

March 2018



February 2018 Show Winners

by Kathleen Church, WAS-H gallery director

Guest artist and juror Tina Bohlman's critique of the February show "Magic and Mystery of the Southwest" was filled with helpful advice for our artists. Overall, Tina urges all of us to be diligent about defining the light source in our work. This gives depth and definition to a painting, as well as adding the "sparkle that makes watercolor what it is!" And, of course, she emphasized the importance of beginning with a thumbnail sketch which provides the backbone of a composition, and a frame of reference we can return to in the studio.

Tina was particularly taken with the elegant composition of Karen's "Cedars" with their gentle form and shadows. About Kanya's "Winter," Tina remarked, "This little painting is almost perfect, and illustrates beautifully that size does not make the painting!" Tina "walked us through" Robert's "Texas Winter," remarking on the delicate way he leads the viewer "through the gate to the light at the edge of the forest". Thank you to all of our WAS-H artists who participated in this show.

This month's winners are:

- 1st Place Karen Lindeman "Cedar Breaks-West Katy"
- 2nd Place Kanya Kelly "Winter of Magic Mystery"
- 3rd Place Robert Ruhman "Texas Winter"



1st place - Karen Lindeman "Cedar Breaks-West Katy"



2nd place - Kanya Kelly "Winter of Magic Mystery"



3rd place - Robert Ruhman "Texas Winter"

Honorable Mention was awarded to:

- Debbie Hegemeyer "Willie's Buds"
- Nancy Stephenson "Canyon Light"
- Cheryl Evans "Cactus Chorus"
- Mohammed Ali Bhatti "Sunset"
- Eddie Edwards "Cathedral Rock, Sedona, AZ"

WAS-H OFFICE

1601 W. Alabama at Mandell
Open Tuesday – Saturday
10:00am – 3:00pm

For information, please
contact:

Martin Butler, Administrative
Assistant 713-942-9966
www.watercolorhouston.org
email: was-h@sbcglobal.net

Washrag Newsletter INFO:

**DEADLINE FOR MEMBERS
TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR
THE APRIL 2018 WASHRAG
IS 4:00 p.m.,
MARCH 9, 2018.**

Material not received by the
deadline will appear in the next
month's Washrag. Please submit
items via email to **laura.mcma-
hon@att.net** and **kzeniaannis@
yahoo.com**

ADVERTISING RATES:

Full page...7.5" by 10" \$75
Half page...7.5" by 4.7" \$50
Quarter page...3.7"x 4.7" \$25
One column...30 words \$15
Area Teachers Listing \$25/yr.
Column ads should be typed.
All other ads must be print-ready.
Photos must be 300 dpi.

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

March 2018 Events Calendar

March 4 - General meeting and demo by Iain Stewart, IWE reception
March 10 - Monthly paint-in with Liz Hill: Landscape Collage
March 17 - Paint-out
March 23 - Open Studio for Members
March 24 - Art Fair
March 28 - Wine Down Wednesdays
March 29 - The Art Party

Donate to WAS-H

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**

Member Teachers Listing

Sallie Anderson Studio, 409-763-2265
Sallie Anderson Fine Arts.com
Galveston

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

Liz Hill, WAS-H, 713-252-7726,
Mixed Media, **lizhill4u@aol.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

Mary Wilbanks, NWS, WHS, WAS-H
Workshops & Critiques, 281-370-7879
marywilbanks@gmail.com



From the President

Greetings,

When I first started taking art classes, the ten words that struck terror in me were, “There will be a critique the last hour of class”. Can I slink away now, feign illness, say I forgot my brushes and paint . . . and will I be able to ask for a refund (LOL)? When first taking classes, while I didn’t “slink away”, I made sure that I didn’t put my painting up for a critique in front of the class. I was embarrassed to show the more experienced artists in the class how much of a “rank” beginner I was. Oh, the opportunities I missed!

