



Purely Pastel

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December 2019

CPS Renaissance in Pastel 2019

This year's CPS Renaissance in Pastel Exhibition was yet another outstanding show. An example of pastel art at its finest, one hundred and six gorgeous pastel paintings graced the walls of the beautiful Slater Memorial Museum in Norwich, Connecticut. The Artists Reception, held on Sunday, October 27th, was well attended despite the heavy rains of the day. It was inspiring to see so many new faces!

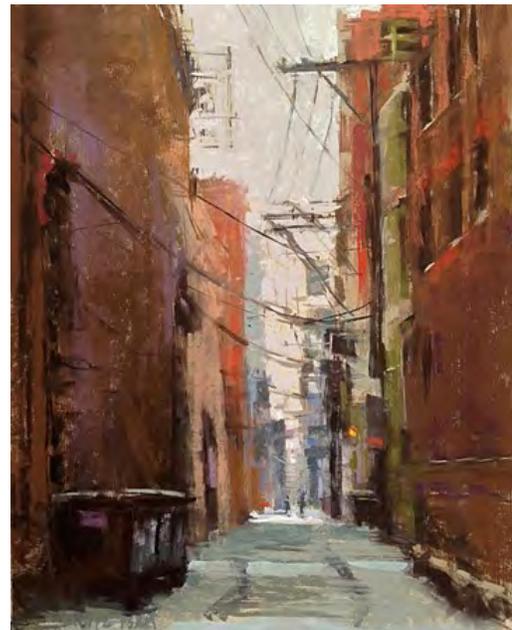
An insightful demo, standing room only, was given by Massachusetts artist, Lisa Regopoulos.

All in all, it was a wonderful event!

We are deeply grateful to all the volunteers who are so giving of their time and energy, without whom the exhibition and reception would not have been possible. Many thanks to our Jurors of Selection, Judith Leeds, Jeanne Tangney and Kurt Weiser, and to our Awards Judge, Brian Bailey. Special thanks as well to our donors and sponsors who support the Renaissance Exhibition with awards donations.



**Lisa Regopoulos
Displays her demo
Painting**



**Best in Show award winner
"Alley off Elm," Nancy King Mertz**

To be a juror of Awards at the 2019 CPS Renaissance Show was a truly humbling honor and a challenging endeavor. The caliber of all the work exhibited, surpassed my expectations. This also made the task of assigning awards a daunting and difficult undertaking. The exhibit in its totality shows the breadth and depth of this versatile and tactile medium. The beauty of the medium has been confidently expressed in this diverse and stunning show of contemporary pastel. - Brian Bailey, PSA-MP, IAPS-MC

We would like to welcome our 2020 Renaissance Co-Chair, Mira Vitarello. She can be reached at mira@mirafineart.com.

We are still in need of another Co-Chair for the 2020 Renaissance in Pastel Exhibition. If you are interested in becoming a Co-Chair or volunteering your time to assist Mira, please contact Vicki Rooney at vrooney661@aol.com. In addition to having the satisfaction of knowing you're contributing to the smooth sailing of CPS, getting involved is a great way to meet other artists!

Happy painting to all!

Warmest Regards from your 2019 Co-Chairs,

Vicki Rooney and Diane Stone



From our President Diane Stone



Dear members,

It has been my pleasure to serve as President.

Although this is my last message as President, I will continue to serve in other ways, as I have for about 10 years. It has helped me to understand all aspects of this organization. Most importantly, it's about the members and meeting them! Please consider joining us to help this organization along the way. Without volunteers it makes more work for others or it means the dispensing of some things that you have enjoyed in the past.

We still need a co-chair for our National Renaissance in Pastel Show. This person should be willing to assist Mira Vitarello with some emails, some spreadsheets may be involved, August to October, and be at the venue in October for receiving, reception, judging and pickup. There will be lots of help too! It is a time of excitement and it is a rewarding experience!

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about volunteering.

dstone322@gmail.com

Let's all welcome Jane Penfield as the incoming President as of January 1st!

Signing off,

Diane Stone



Member Profile: Jane Penfield

It is always a joy to have the opportunity to highlight fine pastel artists, but in this season's spotlight, I also have the distinct pleasure of introducing CPS's new president, Jane Penfield.

Art, as in life, often develops through associations and connections that we never could have predicted, *a priori*. In Jane's case, it was a background in professional music that set the stage for her later work in painting. She would come to learn that certain things are as true in visual art as they are in music; such as the primacy of basic principles of composition, theory, design, and harmony.

Of discovering pastels, Jane comments, "I found my happy place." She loves the immediacy of the medium, its opacity, the variety of effects that can be created, and its tactile nature.



