWS, NWS begin his afternoon demo. By the time he

started a little after 2:00 pm, the standing room only crowd was ready for an instructive demo and they weren't disappointed. Steve gave us a glimpse into his world through a slide show of his studio, the town he lives, his gallery and paintings. He then conducted a fascinating demonstration of watercolor techniques he uses to create his stunning landscapes.

At the conclusion of the demo, the next stop for our

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**Second Place:** *Cubic Calibrations*, Gloria Miller-Allen, Idaho Falls, ID



**First Place:** *In the Moment*, Ken Call, Northbrook, IL

**Third Place:**  
*My Lovely Parrot Head*,  
Vera Dickerson,  
Troutville, VA

### April Events Calendar 2017

**Board Meeting** – Apr. 3, 9:30 am

**Take-In** – Apr. 8, 10 am - 12 pm

**Paint-In** – Apr. 8, 9:00, am - 3:30 pm

To be announced

**General Meeting** – Apr. 9, 1:30 pm

**Demo:** Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti

**Gallery Reception** – Apr. 9, 3:30-5:30 pm

**Holidays** – Apr. 16, Easter, Apr. 11-18  
Passover

**Paint-Out** – April 28-30, in Rockport, TX

**Wed. Model Lab** – 12:30 - 3:30 pm

**Open Studio** – Fridays, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (when no workshops are scheduled)



## WAS-H OFFICE

1601 West Alabama at Mandell  
Open Tuesday–Saturday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm.  
For information please contact:  
Martin Butler, Administrative Assistant  
713-942-9966  
[www.watercolorhouston.org](http://www.watercolorhouston.org)  
email: [was-h@sbcglobal.net](mailto:was-h@sbcglobal.net)

## WASHRAG INFORMATION

DEADLINE for copy, photographs and advertising for the *Washrag* is 4:00 pm, the 5th of each month except June and December. Material not received by the deadline will appear in the next month's *Washrag*. Please submit items via email or typed.

## ADVERTISING RATES

Effective September 2001

Full page (7.5" by 10") \$75

Half page (7.5" by 4.7") \$50

Quarter page (3.7" by 4.7") \$25

One column (30 words) \$15

Area Teachers Listing \$25 (per year)

Payments for *Washrag* ads must be received no later than the 10th. Please mail check to WAS-H.

Column ads should be typed. All other ads must be print-ready. Photos must be 300 dpi. Submit material to:

WAS-H 713-942-9966

1601 West Alabama, Houston, TX 77006,  
or via email to Rosalie Ramsden, [rosalie@ramsdendesign.com](mailto:rosalie@ramsdendesign.com) Please put WAS-H in subject line of your email.

## Wednesday Model Session

The Wednesday Model Session group will continue to meet every Wednesday, 12:30-3:30 (unless there is a workshop scheduled) at WAS-H.

Please email me [crensink.art@att.net](mailto:crensink.art@att.net), and I will let you know the model each week before the session.

So y'all come with your drawing and painting gear and do your own thing for three quiet hours of model time. It is a wonderful opportunity. Carol Rensink, 713-299-4136



Recent model for Wednesday model lab group



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## Next General Meeting Apr. 9 Social 1:30, Meeting 2:00 Demo: Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti

## “Featured Demo Artist” is Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti.

by Louise H. Bateman, Vice President

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti is a world renowned contemporary painter. He earned his MFA with painting as his major, from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and PhD. in Interdisciplinary Arts from the Ohio University. He has been painting for the last 30 years, having over 30 national and international solo exhibitions and several group shows to his credit. Prof. Dr. Bhatti was born and raised in Pakistan and has been painting since his childhood. In his early years, he was inclined towards figurative art and became an accomplished portrait artist. His fascination with contemporary art can be seen in his early figurative compositions. Painting for him has always been like composing a symphony; emphasizing on vivid tonality, juxtaposition of forms and textures.

His compositions are dramatic and colorful; elements move freely in an anonymous space molded with energetic brush strokes. Visual complexity, aesthetic sensibility of design, form and content is the true essence of his paintings.

## Artist Statement

Painting for me has always been like composing a symphony orchestra. Emotions are expressed through simple shapes and texture. Multiple layers, juxtaposition of exotic forms and visual interest are heightened with chaotic interplay of larger vigorous areas against the empty space. I like to create asymmetrical and aesthetically challenging compositions, shapes and forms evolve and emerge; elements move freely in an anonymous space. Calligraphic forms and symbols denote diversity and unity.