My first exposure to critique was with my fiber artist mentor, Jane Dunnewold. I knew nothing about the color wheel, so I attempted to tone down a bright red paint by adding black, and you can only image the results. Well, she came by and gently said, “I probably would not try that again, let’s review the color wheel and how it works.” THOSE WORDS gave me the courage to continue and now, I’m fearless when it comes to mixing colors. Well I’m fearless, but still not always successful. And, thanks to **Carla Gauthier**, I’m now working on my greens as well as learning the different properties of paints from our in-house guru, **Beth Graham**. Now during critique time I know I’ve “nailed” it, when at the end of the day the teacher says incredulously, “You did that!” I then “puff up like a toad” and usually respond, “YES”!! And, most importantly, I’ve also learned to ask the teachers to be honest, almost brutally honest, in critiquing my work. But what I have learned is that the critique is the most valuable part of a workshop, and now I’m “first in line” to have my work assessed—warts and all!

Now on to business. Our Sunday, April 8th General Meeting has two very important agenda items to discuss. **In order to allow ample time the meeting will start at 1 p.m.**

- First, we are going to discuss “Where Do We Go From Here”? (see article in this month’s Washrag), which will be facilitated by Cindy Wigglesworth.

- Election of 2017-2018 WAS-H Officers.

Please plan on coming to this special meeting at its earlier than usual time.

Therefore, it is my please to present the following slate of officers:



Laura McMahon has agreed to be President. Laura, who currently serves as Vice President, joined WAS-H after picking up a paintbrush for the first time at a WAS-H beginners weekend workshop in late August 2015. She is an art lover and collector and particularly loves the luminescence of watercolor. Laura immediately recognized WAS-H as a gem. Initially, she was looking to pick up watercolor painting as an interest in advance of retiring as a corporate lawyer from a large law firm. She quickly realized that WAS-H had so much more to offer. Laura then began volunteering at monthly take-ins and has been amazed at the community, support and friendship that WAS-H offers. She began 2017 moving into semi-retiring from representing clients in securities offerings, mergers and acquisitions, as well as corporate governance and fully retired at the end of the year. She previously has served on boards of several non-profit organizations, including KUHT and Da Camera. Laura’s experience includes leadership, negotiation, financial, organizational and governance skills. She also was a high school Spanish teacher prior to becoming a lawyer. She also has been working behind the scenes since last spring editing and proofing the Washrag.



Kathleen Church, our current Gallery Director, has agreed to serve as Vice President. Kathleen has been actively and happily involved at WAS-H for the past three years as an art student, volunteer and as Gallery Director. She grew up in Houston but lived away for many years until returning four years ago after twenty years in New York City. She was an educator in the Sacred Heart Network of Schools for over thirty years before she changed direction and trained to work with adults as a psychotherapist. Currently, she has a small private psychotherapy practice, conducts occasional retreats and days of prayer at Christ

From the President (cont.)

Church Cathedral, spends part of her summers on the Pemaquid Peninsula in Midcoast Maine, paints whenever she can and enjoys this lovely, vibrant community at WAS-H.



Betty Westbrook has served as Treasurer of WAS-H for the past five years. She has done an excellent job of keeping our records straight, both in-house and with required governmental reporting. She works long hours behind the scenes to make sure that we are a well-run, financially ethical organization. Over her 30-year business career, Betty managed a marketing consulting business, specializing in customer satisfaction, market research, and customer analytics. Her special talent is a thorough knowledge of financial management: identifying areas to best optimize expenditures that result in improving the services we provide to our members.



We are delighted that **Veronica Koenig** has agreed to be Secretary. She currently serves on the boards of two other non-profit organizations as secretary, so is looking forward to filling that role on WAS-H's Board. For the past year she has been managing the e-Blast notifications for WAS-H and, back in 2016, participated for several months in the Arts in Medicine Program. She retired from ConocoPhillips after a 35 year career in the International Exploration Department, holding various positions AFTER starting as a graphic artist in the Woodbridge, Connecticut office and ending as a GIS mapping specialist. Since retirement, she has kept busy with various volunteer groups such as Caring Critters (an animal assisted therapy organization) and the West University Place Good Neighbor Team. She is a member of the Rockport Art Center and enjoys painting with their plein air group when at her "get away" home in Bayside. She's inspired there with the tranquility and beauty of nature—sunrises over Copano Bay are each uniquely beautiful, as are the explosively colorful sunsets. There are no street lights in Bayside to obscure the view of the moon and the stars. It's a great place for bird watching, and the fall migration of hummingbirds is a spectacle to behold. She is a member of the Ladies Guild of Bayside and designs and hand-stitch quilts as a fundraising activity to support the community's volunteer fire department.