Awakening
12x16"
Jane Penfield
On UArt black

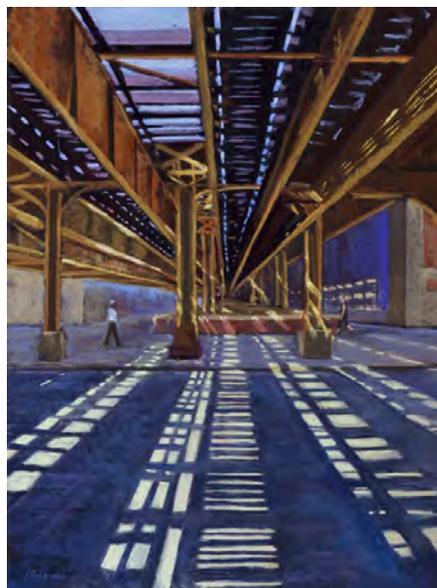
Her sense of connection with the outdoors created in her a natural affinity for landscape painting. Although her subject matter has evolved to include still life, she notes that she continues to think of herself as a landscape painter and she sees still life as a special form of landscape. Another feature of her current work is the presence of human element in the landscape, a subject in which she became particularly interested when visiting her son in Chicago. The distinct structures and forms become yet another means to explore the essential principles such as rhythm, composition, and dynamics, which combine with impeccable draftsmanship in her pastel work.



Harvest Home
pastel, 21x21"
Jane Penfield

To her role at CPS, Jane brings experience in leadership as a choir director and administrator in non-profit art organizations, including President of the board at Arts Center East. She has been an active member of CPS for years, where she has admired the high standard that has been invariably set by the Renaissance show, alongside the sense of community that the membership embodies. She marvels at how the shows are the result of a dynamic between individual and collective work. How, like a choir, the members come together to create a whole that goes beyond its components. "We have a great organization that has always been supported by people's generous volunteer time and I want to help that continue to thrive."

Welcome CPS president-elect, Jane Penfield



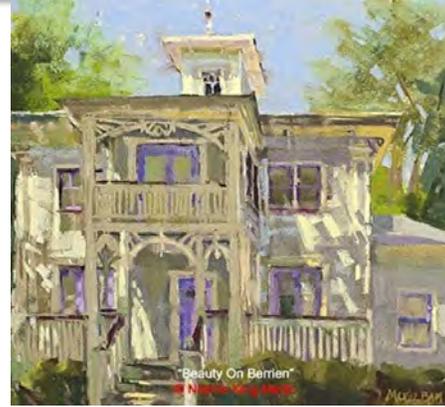
Perspectives
18x24"
Jane Penfield
Armadillo Award in
CPS Renaissance
2019

Upcoming 2019 CPS Workshops



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

**Polly
Castor**



Adventures in Abstraction II

Loosen up and join us for this dynamic two-day event Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19th, 2020 at the Southington Community Cultural Arts Center!

This workshop is a sequel to the Polly Castor's Adventures in Abstraction workshop held by CPS in April of 2019. Former students will be presented with new material, content and exercises, however new students will be able to jump right in! The format offers many short, intensive exercises, interspersed with Power Point presentations and discussions of student work. We will work within the whole range of abstraction – emphasizing different elements with an extra focus on the influence of innovative under painting.

Registration Fee is \$175.00 for CPS Members, \$200.00 for Non Members.

For more information contact Polly Castor at polycastor@gmail.com or 203.313.9655.

Nancie King Mertz –Painting Structures in Your Landscape! JUNE 2020

A three day en plein air extravaganza with Nancie King Mertz, is offered June 22nd through June 24th, 2020 at Lyme Academy of Art, 84 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT. This event is not to be missed!

The focus of this workshop is using rapid plein air pastel methods to “get the drawing right” using one or two point perspective. Short demos will be offered throughout the workshop to help clarify techniques.

Nancie is the recipient of the BEST IN SHOW Award at the 2019 Renaissance in Pastel Show!

Registration Fee is \$350.00 for CPS Members, \$375.00 for Non Members.

Registration opens November 1st, 2019 at www.ctpastelsociety.org under the Education tab. Read more about these exciting opportunities by CPS on our website or contact Debbie Temple at dtemple860@aol.com or 860.559.4071.



Upcoming 2020 CPS Workshops (cont)

COLOR CONFIDENCE

Three-day workshop with Marla Baggetta

Concentrate on expanding your understanding of color with Marla Baggetta, no more guessing! This studio workshop is offered November 14th to the 16th, 2020 at the Lyme Academy of Art, 84 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT.

Bridge the gap between color theory and the practical application of color, at the same time you are developing your own individual painting style.

Registration Fee is \$350.00 for CPS Members, \$375.00 for Non Members.



Registration opens November 1st, 2019 at www.ctpastelsociety.org under the Education tab. Read more about these exciting opportunities by CPS on our website or contact Debbie Temple at dtemple860@aol.com or 860.559.4071.