I approach to my canvases without any preconceived design or reference to start with; rather it is an intuitive discovery of the unseen. Spontaneity and complex forms tends to be the connotation to everyday chaotic life and rapidly changing world in the modern times. I also incorporate symbols and ambiguous numbers as references to fading traditions of many cultures. In my compositions, I use variety of materials and mediums, allow them to bleed and blend naturally that synchronize instinctively with the overall mood of the subject.

He is equally fluent in oil and watercolor mediums and is a WAS-H member, regularly contributing in monthly shows.

Please join us on April 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm for our General Meeting and 2:15 to 3:30 for our Featured Demo Artist. As always there is social time from 1:30 to 2:00 pm.



Sindhi Nomad by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti



## From the President

by Lynne Woods, President

Dear WAS-H Members,

On Sunday, April 9th at the General Meeting, we will have our annual election of officers. The demo artist will be Mohammad Ali Bhatti, one of our own wonderful WAS-H teachers and a frequent prize-winning artist. Your attendance at the meeting is extremely important. We need a quorum of 35 members to elect our officers for next year, so I hope to see you there.

I am most proud to report that our Fortieth Annual International Exhibition is absolutely stunning! It will be on display until April 6, 2017. This year's exceptional entries came from the United States, Singapore, Mexico, Greece, China, Taiwan, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia and Japan. Entries came from 35 states in our own country--the majority from Texas, Florida, California, Illinois, New York and Virginia. We are thrilled to be able to produce an event that attracts talented artists from all over the world and honored to display their work in our gallery.

Our thanks go to our International Exhibition Co-Directors, Dawna Hasara and Anne Gregory as well as Haley Bowen, Mike Doan, Mark Stewart, Martin Butler, and the many other volunteers for the work associated with publicizing, setting up our digitized entry system, making sure things were going well at every juncture with the entry system, hanging the paintings, creating materials for publicity, and planning our gala receptions and awards ceremony.

We are delighted to have had as this year's juror, pre-eminent watermedia artist, Stephen Quiller, a Dolphin Fellow and signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, National Society for Painters in Acrylic and Casein, Rocky Mountain National Watermedia, and Watercolor West. Stephen had a huge job selecting only 100 paintings from our largest ever 491 entries, and then choosing winners for over \$7500 in prizes.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I hope that you enjoy the outstanding display of water media diversity and talent that the 40th International Exhibition has to offer.

Warm regards, Lynne

## Art Happenings

Dear Artful Friends

Over the years you've been incredible friends, supporting not only my artistic journey, but also my teaching journey. In the fullness of time, (and as my 27 free online lessons will attest), I've come to realize that perhaps my best gifts and contributions to the world of art is that I love to pass on what I know to anyone and everyone who needs it. To hear more about this and other things you can sign up for my Newsletter at <https://www.lesleyhumphrey.net/newsletter/>.

The videos and lots of related materials are now available online on my website, and I have to say that Chris, my web designer and videographer has done an amazing job with everything. I couldn't be more proud. The videos are: (<https://www.lesleyhumphrey.net/video-store/>)  
The first two are now available: My “Red Ball Demo” and simple still life. I've done these two together because they provide the perfect opportunity to share my “12 Lights” which are now being used by artists and even universities throughout the world ... and so fundamental to everything I do now, no

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## Member Teachers Listing

### Sallie Anderson Studio

Galveston, 409-763-2265

**Diana Brandt**, Memorial, Houston  
Beginners to Intermediate, 713-560-2324  
[watercolor70131@yahoo.com](mailto:watercolor70131@yahoo.com)

### Carla Gauthier, NWS

League City, 281-384-2473,  
[carla.gauthier@yahoo.com](mailto:carla.gauthier@yahoo.com)

**Susan Giannantonio**, Katy, TX, and  
Mayville, NY, [lucholiz@gmail.com](mailto:lucholiz@gmail.com),  
[www.susangiannantonio.com](http://www.susangiannantonio.com)

### Caroline Graham, WAS-H

Museum District  
713-664-6589, [cgrahamart@hotmail.com](mailto:cgrahamart@hotmail.com)