We are a volunteer run organization, so please consider volunteering as your time permits. We have several opportunities coming up during the IWE, with various days, times and hours. Go to <https://watercolorhouston.org/Volunteers> and click on **SignUp Genius** to find out the many opportunities that are available.

And as always, please let me know when we don't meet your expectations and when we do!

Best,

Louise Bateman,
WAS-H President

Celebrating New WAS-H Members of January 2018

Jeanette Bealer
Sudha Bidani
Sara Kahn
Cyndy Allard
Carolina Ferrer
Angie Tellman
MaryLou Andrews

Isabel Denkler
Sarah Handel
Ardythe Jolliff
Amaia Gomez
Reagan Miller
Meagan Butler
Kathleen Durdin

Susan Keith
Kyung Hwa Love
Victoria Mitre
Rhae Zhang
Faustine Gebhart

 **SpeedyPrinting**
3433 West Alabama, Suite C, Houston, TX 77027
713.877.8466 Facsimile 713.877.8557
craig@speedypainting.net

February 2018 Gallery Reception



Members and guests enjoying the reception



Juror Tina Bohlman introducing the winning entries



2nd place winner Kanya Kelly with juror Tina Bohlman



1st place winner Karen Lindeman with juror Tina Bohlman



February General Meeting

**WAS-H HOSTED TINA BOHLMAN AS FEBRUARY 2018's
FEATURED DEMO ARTIST
By Laura McMahon, Vice President**

Tina Bohlman, an outdoor landscape painter for over 40 years, delighted WAS-H members at our February 2018 General Meeting, beginning with a "show and tell" of her gear that she uses for plein air painting. Mentioning that the plein air sketch is a gathering of information, she demonstrated how she determines her composition and light source and does her quick sketch prior to putting brush to paper. She next transitioned to using her sketches and reference photo to demonstrate how she takes her plein air experience back to the studio to create a larger painting. During her demo, Tina shared many tips and valuable information she has developed over her years as an artist. Members gathered around her after the demo concluded with many more questions. We are hoping to get Tina back to WAS-H for a plein air workshop in the future.

April 2018 Featured Demo Artist

General Meeting April 8, 2018

Note Special Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.

Demo: 2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Ksenia Annis

FAST FIGURE SKETCHING with Ksenia Annis

By Laura McMahon, Vice-President

WAS-H is pleased to host Board Member **Ksenia Annis** as our featured demo artist at the April General Meeting. Ksenia will show us how to get started on figure sketching or fine-tune our skills. She will draw from a live model using a fast sketching technique and will demonstrate how to apply this technique to the more developed figurative pieces.

Ksenia is from Moscow, Russia, where she trained to be an architect. She moved to the United States in the early 2000s and in 2008 realized that she wanted to pursue her true calling as an artist full time. As principal artist of her company, Tummy Rubb Studio, she devotes all of her time to traditional and digital visual art, working in acrylic, watercolor and gouache, in addition to doing some sculpture. Much of her work focuses on whimsical interpretation of the world, which shines in her paintings and illustrations for books, the first of which was published in 2015. In addition, she is an accomplished artist in many genres, whether capturing the essence of the human figure, painting the splendor of landscapes or illustrating whimsical animals singing and dancing. She also has received commissions for her work from corporations and municipalities and won awards in juried exhibits.

We hope to see you on April 8, 2018. Our special meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m., and Ksenia Annis will begin her demo at 2:15 p.m., after which we will move to the Gallery for the awards presentation and reception for the April 2018 Monthly Exhibit. We look forward to seeing you there!



Upcoming Events At WAS-H This Spring

Browse through these events listed and mark your calendars:

March 4 - April 5, 2018: The month-long 41st International Watermedia Exhibition. Enjoy our premier exhibition featuring artists from all over the world!

Sunday, March 4:

2:15pm - 3:30pm Iain Stewart Artist Demo;

3:30pm - 5:30pm Opening Night and Awards Ceremony for the IWE at WAS-H. Enjoy light bites, mingle with our juror Iain Stewart, artists, and the community.

