September 2017 Gallery Show Winners

September Exhibit “Renew, Refresh, Re-energize”
by Kathleen Church, Gallery Director

“At the deepest level, the creative process and the healing process arise from a single source. When you are an artist, you are a healer; a wordless trust of the same mystery is the foundation of your work and its integrity.”

~ Rachel Naomi Remen, MD

None of us could have guessed when choosing the theme for September’s show that Houston would be in such great need of healing. The show opened just a few days after our city flooded. WAS-H volunteers came from all over to manage the take-in, hang the show, and return again for the demo and reception the next day. What a wonderful sense of community we experienced that weekend.

Laurie Humble, our juror and demo artist for the show, looked first at the composition of “Texas Rocks” by Robert Ruhmann — with its strong focal point leading the eye through the painting. She was drawn to Dr. Bhatti’s painting which used a classic cruciform design with a touch of red throughout the piece, and finally Sana Shaw’s dramatic use of light and a limited palette creates a strong impact on the viewer.

1st Place: “Texas Rocks” by Robert Ruhmann
2nd Place: “Abstract 2B Major” by Mohammad Ali Bhatti
3rd Place: “The Birth of Flight” by Sana Shaw

Honorable Mentions:
Fran Franklin, “The Tempting Colors of Fruit”
Susenne Telage, “The Walk”
Erik T. Sprohge, “Dracula”
Patty Browning, “Flower Bed II”
Jody Hoke, “Narcissus”
Lynda A. Jung, “High Noon on the Lillies”
Anita Burgess, “Waapa M’ see wa”
Mary Glover Rusty, “Rockport Before the Storm”
Eddie W. Edwards, “Sandbridge, Virginia”
Justin Earl Grant, “Float’
Wednesday Model Session

The Wednesday Model Session group will continue to meet every Wednesday, 12:30pm – 3:30pm (unless there is a workshop scheduled) at WAS-H. Please email me Rensink.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.
Monitor: Carol Rensink, 713-299-4136 or wedwash@gmail.com

October 2017 Events Calendar

October 5 & 6 - AME 2 day take-in (4 week show) 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
October 7 - AME judging/hanging 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
October 8 - General Meeting/Demo by Michael Reardon (1:30 Social, 2:00 Start)
October 8 - Awards reception 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
October 9-13 - Major workshop: Michael Reardon
October 14 - Paint-in 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
October 21 - Paint-out

Randall’s offer 1% of your purchase with their Good Neighbor Program. Register at the courtesy booth with WAS-H’s ID #4553. Every time you use your Randall’s Remarkable Card, WAS-H will receive a credit. Amazon donates $.05 to WAS-H for every $10 you spend! When shopping online, click SMILEAMAZON.COM

Donate to WAS-H

Member Teachers Listing

Sallie Anderson Studio, 409-763-2265
Diana Brandt, Memorial, Houston Beginners to Intermediate, 713-560-2324, watercolor70131@yahoo.com
Peihong Endris, WAS-H, 713-206-3668 Chinese Brush Painting Peihong1512@gmail.com
Carla Gauthier, NWS, 281-384-2473, League City, Carla.gauthier@yahoo.com
Susan Giannantonio, Katy, TX & Mayville, NY lucholiz@gmail.com, www.susangiannantonio.com
Caroline Graham, WAS-H, 713-664-6589, Museum District, crahamart@hotmail.com
Janet Hassinger, 409-457-4527, Galveston www.janethassinger.com
Joanie Hughes, WAS-H Beginner Watercolor 713-426-6767 joan-hughes@comcast.net
Gay Paratore, BA, MEd, NWS, NSA, TWS, WAS-H, 409-316-1005, NSArtists.org Butler and Woodlawn Museums & Studio
Carol Rensink, WAS-H Figure Drawing & Anatomy 713-299-4136, crensink.art@att.net
Mary Rustay, WAS-H, 713-703-1533 Watercolor for Seniors
Shirley Sterling, NWS, TWS, WFS, WAS-H Clear Lake, 281-474-4214
Mary Wilbanks, NWS, WHS, WAS-H Workshops & Critiques, 281-370-7879 marywilbanks@gmail.com
From the President

Greetings,

These past few weeks have been among the most challenging our WAS-H community has ever faced. Several of our artists experienced flooding in their homes and studios, and some to the extent that their home was a total loss. The WAS-H board expresses sympathy to all those recovering from this event, and hope that when time allows, they will be able to come to WAS-H for a reprieve, view the current gallery show or spend some time painting.