### Janet Hassinger, 409-457-4527

<http://www.janethassinger.com/>  
3526 Ave. S I/2, Galveston, TX 77550

### Joanie Hughes, WAS-H, Beginner

Watercolor, 713-426-6767,  
[joan-hughes@comcast.net](mailto:joan-hughes@comcast.net)

### Gay Paratore, BA, MEd, NWS, NSA,

**TWS, WAS-H**, classes Tues. - Butler  
Longhorn Museum, Wed. - Santa Fe Studio,  
Aug. Acadia Workshop Center, 409-316-  
1005, [www.nsartists.org](http://www.nsartists.org)

### Carol Rensink, WAS-H

Figure Drawing & Anatomy  
713-299-4136, [crensink.art@att.net](mailto:crensink.art@att.net)

**Mary Rustay**, Cell 713-703-1533 Watercolor for seniors at WAS-H, no charge.

### Shirley Sterling, NWS, TWS, WFS, WAS-H

Clear Lake, 281-474-4214

### Mary Wilbanks, NWS, WHS, WAS-H,

Workshops and critiques. 281-370-7879,  
[marywilbanks@gmail.com](mailto:marywilbanks@gmail.com)

**SpeedyPrinting**  
3433 West Alabama, Suite C, Houston, TX 77027  
713.877.8466 Facsimile 713.877.8557  
[craig@speedypainting.net](mailto:craig@speedypainting.net)

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## Saturday Paint-In

Margaret Bock and David Muegge, *Paint-In Co-Coordinators*

**To be announced**  
**Sat., March 18, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm**  
**(setup 9:00-9:30 am)**

## Paint-In Calendar

April 8	To be announced
May 13	Shirl Riccetti
June 10	Carol Watson & Beverly Alderholt
July 8	Keiko Yasuoka & Duncan Simmons

## Monthly Gallery Show Themes

### 2017

April 2017 Texas  
May 2017 - General / No Theme  
June 2017 - Experimental/Abstract/Expressionism  
July 2017 - Student / Teacher Appreciation  
**QUESTIONS:**  
Chris Bunger, Gallery Co-Director  
• ccbung@gmail.com  
• 713-501-8089  
Or  
• Diana Burke, Gallery Co-Director  
• vdburke@gmail.com  
• 936-828-6453, 832-932-5603

## Splash

Pat Dispenziere's transparent watercolor *The Play of Light VII* was juried into the California Watercolor Association 47th National Exhibition by juror Donna Zagotta. The juror of Awards, Linda Doll awarded the painting The Golden Artist Colors, INC. Award. It will be on exhibit at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, CA Jan 14-Feb 25, 2017.

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## Rebecca Klier Junior Docent



During this year's International Exhibition, we are extending our gallery hours on weekends (Fridays/Saturdays: 3 pm-6 pm and Sundays: 1pm-5pm). Haley Bowen, WAS-H's Development Director, asked collegiate art students to collaborate with us in our Junior Docent program during extended hours. The program invites young adults interested in firsthand gallery/nonprofit experience, to host tours and welcome guests. "Having graduated with a B.A. in Studio Art, I know how important it is to have firsthand experience in a gallery if you want to show in one. Being that WAS-H is a working gallery, the Junior Docent program we offer will be a learning environment for students interested in professional visual art," said Bowen.

Rebecca Klier is our first Junior Docent. Klier will be provided with information on the IE, WAS-H history, and current class/workshop/outreach offerings. She is currently completing a dual Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Studio Arts at the University of St. Thomas. She hopes to earn a master's level of education and sell artwork professionally. In this docent program, Klier hopes to learn more about water-media and experience direct knowledge of working in a gallery.

We are thrilled for this experience and for an enthusiastic Junior Docent! Please see Rebecca in the gallery on Friday the 17, Saturday the 18th or Friday the 24th of March.

## WAS-H Future Major Workshop Artists & Dates

**Michael Reardon**

www.mreardon.com

October 9-13, 2017

**Iain Stewart**

http://iainstew.fineartstudioonline.com

March 5-9, 2018

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matter how abstract my paintings are. We've had to charge a little because they're expensive to make and put online. One, vital thing that I've discovered over the past 20+ years of teaching workshops is that people are easily intimidated when doing art so, in order to keep that feeling of openness and warmth, Chris and I have produced them ourselves, in my studio. The quality improves with each one, and they're very inexpensive yet content-rich.