2020 CPS Member Exhibit!

2020 CPS Member Exhibition: Save the Date

The 34th annual CPS Member Exhibition will be held from March 6 - March 28, 2020 at the Southington Community Cultural Arts (SOCCA) in Southington, CT. We are excited to return to this beautiful venue. We will offer nearly \$5,000 in cash and merchandise awards. Members with dues paid for 2020 are invited to submit one framed pastel painting for this non-juried show. Entries are juried only for awards. In addition to the regular exhibit in the main gallery, we will also hold our 3rd annual small works non-juried show and members may enter one small painting. We will share more scheduling details and the prospectus with you soon. In the meantime, please keep the key dates for the show in mind. For more information contact Mary Ann D'Ambruoso at mcdcapri@yahoo.com or Diana Rogers at diana.rogers@comcast.net

Key Dates for 2020 Members Exhibition

Receiving of entries: Saturday, February 29

Opening reception: Saturday, March 7

Pick-up: Saturday, March 28



ARE YOU A PORTRAIT ARTIST?

Mary Lazar asks, how about an "AGELESS PALETTE?"

You can become part of an "AGELESS PALETTE," by committing time to practice while visiting elders within our communities. All you need to do is contact your local area Assisted living/Nursing homes or Council on Aging community centers. Ask to speak with the 'Activity Director' about a convenient time for you to visit with your art supplies and explain your intention to seek mature volunteers to sit for you. Most aging centers or residential homes have common areas for you to set up pastel practice session(s) and most residents would be delighted to have the company and conversation of a portrait artist to draw &/or paint them. It's a win-win in geographic areas where professional models aren't available or perhaps too costly for an afternoon of practice. But more importantly, making art with an "AGELESS PALETTE" gives artists a chance to share their creativity with generations that go before us.

Thank you for the wonderful idea, Mary. If any of our members set something like this up, we'd love to hear about it.

This fall there is a large retrospective exhibition of artwork of the late Frank Federico, PSA-HFH, IAPS-MC, longtime friend, teacher, mentor and former CPS President. The exhibition is at the Art Institute at Maplebrook (AIM), located on the campus of Maplebrook School, 5142 Route 22, Amenia, NY 12501 (just a few miles south of Amenia center). Phone: 845-373-9511, Hours: 11 am - 6 pm. **The opening Reception was Saturday, October 12, 2019, 4-7 pm**, and the show will be up until late December. Maplebrook is situated in northeast Dutchess County, NY, between Amenia and Wassauc on Route 22. Find directions at maplebrookschool.org

Frank's career as an artist spanned 7 decades, and he was recognized with many national awards and honors, including being selected as the Pastel Society of America Hall of Fame Honoree in 2012. He was a popular teacher nationwide including workshops at IAPS conventions; his critiques were legendary, and his sessions demonstrated a broad and discerning knowledge of art history and techniques, as well as a unique sense of humor.

This show of Frank's paintings will include about 100 works: oils, pastels, acrylics and watercolors. It will showcase his prolific lifelong output featuring not only this variety of mediums but also a wide array of subject matter, style, and treatment. Those of us lucky enough to study with Frank know that his buzzword was "uniqueness", and this exhibition will demonstrate what that meant to him.

Welcome new CPS Members!

Barbara Vural

Svetlana Stegalkina

Ann Vollpe

Shuk Susan Lee

Joanne Carol Willoughby

Elaine Hardman

Mary Contadino



Member News

Members of CPS were well-represented at the Renaissance show, both in entries and awards. While many of our members are regulars over the years, for others this was the first opportunity to show at a national level juried exhibit. Congratulations and thank you to all who were part of this exceptional event. See the CPS website for more about the show!

Wondering where else our members have been making their marks since the last newsletter? Here is just a sampling

Shuk Susan Lee became CPS newest Signature Member and **Elaine Benavides** won the CPS scholarship.

Look for Elizabeth Rhoades work published in [Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine](#). Several CPS paintings can also be seen this Spring in [The Pastel Journal](#). **Laurel Friedmanns** painting “3 Generations” (which you may recognize from the Renaissance show) was awarded 4th place in the “Still Life and Floral” category of the [Pastel Journal](#)’s Pastel 100, in which members **Linda Gotta**, **Judy Leeds** and **Karen Israel** also had paintings receive honorable mentions in the Pastel 100. Look in the Spring edition for their works! In addition, **Karen Israel** was recently featured in the Greater Hartford Arts Council, she won the Rembrandt Pastel Award at the Pastel Society of New Hampshire, and she received 2nd Place in the Pastel Society of Maine’s 19th International exhibit. She was also invited to exhibit 10 pastels in the 4th Annual International Pastel Exhibition “Pastels of the World” hosted by Les Amis de Arts in Montlucon, France. **Judy Leeds** achieved Master Circle status at IAPS, won the Art Spirit Foundation/Diane Bernard Medal from Audobon artists, won Best in Show at the Pastel Society of New Jersey annual exhibit. She donated a painting to PSA for their annual raffle and CPS was honored to have her as a jury of selection at our Renaissance in Pastel show.