As “mother nature” walloped us, along with other communities this fall, the place that helped me find some sense of calmness was WAS-H, whether I was in Boot Camp II with Carla Gauthier, Senior Class with Mary Rustay, Figure Lab with Carol Rensink, or Open Studio with Diane Burch. Exercising my “right brain” was the best therapy for me, of course with a little assistance from my flower pounding art and some comfort food. Right now my favorite comfort food is a James Beard recipe for Macaroni and Cheese with tidbits of Honey Baked Ham ©. I can guarantee you it is NOT low fat. And speaking of comfort food, ask Alice Rogers about the “secret ingredient” in her chicken salad recipe. I’m going to have to do some more bicycling to burn off these extra calories!

This past month’s gallery theme was “Renew, Refresh and Re-Energize”, which dovetailed beautifully with the rebuilding going on in Houston and the WAS-H community. The show was amazing, the “Take-In” volunteers worked like a “well-oiled machine”, and the show was beautifully hung by an amazing cadre of volunteers, under the direction of Terry Baird. I also want to give a “shout out” to Donna Rybiski and her volunteers who set a beautiful appetizer table and drink table for our awards ceremony.

And, as you read this we are in the midst of the Annual Members Exhibit, one of our premier shows along with an exciting major workshop by Michael Reardon. You can learn more about him at www.mreardon.com. Our November show’s theme is “General” and December’s is “Small Paintings: In the Spirit of the Season”, so start exercising that right brain and paint! As your time permits, please stop by the gallery and enjoy the beautiful art!

Exciting news! We are now accepting credit card payments for the “Take-In” Registration Fee, General Meeting and Raffle Tickets, Figure Lab, Art Fair Sales, etc. While we always had the ability to accept credit card payments, it was through a hard wired telephone line in our administrative office. Now we have one of those new “thingys” (a very technical term) which allows you to swipe your card on a smartphone or tablet. Many thanks to Betty Westbrook, Treasurer for doing much of the work to set up the accounts.

And as you can see, Washrag newsletter has a new format making it easier to read on a computer, iPad or smartphone. Preliminary feedback has been positive, but please bear with us as we work out a few “kinks”. We are seeking a new Washrag editor, so please let me know if you are interested in filling that position.

We are also gearing up for our “Oral History” project, so please send your thoughts, pictures and reminiscences to Robin Avery robinavery47@gmail.com and/or Rosalie Ramsden ramsdendesign@earthlink.net.

I want to give another “shout out” to Jan McNeil, Historian and Kathleen Church, Gallery Director for “pinch hitting” as Paint-In Coordinators for flooded Margaret Bock, as well as Laura McMahon, Vice President, and Ksenia Annis, Website Director for putting out our Washrag while we seek a new editor. And of course, please consider volunteering as your time permits. Go to www.watercolorhouston.org/Volunteer to find out the many opportunities that are available.

As we continue with improving our “Customer Service”, please let me know when we don’t meet your expectations and also when we do!

Best,

Louise H. Bateman, President

Celebrating New WAS-H Members of August ‘17

Karen Greer                Maryam Khazaeizadeh                Donald Smith
Mura Johnson               Beth Langdon                        Anne Rita Taylor
R. Cal Johnson             Gabriela Magana                     Jean Works
September 2017 Gallery Reception Photos

2nd place winner Mohammad Ali Bhatti with juror Laurie Humble

1st place winner Robert Ruhmann with juror Laurie Humble

3rd place winner Sana Shaw with juror Laurie Humble

WASH president Louise Bateman presenting the juror

WASH gallery is ready for the reception thanks to dedication of our volunteers

Monthly Gallery Show Themes

October 2017  48th ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBIT
November 2017 General
December 2017 Small Paintings: In the Spirit of the Season
January 2018 To Begin Again
February 2018 The Magic and Mystery of the Southwest
March 2018  41st INTERNATIONAL WATERMEDIA EXHIBITION
April 2018 General
May 2018 General

Donation Thank You

We want to give a big THANK YOU to Carol Rensink for her generous donation of two new, wood studio easels for use in our upstairs studio and figure lab. When folded, the easels have a small “foot print” for storage. This is a big boost to all our artists who prefer painting upright.