Thursday March 8, 5:30pm - 7:30pm: Art Lovers Reception for the IWE at WAS-H. Meet our donors, patrons, and special guests and spend quality time with Iain Stewart as he guides you through his jurying process.

IWE March 2018 Gallery Extended Hours:

Saturdays 3:00pm - 6:00pm: March 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2018

Sundays 2:00pm - 4:30pm: March 11, 18, 25, and April 1, 2018

Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 - 9:30pm: March Wine Down Wednesday for young adults. BYOB and art supplies and meet other young artists and creatives at this free, monthly event!

Thursday March 29, 7:00 - 9:00pm: The IWE Art Party. This free party is for young adults to enjoy refreshments and snacks and view the IWE artwork up close and personal before the paintings are shipped back home!

Friday April 20, 6:30pm - 9:30pm: Mandalas and Movement 3. It's our third time with this event! We're joining art and yoga to create a movement . . . Join us for a mandala making workshop followed by a mandala themed flow!

For more information on our calendar, events, classes and workshops, please visit www.watercolorhouston.org.

Upcoming Monthly Exhibits

April 7, 2018 – Theme: General.

Juror Ken Mazzu is a well know Texas artist whose work includes oil on canvas, watercolor, and charcoal drawings. Ken teaches watercolor at The Glassell School of Art in the Studio School, and his work is represented by William Reaves and Sarah Foltz Fine Art Gallery in Houston, Texas. Most recently Ken's work has begun to focus on a new group of pastoral landscape paintings based upon the Southeast Texas regional landscape! This series is now expanding to include imagery of the Gulf Coast. So far, select media for this body of work will encompass watercolor, oil on canvas and new oil pastels.

May 5, 2018 – Theme: The Human Person Enters Your Painting.

Juror: Sandy Parkerson, Parkerson Galleries. We are delighted to have Sandy return to WAS-H to judge this show before he leaves Houston for California. Today, Parkerson Gallery is the only art gallery in Houston dealing exclusively in the secondary, or resale market, exhibiting works of regionally to internationally recognized artists. The eclectic array of works handled range from Picasso, O'Keeffe and Judd to Kohlmeyer and Mears.

Whether you are painting a portrait, clothed or unclothed, or a figure that tells a story like Mary Whyte's and Andrew Whyte's images, the human person adds extraordinary depth and richness to our work. In this show artists are invited to make the human figure in all its complexity and beauty more central to the story. Classical figure work as well as abstract representations of people are welcome.

June 3, 2018 – Theme: General.

Juror: Kay Sarver. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kay Sarver later attended the University of Cincinnati in Fine Arts, where she majored in painting. In 1978, she moved to Houston, Texas after a three-year-stay in Florida. In recent years, she was part of Art Chatter's Rorpost Project in 2015-16, which exhibited at the Art Car Museum and Houston City Hall, as well as in Esbjerg, Denmark. In 2014, her work was also part of a group show, 596 Miles, in Marfa, Texas. She has been juried into Lawndale Art Center's The Big Show, Houston Art League's Gambol Show, and has also been a finalist in The Hunting Art Prize. Kay was curator at Archway Gallery for six years while showing her work as a member. She had two solo shows in 2014, The Unseen at Chinelli La Fratta Gallery in Houston, and Cross Pollination at Mossrock Gallery in The Woodlands, Texas, with her most recent solo show in 2015, Studio Junkies, at Lawndale Art Center.

July 8, 2018 – Theme: Student Show

Juror: Patrick Palmer. Patrick M. Palmer has been the Dean and Faculty Chair at the Glassell School of Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston since Houston since 2011. He received his M.A. in Fine Arts from Arizona State. Patrick has taught extensively in California and in Texas. He originated the "HIV+Art Program" at Art League of Houston from 1990-1998. Patrick's art hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, and the Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO —to name just a few.

August 5, 2018 – Theme: Summertime and the Livin' is Easy.

Washrag Volunteer Opportunity

The WAS-H Board is seeking an editor/proof reader for our monthly Washrag newsletter. Our current interim editor/proof reader, **Laura McMahon**, Vice President, will be assuming the President's duties this coming year and therefore is unable to fill both positions.