The second series is underway and is very exciting: How to paint an exciting, expressive horse in every media! There are 5 planned for that series, the first is finished and will be uploaded in April. (Again, the Red Ball Demo and 12 Lights will help people flourish on that series.)

It is our great hope that these videos will enable people to discover the artistic process and flourish in the comfort of their own homes. Please help to pass it on to anyone who you think may need them.

With sincere gratitude for your friendship and support...

Warmest regards!

Lesley

## WAHOOO! You are Invited to WAS-H's "Out of Town" April Paint-Out in Rockport, Texas

by Mary Rustay, *Paint-Out Chairman*

### WEEKEND OF APRIL 28-30, 2017—are you coming?

Members of WAS-H have been invited to have our April 28-30th Paint-Out in Rockport, Texas, courtesy of Shirley Lee's brother, Dr. Robert "Bob" James and his wife Jean, who have a home on the water near the Rockport Art Center. We can use the Art Center and their home as our home base, as their home is situated on the water and there is great painting in back of the Art Center with both water views and harbor views. (Shirley Lee is a member of the Senior Class at WAS-H). Plan to arrive on Friday late morning-early afternoon, and stay through Sunday afternoon. We are hoping for a beautiful weekend!

The drive from Houston takes about 2 ½ hours, and the recommended route is US 59 through Tivolia. You can use Google maps from your starting point to the hotel, where you can check in, and then come to the Art Center. Rockport Center for the Arts address is 902 Navigation Circle, Rockport, Texas 78382.

Lodging has been arranged with a group discount at Holiday Inn Express and Suites located at 925 Lady Claire St. (361-729-4444) in Rockport-- near the water and Rockport Art Center. Group discount rates will be \$119 + tax per night. Each room will have either one king size bed, or two queen size beds and a refrigerator. A complimentary hot breakfast will be included. Cut-off date to book rooms will be April 7th, 2017. You may want to share a room to defray cost. Our contact person at Holiday Inn Express and Suites is Bendi Bhagat, and she is expecting your calls!

Other hotels in the area include hotels in Rockport and across the street in Fulton. Prices will vary—higher and lower! Days Inn 1212 E. Laurel @ Hwy 35 (361)729-6379; La Quinta 2921 Hwy. 35 N (361)272-9824; Marriott Fairfield at 2950 Hwy.35 N (361)727-9007; Inn at Fulton Harbor at 215 N. Fulton Beach Road (361)790-5888.

If you are interested in joining the Paint-Out and painting the sights in Rockport, please contact Mary Rustay, Paint-Out Chairman of WAS-H. Call or text 713-703-1533 (c) or email her directly at rustay@heritagetexas.com and let her know you are coming and how many are in your party. Make your reservations directly with the Holiday Inn Express ASAP, and tell them you are with the "Watercolor Art Society—Houston painting group" – ("Paint-Out group") and you are eligible for the above discounted group rate.

Please let Mary know when to expect your arrival, so she can include you in possible lunch plans on Friday around 1 pm, and as to where the group will be on Friday afternoon, and/or in dinner reservations for Friday night. We may also be arranging other meals together on Saturday and Sunday. I will send more information to you as plans are confirmed. We have had good restaurants suggested by our friends in Rockport, including Charlotte Plumber's Seafood Restaurant, Poor Man's Bar and Grill, a Mexican Restaurant Arandas, and Kimmie's Fine Foods — great sandwiches, salads, smoothies, brown bag lunches — about \$10. We may take orders for lunch on Saturday.

*Please make your call for a room today and then email or call me so i have a list of all attendees. i might be able to help you find a roommate if you want one to share expenses.*

Hope you can come join the fun! Mary Glover Rustay, Paint-Out Chairman, rustay@heritagetexas.com, Cell-713-703-1533 (If you need to text me or leave a message, use my cell number), Work – 713-965-9393, Home – 713-965-9393

## Volunteer of the Month

by Alex Tyson, *Outreach Director*



**Daniela Werneck** was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and she currently lives in Houston, Texas. She has been an art lover since she was a child. She could stay for hours admiring her grandmother's miniature collection in a small china display cabinet, even if she saw it every week, just observing the small details of them. She is passionate about human figures in drawings and sculptures.