Sybil Perry was featured in an wonderful artist profile in the November issue of Main Street Magazine. **Peggy Davidson** received both PSA and CPS signature status this year. In addition to the CPS shows, her work has been exhibiting at the International Association of Pastel Societies web show and Salamagundi Art Club. **Karene Infranco** is an elected member of American Artists Professional League and will be showing in the 91st annual exhibit. She will also have work at Salamagundi Art Club and at the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club 123rd annual exhibit in 2020. **Andrew Anderson-Bell** won 1st Prize at the Society for the Encouragement of the arts Art on the Rocks Exhibition, 3rd Place at the Pastel Society of Maine’s Member Exhibition, the Signature Circle Award at the Pastel Society of New Hampshire members exhibition, and the Family and Friends award in the North Shore Arts Association Members Exhibition.

Judy Perry was recently elected as a Signature Member of the PSA and will be represented by the Uptown Gallery in Mystic, CT. **Elizabeth Rhoades** has had her painting “Lazy River” published in [Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine](#). **Jeri Greenberg**, who received a Master Circle Medal at the IAPS convention, will be a juror at the Piedmont Pastel Society Exhibit. Jeri will have paintings at the Degas Pastel 21st Exhibit and the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Show at the National Arts Gallery. **Mozell Forman** has a one-woman show coming up at the Waltuch Gallery at the JCC on the Palisades from Dec 3-31 and will be featured at the Gaelen Gallery East in West Orange NJ. **Meg Bandarra** has six painting on display at the Massachusetts State House, where they will be featured in Senator Comerford’s office for the next six months.

Roy Perkinson will have a number of paintings at the “Light/Land/Water” exhibit at the Page-Waterman Gallery in Wellesley. He gave an informal talk and screened two brief videos of his painting process at the exhibit. **Linda DeVoe** won the “advanced” category in the October Monet Café painting challenge. **Marlene Bezych** was juried in as an Associate Member of PSA. She currently has pieces at the Renaissance event and at Maryland Pastel Society’s juried show. **Rita Kirkman** won Best in Show at the pastel society of Southeast TX and honorable mention in the 2019 Southwest Art Artistic Excellence Competition, which will be published in the Dec/Jan issue. **Ann Marie Healey** will have paintings showing at the Pastel Society of Southeast Texas and Pastel Society of Cape Cod. **Lisa Cunningham** received the Terry Ludwig award for her painting “Diversity” at the PSA “Enduring Brilliance” exhibition and the painting was among several works selected from the show for an exhibit at the Butler Institute of American Art in Younstown, OH. Lisa also received third place in Graphics and Drawing at the Outdoor Art Festival of the Bruce Museum in Greenwich, CT.



Member Classes

For more information, please follow the link after each teacher's name.

Joe Baker – Stockbridge, MA –
www.bakerworks.com

Janet A. Cook – New York, NY – janetacook.com

Mally DeSomma – Waterbury, CT –
www.mallydesomma.com

Christine Ivers – Meriden, CT, nationally –
www.christineivers.com

Karen Israel, Hartford area artbykarenisrael.com

Liz Haywood-Sullivan – eastern MA, nationally –
www.lizhaywoodsullivan.com

Rita Kirkman- nationally RitaKirkman.com

Anne Heywood – eastern MA –
www.anneheywood.com

Pieter Lefferts – Sharon, CT –
www.northlightartcenter.com

Paul Leveille – Holyoke, MA –
paulleveillestudio.com

Leslie Lillian Levy – Kent, CT –
www.leslielillianlevy.com

Linda Bull Neilan – East Lyme, CT

Alain Picard – Southbury, CT –
www.picardstudio.com

Jane Penfield – Vernon, CT – www.janepenfield.com

Claudia Post – Chester, CT – www.claudiapost.com

Peggy Davidson Post, Mt. Kisco, NY
www.theartistsplace.net

Peter Seltzer – Woodbury, CT –
peterseltzerfineart.com

Jeanne Rosier Smith www.jeannerosiersmith.com

CPS officers and volunteers

CPS Board of Directors 2019

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IAPS representative Christine Ivers

Graphics and Prospectus Stacy Mayou

From the editor of *Purely Pastel*.

As always, I welcome feedback and ideas. Please contact me if you have material you would like included in the upcoming newsletter or if you might like to be a contributing author. Please forward member news, photos from CPS events, reviews of CPS workshops, or even pastel tips.

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone better and I eagerly welcome member content additions to future newsletters.

skiwards@gmail.com

Please include CPS in subject heading.

Kimberly B Edwards