Thank you Carol!
September Demo Artist

WAS-H HOSTED LAURIE HUMBLE AS SEPTEMBER 2017 “FEATURED DEMO ARTIST”

By Laura J. McMahon, Vice President

At the September General Meeting, Laurie Humble shared with us her five techniques for creating a greater sense of depth in our paintings, applying techniques to several paintings in progress to address these aspects and entertaining us throughout her demonstration. Her techniques are: (1) a good composition; (2) a strong focal point that draws the viewer in and causes the eye to move through the painting and back to the focal point; (3) perspective; (4) the highest level of detail at the focal point; and (5) a unifying or separating wash to push shapes back or pull shapes forward to create depth. She explained that more values provide more visual depth and fewer result in flatness in a painting. She also demonstrated how to take any object and make a beautiful painting—a pot drying next to the sink or an old electric meter can become vibrant, almost abstract-looking pieces of beautiful art.

Laurie authored the best-selling North Light book, Watercolor Depth and Realism. Her works have appeared in more than 50 national and international exhibitions, garnering numerous awards. She holds signature memberships in nine art and watercolor societies and a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Texas State University.

WAS-H History Project

by Robin Avery and Rosalie Ramsden

Before time glazes over and dulls our vibrant memories of the creation of the Watercolor Art Society-Houston, we need to capture and record for posterity our colorful Society’s past. In order to understand the present WAS-H, we want to look at our past and record it. Many members have toiled over this idea and are now focused to make a permanent Archival Record of all this history.

Therefore, we are asking longtime members to delve into their memories and share those thoughts and images with us. Tell us about the founding members, the creation of the present day building and all the steps in between. We have done something similar in our past, but we want this to be even more reflective with vivid memories and heartfelt tales of how WAS-H became a big part of your lives.

Please share your thoughts through email or regular mail to:

Robin Avery
14322 Beacon Trace Court, Houston, Texas 77069
robinavery47@gmail.com

and/or

Rosalie Ramsden
7418 Burning Tree Drive, Houston, Texas 77036
ramsdendesign@earthlink.net
October 2017 Paint-In

Saturday October 14 Paint-in
Robert Ruhmann: Rocks and Landscape

Jan McNeill and David Muegge, Paint-in Coordinators

9:00-9:30 a.m. setup by attendees
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. class – lecture, demo, and painting
3:00-3:30 p.m. cleanup

Learn from Robert Ruhman at the October 14 Paint-In! Robert, a long time artist, has taught art in public schools and at various art leagues. His specialty is landscapes and rocks. (He won 1st place in the September 2017 WAS-H Monthly Exhibit with his beautiful rock painting). Robert is a member of the Brazosport Art League and has participated in the Rockport Art Show for 18+ years.

Bring a landscape photograph that you’d like to paint or use a line drawing of rocks that Robert will provide. Bring your normal painting supplies (including 2 sheets of 140lb Cold Press paper). Also bring a natural sponge and rigger/liner brush for technique practice.

October Paint-Out

Our next Paint-out will be downtown at the Aquarium on October 21, and will offer the ability to paint plein air, outdoors in the amusement park area with Houston skyscrapers in the background, or inside the aquarium where there are tanks of beautiful fish to paint!! Plan to meet there at between 8:30 - 9 a.m. and bring your camera and painting supplies, a chair and easel or something for your paper and board to rest on. Call me with questions!

Hope you can join us! Lots of fun!

Mary Glover Rustay
Paintout Chairman
713-703-1533(cell)
Rustay@heritagetexas.com

Class and Workshop Cancellations

by Beth Graham, Education Co-Director

Sometimes life events, or even hurricanes, require us to change our plans! Here at WAS-H we understand this completely and are always glad to help you make changes to your registered classes and workshops as needed. We ask that if you must cancel a workshop, that you notify the instructor prior to the start of class. Then please email our wonderful administrative assistant at WAS-H, Martin Butler at: was-h@sbcglobal.net. He will cancel your registration for you and notify our treasurer to issue a refund to you. We hope to have you sign up for something else at a time more convenient for you, since we love to paint with you! Sometimes WAS-H is asked to simply transfer a payment to a future class, but unfortunately this causes significant accounting difficulties, so we are not able to do this. (Teachers take note here). Refund and re-register (if you wish) is our process.

THANK YOU all for your continued participation and support of WAS-H.
WAS - H Next General Meeting

Featured artist - Michael Reardon
October 8, 2017
social 1:30 p.m., meeting 2:00 p.m., demo 2:15 p.m.