She studied drawing and painting techniques in her teen ages, when she found out her love for watercolor.

She holds a bachelor degree in Interior Design, area in which she worked for about 10 years. After she moved with her husband and kids to Australia in 2008, she committed herself full time to her passion, WATERCOLOR.

Daniela Werneke has been volunteering at the Katy campus of Texas Children's Hospital since it began a couple of years ago. She is a dedicated volunteer that has always been there when needed. For most of this year she was there every Tuesday. Her Artist's statement says it all. Daniela volunteers from the heart and shares her talents with

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# 2017 International Exhibition Opening Reception a Smashing Success

by Dawna Hasara, 2017 International Exhibition Director

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guests was the grand opening of the gallery where they were awed by the gorgeous works of art on display. Our members, visiting artists and guests enjoyed the refreshments while I was able to meet many of the artists whom I had been conversing with leading up to the exhibit.

What a great honor to WAS-H that artists and guests from South Carolina, California, New Mexico, Florida and all over the great state of Texas, traveled to the gallery to participate in our event. WAS-H award winning artists Francisco Carrion, Ruby Allen, Keiko Yasouka and Robbie Fitzpatrick were on hand to accept their awards and meet Steve Quiller. New Signature Members Patrick Faile and Linda Vanek and new Elite Signature Members Ann Erard, Judith Thomsen, Deb Hagemeyer and Mark Stewart were also in attendance.

I was so pleased to be able to visit with artist Bonnie Woods who flew in from San Diego, CA, and artist Sandra Humphries who traveled from Albuquerque, NM to accept her Merit Award. Ron Malone from Lakeland, FL was also present and had the opportunity to meet Steve Quiller. All the artists in attendance who came out to support the exhibition with their presence meant so much to me personally and to the entire WAS-H organization. Thank you!

At the conclusion of the judging on Saturday, Juror Steve Quiller commented that "The award winning paintings in this exhibition reveal those special moments when the paint, brush, paper, hand, mind and eye all merge and flow together and the image seems to come effortlessly and paint itself that can only happen when there is present a deep connection with the inner being. This has resulted in a strong and beautiful exhibit."

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The winners are listed below, congratulations to everyone involved for a successful 40th Annual International Exhibition! Show catalogs are available for purchase at the WAS-H gallery.



**Odette Ruben Memorial Award:** *Off Broadway 1*, **Anne Abgott**, Cortez, FL



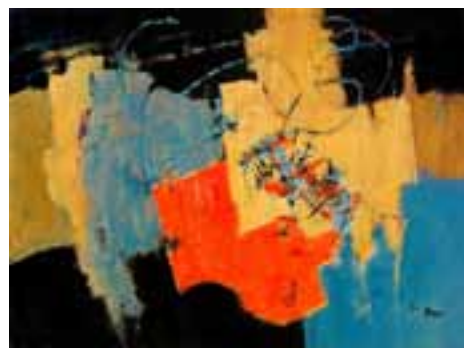
**Lloyd Albers Memorial Award:** *A Normal Day of Work*, **Francisco Carrion**, Houston, TX

## Merit Awards:

*A Sate Smile*, **Charles Rouse**, Vista, CA  
*Kelp Ball*, **Eric Weigart**, **Ocean Park**, WA  
*Holiday*, **Daishai Sun**, Elmhurst, NY  
*Domino Players*, **Ron Bigoney**, Longview, TX  
*Clouds in the Valley*, **Sandra Humphries**, Albuquerque, NM



**Jack Bowen Award:** *The Night Table*, **Keiko Yasouka**, Houston, TX



**Board of Directors Award:** *Shale*, **Ruby Allen**, Friendswood, TX

## Honorable Mentions:

*On Grandma's Blanket*, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Magnolia, TX  
*The Iconic Tower*, Elaine Daily-Birnbaum, Madison, WI  
*Bourg St. Maurice*, Mark McDermott, Anchorage, AK  
*Just Before the Rain*, Sara Kahn, San Francisco, CA  
*Spirit of the Dance*, Eileen Neill, Riverwoods, IL  
*Three's Company III*, Judy Coffee, Cypress, TX  
New Signature Status Members: Patrick Faile, Ann Stoudenmire and Linda Vanek  
New Elite Signature Status Members: Ann Erard, Deb Hagemeyer, Mark Stewart and Judith Thomsen

# Stephen Quiller – Featured Demo Artist March General Meeting

by Louise H. Bateman, Vice-President

WAS-H members were treated to a very special lecture and demonstration by Stephen Quiller at the March General Meeting, which was held in conjunction with the 2017 International Exhibition Award Ceremony and Reception.