The Washrag is published 10 times a year and is our major membership communication tool. 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 (e-Blast, Facebook page, etc.), solicit articles from regular contributors as well as new contributors and edit articles. This position would work closely with our graphic design volunteer/board member, **Ksenia Annis**, who organizes the articles into a newsletter format using InDesign.

If you are interested, or would like additional information contact: **Louise H. Bateman**, President, at LouiseHBateman54@gmail.com.

Upcoming Paint-Outs For Spring 2018

By Mary Glover Rustay, Paint-Out Coordinator

March 17th – Chappell Hill, Texas

The March Paint-out is scheduled for St. Patrick's Day, so wear green!!! It is on March 17th in the downtown of Chappell Hill, Texas. Chappell Hill is northwest of Houston out HWY 290 about halfway between Brenham and Hempstead. Please allow about 1.5 hours of drive time. Drive to FM 1155. Turn right on FM 1155 (also called Main St.) and look for Beaver's Restaurant. We will meet across the street from Beaver's in the parking lot of the little historic restored Baptist church. We will send out an e-Blast closer to the date, with suggestions of some paintable locations in town. Downtown is like stepping back in time and is really picturesque—a quaint little downtown along Main street (FM1155) that looks like it came out of a western movie. Also, Washington on the Brazos State park is 20 miles north of Chappell Hill. The area is steeped in history!

April 21st – Calvert, Texas

This tiny Texas town, which almost looks like a ghost town as one drives through it on HWY 6, has two very old white frame historic churches with tall square steeples inviting you paint them! One is the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany (east a few blocks of HWY 6) and the other is St. Paul's Methodist Church.

May 9th – San Antonio Overnight

More information about the overnight Paint-out to San Antonio will be sent out on a group reservation for lodging near the Riverwalk and downtown San Antonio. We hope to paint a mission one day and the Riverwalk area another day. SAVE THE DATE!!! IT IS THE WEEKEND AFTER MOTHER'S DAY.

February 2018 Paint-In Report

By Jan McNeill and David Muegge, Paint-in Coordinators

A great time was had by all - at the February 2018 Paint-in! Despite the rainy day, we had 23 attend and learn all sorts of sketchbook insights from Caroline Graham.

Hope to see you at the March 10 Paint-in with Liz Hill on landscapes with collage.



Condolences

WAS-H extends condolences to member **Peggy Engells** on the unexpected passing of her husband, Tom Engells, on January 21, 2018 at the age of 59. Peggy is a regular attendee at Paint-ins and Open Studio.

Art on “The Go”

“The Fun Along the Way”

by Shirl Riccetti, WAS-H member

Not all of our Art experience happens in a quiet hour or two, or in front of a drawing board or easel—some moments are chaotic with unexpected results.

Daniela Warneck Genefre remembers a series of paintings that she did of her young son in his bad mood. “I usually ask my kids to pose for me. The boys, of course, they hate it, and they do not really care about the final result. But when they are willing, they do 30 seconds with some poses. I have to be very creative when shooting (photos), not to miss the opportunity. When I brought my first Aquaboard home, I asked my youngest to pose for me. The spontaneous series of poses in “his bad mood” were hilarious, and my first watercolor on Aquaboard panel, entitled, “Who Cares”, brought me a few prizes.”

Daniela’s note of grabbing that moment, or Carpe Diem (seizing the day), is accented yet again in this tale. We love our art moments.

Years ago, I taught a session of Contour Drawing at the Houston Zoo. It was only a few hours, ending around Dusk. Our “plein air” group walked the Zoo paths, ready to do quick drawings. About ten of us stopped at the Lion. He was proudly perched in front of us, staring, ready with his pose. After five or ten minutes, we turned to leave . . . Until . . . we heard a very Loud Roar behind us. As a group, we slowly turned and inched out steps back to His area. We drew again. Then we individually and slowly eased our way to other Zoo areas. This mighty Lion, in true Kingly fashion, as our model, was Not ready for us to leave. And he made his intentions quite clear.

It is tales and stories like this, that not only add to our Art experience, make us smile and remember with fondness why we do love our drawing and painting times.