Michael Reardon - October 2017 WAS-H Featured Demo Artist
by Laura J. McMahon, Vice-President

Just a reminder that Michael Reardon will be our October 8, 2017 “Featured Demo Artist.” We are delighted to have such an accomplished and recognized watercolor artist at WAS-H. Michael will be demonstrating a landscape painting, which also will include a building or two, imparting his sense of place and light and communicating his impressions of the built, natural and imagined worlds. His most recently published book is Watercolor Techniques: Painting Light and Color in Landscapes and Cityscapes. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the meeting. For more information about Michael, see the September issue of the Washrag.

Please join us at 1:30 p.m. for our social time, following by the General meeting at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, October 8, 2017. Michael's demo will begin at 2:15 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., we will present the AME awards, followed by the reception in the Gallery.

Washrag is Seeking New Editor

The WAS-H board is seeking an editor for our monthly Washrag newsletter, which is published 10 times a year. Washrag is our major membership communication tool and has recently been reformatted to make it easier to read on digital devices.

We are looking for a volunteer who would be able meet monthly deadlines, is detail oriented, has good organizational and communication skills, is able to interface with our other communication platforms (eBlast, Facebook page, etc.), solicit articles from regular contributors as well as new contributors, edit and organize articles using InDesign or another similar platform, and attend WAS-H board meetings, either in person or via conference call.

The ideal candidate would also be willing give up his or her free time to devote to WAS-H, love to cook comfort food for the board and have a great sense of humor.😊 If you are interested, or would like additional information contact: Louise H. Bateman, President at LouiseHBateman54@gmail.com and Laura McMahon, Vice President at laura.mcmahon@att.net.
November Featured Demo Artist

Daniela Werneck
at November 12, 2017 General Meeting
social 1:30 p.m., meeting 2:00 p.m., demo: 2:15 p.m.

Painting on Claybord
by Laura J. McMahon, Vice-President

Award winning watercolor artist, Daniela Werneck, will be our November WAS-H “Featured Demo Artist” at our next General Meeting on November 12, 2017. Many of you know Daniela’s work on Claybord, particularly her beautiful portraits of children. I have a piece of Claybord in my supply closet beckoning me, so I am excited that Daniela will be showing us techniques for painting on this unique surface.

Daniela was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a lovely place to be inspired to paint. She currently lives in Katy, Texas. She has been an art lover since she was a child, always passionate about human figures in drawings and sculptures. She studied drawing and painting as a teenager, which is when she discovered her love of watercolor. Daniela has a bachelor’s degree in Interior Design, and she worked as an interior designer for ten years until she moved with her husband and children to Australia in 2008. That move gave her the opportunity to commit herself to her passion—watercolor! She and her family relocated to the United States, and in 2015 she started entering her paintings in watercolor exhibits to much success. She is a member of the Texas Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, WAS-H and The Portrait Society of America. She has won awards at WAS-H at monthly shows as well as in the Annual Members Exhibition and Annual International Watermedia exhibition. Her painting, “The Girl With Popcorn Dress” recently was one of seven paintings to win an award at this summer’s Annual Members Exhibition by the National Watercolor Society.

Daniela says that she loves to paint the human figure, particularly of those who have part of her everyday life. She is passionate about observing children in their daily activities, capturing the right moment, the perfect body language that reveals their emotions, feelings or imagination.

Daniela currently is working on a project for a series of paintings focusing on the American foster care system, photographed here.

Please join us on November 12, 2017 for our General Meeting. Our social begins at 1:30 p.m., the meeting starts at 2:00, and Daniela will begin the demo at 2:15 p.m. Following the demo, at 3:30 p.m., we will move to the Gallery for the awards presentation and reception for the November Monthly Exhibit.
Art on “The Go”

Vacation in Hawaii and Ready to Paint Everywhere I Go…

by Irene Crutchley

Plein Aire Painters of Hawaii (PAPOH) has three groups on the big island of Hawaii. I contacted Richard Rostowsky of the Kona, Northwest Hawaii group before arriving and joined them at the site noted in their monthly newsletter. 15 artists painted on site with watercolors, oils, acrylics and one batik artist. Especially interesting was the variety of painting media and descriptions of their artwork.

All participated in displaying artworks for a discussion/critique of positive and constructive comments offered by most artists. More information about PAPOH is available on this site. https://richardrochkovsky.com Click on menu on right top / click on painting sessions, schedules and events for more details.