Stephen is an internationally known painter who has written six books on water media and produced several instructional videos. He is a Dolphin Fellow and signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, National Society for Painters in Acrylic and Casein, Rocky Mountain National Water Media and Watercolor West.

He began his presentation with a video tour of his stunning studio and gallery in Creede, Colorado. The studio



is located at 9,000 feet, on eight acres, at the headwaters of the Rio Grande, with breath taking views of the San Juan Mountains and beautiful north light for painting. By his studio front door, he keeps his fly-fishing gear, so when "paint is drying" or he wants a break, he can wander down to the river and indulge another one of his passions.

Besides authoring several books, he has also developed the Quiller Paint Palate and Color Wheel, which are used by artists all over the world. Several WAS-H artists, including our President, Lynne Woods, are devotees of using both items. In addition, he became frustrated with several different watercolor paint lines, so he teamed up with the Jack Richeson & Company to develop his own line of paints, which are made "the old fashioned way" – stone ground



and hand made in Belgium.

He almost exclusively uses Waterford paper, which has an external sizing, allowing him more freedom to "lift" paint from the surface, going back to white. As for the water media he uses, besides his water color paints, he also paints using gouache, casein and acrylic.



Stephen narrated a slide show of his paintings, many done on location all over the world, including Scotland, Tuscany, Italy, Oaxaca Mexico and

China. In addition to painting internationally, he also hosts workshops at his Creede Studio three times per year. They are so popular that they fill up over a year in advance.

He enjoys hiking in the high country or cross-country skiing in the winter. Although, he did warn the group to

always be prepared when being out alone in the winter. One time, he drove to a cross-country trail-head for some late afternoon cross-country skiing in the woods. When he returned to the car, his battery was dead. "No

problem, I will just call my wife, Marta. Uh-oh, my phone battery is dead." Happy ending to the story, he hiked

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# Art on the Go

by shirl riccetti

## AN ARTISTIC PLACE

Whether you see it in a magazine, or remember it through old photos, or actually are able to place your presence in a place, the question is asked: “In your travels, is there a place that remains a sweet memory and still takes your breath away, and puts a smile on your face?”

Margaret Scott Bock chose St. Paul De-Vence, France. She remarked that traveling with artists she knew made the Steven Quiller’s Workshop “more memorable.” And this was years ago.

Jan McNeill, coincidentally, chose France. “I’ve been to Provence twice now and have *loved* it both times! My most recent trip was in October, 2016, with other WAS-H paint ... it was very memorable.”

What makes it so memorable? Both artists remarked that being with artists they knew added to the fun.

Margaret was enamored by the beauty of the place and the charming and friendly people.

Jan adds: “I especially loved the places where Cezanne, van Gogh, Chagall and Matisse lived.” She was thrilled to paint “plain air” in those places. She carried away a greater understanding of the struggles of each of those artists,” and further expanded her love of their art.”

Did you eventually do a painting from this trip?

Margaret, in detail, remembers the scene. In St. Paul De-Vence, she saw white stone winding steps leading to a long expanse, with a cafe, surrounded by huge trees, huge rocks, and the blue dramatic Mediterranean Sea on the horizon. And yes, she has painted a large watercolor of it. She still, even now, many years later, fondly remembers this spectacular scene.

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# ALL ABOARD!

by Robin Avery

Learning to paint is like taking a trip on a train. We pack our things and off we go on an amazing adventure. We meet some very interesting people along the way. We learn about ourselves and meet challenges at every pass. Sometimes we need to get off the train but we can always jump on again when the urge strikes us. After almost sixteen years on traveling this art train I realize that it’s not the destination that counts. It is the journey! There are always new passengers to meet and enriching ideas formulating as we venture onward. I want to share with you a quote if you are about to disembark the *art train* for parts unknown. You may not *just* be stopping but *quitting* ... giving up on yourself.... read this first!