Carpe Diem.

If you have any stories of your travels and such, please email sriccetti@comcast.net.

Where Do We Go From Here?

By Lousie Bateman, President

A thought provoking question, especially if you are asking any member of WAS-H, and, perhaps, why ask the question at all? WAS-H has been a highly successful, dynamic and growing organization since its inception in 1969. We own our own building, have over 665 members, offer a plethora of workshops (over 20 this spring), host 2 major workshops a year, hold monthly shows, paint-ins, paint outs and more.

As WAS-H President, I think it judicious to step back and take inventory of what we have accomplished, what we need to do to sustain our success, what we need to do differently (if anything) and what worries us about WAS-H.

To that end, at the April General meeting, we will begin by asking our members a few questions:

1. What worries or concerns do you have for WAS-H?
2. What do you “love” about WAS-H and not want to lose?
3. What do you hope for the future of WAS-H?

The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and we will have a facilitator, Cindy Wigglesworth. For those members not able to attend the meeting, we will also have participation available on-line.

Please plan on attending, and as always you can email me with your thoughts at LouiseHBateman54@gmail.com.

Open Studio February Collaboration

By Linda Flowers, WAS-H member

This February 16th Open Studio was like a candy store for the member artists on hand. Our own **Teresa Cole** had the wonderful idea of having a material and art supplies show. Picture three long tables set up to hold different art paraphernalia that members brought from home for this “show, tell and try”. We experimented with new brushes, paints, masking fluids, paper, watercolor brush pens, crayons . . . too many to list . . . but, oh what fun!

Barbara Elmore was kind enough to give us a hands-on demonstration of what she packs when she paints “En Plein Air.” She even brought her portable painting chair to show us how easy it was to carry to a painting spot.

Mike Doan was surrounded by curious artists as he shared his technique of using an atomizer to produce beautiful paintings. Using watercolor and ink paints, we were all captivated as he created a beautiful painting right before our eyes. **Diane Burch** also got in on the fun and used her own atomizer to try the technique. You can be sure that this artist will be heading to the art store to buy her own atomizer.

When WAS-H has no classes or workshops scheduled on Fridays, Open studio is a great way for members to enjoy a Friday morning and early afternoon. Bring your lunch and come join us on **Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The Open Studio meet ups are free and open to all members. Check the WAS-H website for the current schedule or contact Open Studio Coordinator, **Diane Burch**, at ipaint@dianebruchstudio.com.



Trying Too Hard or “Trust the Process”

by Ksenia Annis, WAS-H teacher and board member

A deadline is fast approaching and painting needs to be sent to a show or a contest. Before you is a wide gulf of empty paper. We are conditioned to believe that effort and concentration will win the day, so we set out to “get ‘er done” - only to be dissatisfied with the result. Even when we have no real time pressure, we can create the conditions for disaster. New knowledge can tempt us to try to create a masterpiece by the numbers. This leads to hesitant execution and weak lines devoid of energy, paint becomes muddy through indecision. The end result is forced and overworked.

We fail when we lose sight of the creative process, instead concentrating on a result. We become a painting factory focused on “doing things correctly”.

I recently discovered Shaun McNiff’s book “Trust the Process. An Artist’s Guide to Letting Go” that talks about two components of creativity - fear and exhilaration. Claude Monet advised artists “not to fear mistakes”. What is a mistake in art? As Shaun McNiff says in his book: “The mistake is outside the intended course of actions, and it may present something that we never saw before, something unexpected and contradictory, something that may be put to use.”

Trying Too Hard or “Trust the Process” (cont.)

I know I am guilty of focusing too much on “painting a masterpiece” each time I pick up a brush, so here are a few suggestions to artists who struggle with fear and self-doubt. I try to keep them in mind myself when I work.

- Give yourself permission to enjoy the process of creating art, don't feel pressured to produce an “end-product” If you find this especially difficult, try creating some art that is meant to be temporary. Chalk a sidewalk, decorate a cake, build a sand castle. Learn about the Tibetan Buddhist Sand Mandala tradition and maybe try one of your own.