- Passport bag that travels with me holds pencil, ink pen & Japanese water brush, plastic palette, loose pieces of 140 lb watercolor paper. I buy a large brimmed hat, survive being in the sun and looking like I belong there.
- String backpack holds everything. I wear my hat.
- Cotton tea towel (I do not carry paper towels),
- Spray water bottle & Guerilla water container. This water container has 3 little buckets that nest when traveling.
- Four brushes I am used to painting with in a plastic zip bag.
- View finder to focus with small notebook.
- Plastic Ziplock bag has a strip of the hook side of Velcro stuck to one side inside the plastic bag. I attach the soft side Velcro to the ends of my brushes. They do not roll away and they stay in the bag.
- Sunscreen, flash light, protein bar, drinking water and camera, to survive the day.

Volunteer of the Month

by Kathleen Church, Gallery Director

Donna Rybiski is turning our monthly receptions into parties no one wants to leave! Thank you, Donna, for your generous, creative, cheerful orchestration of our monthly receptions. The gallery now sparkles with lovely table settings, flowers, delicious munchies, and generous wine pours surrounded by fabulous art!

When I first asked Donna if she would help out with the receptions, I never guessed she would bring our gatherings to a whole new level. In many ways Donna has become the unofficial Gallery Co-director in charge of hostessing the best Sunday party in town. Thank you.
November Prospectus

Take In: Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 10 am to 12 pm
(paintings may be brought in BEFORE Saturday, Tuesday through Friday 10 am to 3 pm)
Reception: Sunday, November 12, 2017 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Pick up paintings: December 1, 2017 from 10 am to 3 pm

Theme: General / No Theme
Questions: Kathleen Church, kechurch@mac.com, 713-702-0018

Juror: Award winning watercolor artist, Daniela Wernicke, will be our juror at the November monthly show. She is a member of the Texas Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, WAS-H and The Portrait Society of America. She has won awards at WAS-H at monthly shows as well as in the Annual Members Exhibition and Annual International Watermedia exhibition. Her “The Girl With Popcorn Dress” recently was one of seven paintings to win an award at this summer’s Annual Members Exhibition by the National Watercolor 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:

■ Water soluble media
At least 80% water media: watercolor, acrylic, gouache, egg tempera, casein, ink.

■ Surfaces
Paper, Yupo, Clayboard (with or without cradle), paper based board (Illustration or art board), canvas is NOT accepted (except in Experimental Show).

■ Originality
• Photo references allowed:
  * permission granted photos taken by others
  * photos no longer copyright protected
  * purchased photos
• NOT painted from another’s painting
• NOT painted under supervision or from teaching DVD or book (except Student Exhibits)
• NOT won in any monthly exhibit or accepted in AME or IE exhibit,
• NOT repainted from winning image
• Only original artwork (no giclees, copies, etc.)

■ Collage
Allowed as long as water media is the dominant element.
No restrictions on collage source (i.e. Fabric allowed, commercial papers, photos, etc.)

■ Enhancement Media
Less than 20% watercolor pencils, pastels, wax accents/resists, charcoal, graphite, metallic water based paint, water based iridescent paints

■ Pricing
• Paintings will have sales tax added at time of sale.
• Can be for sale or NFS (not for sale).
• Gallery commission of 20% and 5% charge for credit card sales.

■ Matting and Framing Regulations
• Must be framed. Only exception is clayboard wood cradle panels.
• Simple metal or wood frames no wider than 2.0 inches.
• Mat and liner (if used) must be WHITE.
• Frame must be strung with wire for hanging. No other hangers.
• All submissions must be protected by Plexiglas except for clayboard.
• No varnished paintings.
• Size not to exceed 48” in height or width, frame included

■ Uncovered figure
• Yes.
• WAS-H reserves the right to refuse entries that are obscene, controversial, or in bad taste.

■ Awards
• Cash Awards for 1st-$100, 2nd-$75 and 3rd-$50.
• Honorable Mentions awarded a ribbon – no cash.
• Only one award per artist.
• Winners are notified by phone and/or email.

■ Regulation
• Paintings must remain in the Gallery for the entire length of the show.
• Any artist or designated agent removing their painting prior to the end of the show is subject to a penalty.

■ 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 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-Claybord, GB-Gessobord
November Prospectus

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(paintings may be brought in BEFORE Saturday: Tuesday through Friday 10 am to 3 pm)
Reception: Sunday, November 12, 2017 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Pick up paintings: December 1, 2017 from 10 am to 3 pm

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 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.

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 ______