“Nobody tells this to people who are beginners, “I wish someone had told me.” All of us who do creative work get into it because we have good taste. But there is this gap. For the first couple of years you make stuff, it’s just not that good. It’s trying to be good, it has potential, but it is not. But your taste, the thing that got you into the game, is still killer. And your taste is *why* your work disappoints you. A lot of people *never* get past this phase; they *quit*. Most people I know who do interesting, creative work, went through years of this. We know our work doesn’t have this *special* thing that we want it to have. We all go through this. And if you are starting out or are still in this phase, you gotta know its *normal* and the most important thing is to do a lot of work. Put yourself on a deadline so that every week you finish one piece. Its only by going through a volume of work that you will close this gap, and your work will be as good as your ambition. And I took longer to figure out how to do this than anyone I’ve

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# Hermann Park Zoo Gate Paint-Out

by Mary Rustay, Paint-Out Chairman



The Hermann Park Zoo Gate Paint-Out, those attending were Beverly Aderholt, Barbara Fowler, Dale and Frank Hill, and Veronica Koenig. There may have been others who painted in different areas of the park. The ducks on the lake and people watching was lots of fun!



## Out of This World Travel Presents: AN IMPRESSIONIST JOURNEY THROUGH NORMANDY

*Sketching with Susan Giannantonio*

**September 27 to October 4, 2017**

Details: [www.outofthisworldtravel.net](http://www.outofthisworldtravel.net)

Or email Susan at [LUCHOLIZ@gmail.com](mailto:LUCHOLIZ@gmail.com)

# Stephen Quiller (continued)

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down the mountain in his ski boots. Never the less, he finds the changing winter light, or spring snow, or autumn colors provide him with inspiration for his works.

Several years ago a devastating wild fire decimated the area. He started painting what remained, the burned tree trunks and new undergrowth taking root. He named the series, “Beauty and the Burn” and actually used charcoal from the remains of the burned woods. He then switched gears and did a live demo, telling us to “Visualize painting, before ever putting paint on the paper, and especially while wetting the paper with water.” He also told us, “Not to force a painting from the paper, listen to what the paper is saying to you.” Although he admits, several of his students state that their paper does not speak to them, or if it does it appears to be “speaking a different language!”

It was amazing to watch him paint a beautiful mountain scene, using a minimal watercolor palate and some gouache with mostly large flat brushes in less than 45 minutes.

Thank you Stephen Quiller for sharing your beautiful paintings, artistry and wisdom with the WAS-H community.



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# April Floral Inspiration at

by Jan McNeill, WAS-H Historian



Looking for some new inspiration for your paintings? Has Houston got an opportunity for you!

Houston is in for a treat on April 25 & 26 (10:00 am - 5:00 pm) this year! Florescence, one of the nation's largest competitive flowers shows, is held biennially at the MFAH Beck Building. The Garden Club of Houston, the River Oaks Garden Club, and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston collaborate on floral and horticulture arrangements. Designers are challenged to pull inspiration from dresses and paintings in the Museum's permanent collection.

This year the theme is “Waves” – reflected in all the exhibits on view. A special conservation exhibition titled “Water, Water, Everywhere” is intended to increase awareness of how choosing native plants can improve water quality and mitigate storm water flowers, etc.

The Florescence exhibit will be held in the MFAH Beck building. If you are a MFAH member, admission is free – oth-

(continued on column 2)

# Where is the Art that used to hang in the upstairs studio classroom?

by Irene Crutchley, Special Projects

The clean, light filled upstairs studio classroom invites us to come in, step up to the challenge of creating some new art. The walls are clean and painted, the carpet cleaned but “Where is the artwork that was hanging on the walls before the new paint?” Some of the artwork looked tired, but still inspired us to paint. I miss the familiar art.

Some volunteers step up to help and then there is Les McDonald Jr., Elite Watercolor artist and workshop presenter at WAS-H, who revived the missing artworks.

Les agreed to update the paintings that have been hanging in the WAS-H building for at least 10 years. Les, worked tirelessly for two weeks searching out framing materials, finding framers for the extra-large artworks and repaired the tired frames. He completed the task of repairing, reframing, placing acid free mats, back boards and clear Plexiglas in two weeks.

Placement and hanging the artwork is next so watch for these artworks as they come hang to inspire us again.

WAS-H is a haven, a place to grow and to learn in a beautiful place.