- When taking classes, workshops, or during figure lab, keep in mind that you are there to learn to express yourself, not to show the teacher and fellow artists how good you are. That's not why you are there, is it?

- When working on your art, think about materials, process and techniques you used to create your earlier successful pieces, not how you'll replicate the result with this one.

- Inspire and motivate yourself by trying new materials and substrates, or just by using different combinations of materials. I find that my mixed media pieces are almost always the most successful.

- In the current culture of sharing and oversharing, don't feel like you need to tell the world about every piece that you've created. It's okay to quietly put some of them in your scrap paper folder and then come back to them... or not.

So, pick up the brush or a pencil, go with the flow, enjoy the creative process and don't try too hard!

The Starving Artist Cooks

Hummus (Chick-Pea Dip) and Greek Layer Dip

by Jan McNeill, Paint-Ins Coordinator

How to make hummus:

[Editor's Note: Jan has shared this recipe with many of her watercolor friends and members of WAS-H's Senior Class. Her daughter-in-law now prefers Jan's over store bought!]

¼ cup tahini (sesame paste) – at Kroger's. Keeps in fridge for months.

1 tsp cumin

½ tsp salt

2 large cloves garlic, finely chopped

3 Tbsp lemon juice

3 Tbsp hot water

1 19 oz can chick-peas (garbanzo beans) – drained and rinsed (Bush's garbanzo beans are excellent)

Chopped fresh parsley (optional)

Purée chick-peas in food processor. Add tahini mixture and mix well. Add remaining ingredients except parsley and blend. Serve in bowl and sprinkle with chopped parsley. Great with fresh vegetables and/or pita chips.

Makes 1 ½ cups. Stores well in refrigerator if covered.

How to make Greek layer dip:

1 pkg (7 oz) hummus (homemade recipe above is VERY good!)

1 pkg (4 oz) feta cheese, crumbled

1/4 cup chopped tomatoes

1/4 cup chopped cucumbers

2 Tbsp. chopped Kalamata olives

Spread hummus onto bottom of 9-inch pie plate or casserole dish. Cover with layers of remaining ingredients, placing feta last. Serve with pita chips, sliced carrot sticks, celery sticks, other veggies.

Note: Jan doubles the hummus recipe above for a 9x13 casserole dish

April Prospectus

THEME: General/No theme

Take-In: Saturday, April 7, 2018, 10 am - 12 pm

(Paintings may be brought in BEFORE Saturday during regular gallery hours: from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Tuesday through Friday)

Reception: Sunday, April 8, 2018 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Pick up paintings : Friday, May 4, 2018, 10 am - 3 pm

Questions: Kathleen Church, kechurch@mac.com,
713-702-0018

Juror: Ken Mazzu

Ken Mazzu is a well know Texas artist whose work includes oil on canvas, watercolor, and charcoal drawings. Ken teaches watercolor at The Glassell School of Art in the Studio School, and his work is represented by William Reaves and Sarah Foltz Fine Art Gallery in Houston, Texas. Most recently Ken's work has begun to focus on a new group of pastoral landscape paintings based upon the Southeast Texas regional landscape! This series is now expanding to include imagery of the Gulf Coast. So far, select media for this body of work will encompass watercolor, oil on canvas and new oil pastels.

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Artist must be a current WAS-H member.
- Artwork must be completed within the last 24 months.
- 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, Claybord, Gessobord (with or without cradle), paper based board (illustration or art board), Canvas is NOT accepted.

• *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 Exhibit.)
- NOT won in any monthly exhibit or accepted in AME or IWE 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, char coal, graphite, 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 Claybord and Gessobord 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 Claybord and Gessobord.
- No varnished paintings.
- Size not to exceed 48" in height or width, frame included

• *Unclothed 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

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

Take-In: Saturday, April 7, 2018, 10 am - 12 pm

(Paintings may be brought in BEFORE Saturday during regular gallery hours:
from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Tuesday through Friday)

Reception: Sunday, April 8, 2018 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Pick up paintings : Friday, May 4, 2018, 10 am - 3 pm

Questions: Kathleen Church, kechurch@mac.com,
713-702-0018

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, INCLUDING ORIGINALITY AND USE OF REFERENCE PHOTOS.

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 _____



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE

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