Thank you, Les McDonald Jr., for the extraordinary effort you gave to WAS-H in February 2017.

(continued from column 1)

erwise it is \$15 regular admission. Keep in mind that flowers are freshest on April 25.

I have attended previous shows and have thoroughly enjoyed them. Bring your camera as photographs are allowed. Perhaps you'll find a great source for



Les is standing by Marge Brichler's painting 'Federation Sara-bundance' Marge described her watercolor paintings as “I want to be able to record in watercolor, a person's soul, to capture that certain fleeting mood, with all the subtle drama that I can only achieve through watercolor, and do it spontaneously, as to not lose my feelings toward the subject,” she wrote.

(continued from page 5)

children that are very ill.

“I'm an art lover since I was a child. I love to paint human figure and the people who has been part of my every day. I'm passionate about to observe my kids in their day activities, capturing the right moment, the perfect body language that reveals their emotions, feelings or imagination. I also love lights, pale color, small details, delicate paintings and limited pallet. Through the transparency of watercolor I devote myself to create a beautiful detailed and delicate piece with atmosphere.

I paint from the heart.” Daneila volunteers from the heart and shares her talents with children that are very ill. I thank her for her dedication and care.

# May Prospectus

Theme: General / No Theme

Take-In: Saturday, May 6, 10 am - 12 pm

(Paintings can be brought in before Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Tuesday thru Saturday)

Reception: Sunday, May 21, 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Pick up paintings: Thursday, June 2, 10 am - 3 pm

Questions: Chris Bunger, ccbung@gmail.com, 713-501-8089 or Diana Burke, vdburke@gmail.com, 936-828-6453

**Juror:** Robin Avery, a Houstonian, has been creating art for decades but only became seriously involved in watercolor in 2001. She has studied with Catherine Anderson and Polly Hammett locally and at workshops with Stephen Quiller, Mary Whyte, Skip Lawrence, Alex Powers and Carla O'Connor. She has taught classes at WAS-H, the Art Society of Houston and at Mangum Howell Community Center in Northwest Houston. Her paintings have been published in Splash 10 and Splash 15. Robin is an elite member of WAS-H, Philadelphia Water Color Society, Texas Watercolor Society and was a board member of the Watercolor USA Honor Society.

## Eligibility and Requirements

- Artist must be a current WAS-H member.
- Up to three entries per artist.
- Fee of \$10 per entry.
- Artwork Regulations:
  - Only original artwork accepted. May not be a likeness of another's work. (i.e., painting, drawing, photograph-digital image or print).
  - Completed in the last 24 months.
  - Not painted under supervision or in a class. Artwork completed in a Figure Model Session that does not include instruction is acceptable.
  - At least 80% watermedia.
  - Surfaces: paper, clayboard, or Yupo only.
  - Has not won a WAS-H award or been in International or Annual Member's Exhibits.
- Framing Regulations:
  - Artwork must be framed (only exception is Clayboard wooden cradle panels).
  - Frames must be plain, simple grooves only.
  - White or off-white mats and liners.
  - Frame width must not exceed 2”.
  - Must be strung with wire for hanging.
  - Plexiglas if needed. No glass will be accepted.
  - Paintings not to exceed 48 inches in height or width, frame included.

## 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 must remain in gallery for duration of the show.
- Price does not include sales tax, which will be added at time of sale
- A 5% 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. WAS-H reserves the right to reject any entry that is controversial, obscene or in bad taste.

## Abbreviations

Medium: WC-Watercolor, A-Acrylic, G-Gouache,  
Surface: P – paper, YP – Yupo, CB - clayboard

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

Name	_____
Email	_____
Tel. (H)	_____ (C)_____
Title #1	_____
Price	_____ Medium _____ Surface_____
Title #2	_____
Price	_____ Medium _____ Surface_____
Title #3	_____
Price	_____ Medium _____ Surface_____
<i>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.</i>	
Signature	_____ Date _____

Attach this label or a facsimile to the back of each painting.

Name	_____
Tel.	_____ Price_____
Title	_____
Framed Size	_____x_____ Medium_____ Surface_____

Name	_____
Tel.	_____ Price_____
Title	_____
Framed Size	_____x_____ Medium_____ Surface_____

Name	_____
Tel.	_____ Price_____
Title	_____
Framed Size	_____x_____ Medium_____ Surface_____



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