



Purely Pastel

Published by the Connecticut Pastel Society

Winter 2010

Reserve Your Spot Now for Colleen Howe Workshops!

CPS is excited to sponsor workshops with Colleen Howe this September. Colleen is a popular plein air workshop instructor who has taught across the U.S. and in Europe. She is an award-winning pastelist and PSA Signature Member. Her work has been featured in *The Pastel Journal*. The 4-day session is scheduled for September 20 to 23. The 3-day session will be held September 25 to 27. For more information or to register, contact Karen Bahrenburg at karenbahrenburg@yahoo.com.



CPS Members Show Opens March 6

The annual Members Show at Gallery 53 in Meriden opens on Saturday, March 6. The awards judge is Charles Ray. David Dunlop will provide a lively demonstration on closing day. For more information, contact show co-chairs Ken Dusyn at kdusyn@lycos.com or Stephen Linde at salinde@lycos.com. Here are key dates to keep in mind:

March 6: Opening reception 2 pm - 4 pm

March 27: Demonstration from 1 pm - 3 pm and pick up work from 3 pm - 4 pm

Purely Pastel is published quarterly. Contact Diana Rogers at diana.rogers@comcast.net to share news and information.

Suzanne Siegel: Featured Artist

Distilled and striking shapes are frequent elements of Suzanne Siegel's captivating landscape paintings. Siegel skillfully boils down a complex landscape and treats the viewer to a composition with a few exquisitely placed elements.

"I make a conscious effort to edit what I see," says Siegel. "When I was studying for my BFA, I often replicated the works of Fairfield Porter, Edward Hopper and other modernists. With artists like Hopper, you know there is a lot going on in the scene, but it's all boiled down."

To achieve the outcome she is looking for, she thinks abstractly. "I'm always painting in my head and observing the relationship between colors, values and shapes," she says. "I tell my students to work from the general to the specific and to start with the large shapes and value relationships before dealing with color."

Icons of the New England landscape, such as barns and classic homes in coastal locations, are a favorite subject matter. "I love the way geometric shapes can create a sense of space, and the sense of order in those shapes," she says.

"Cast shadows also intrigue me with their luminosity. I spend a lot of time designing and drawing for each painting," Siegel says. "Sometimes I use shadow shapes to abstract the composition. I use architecture to 'bookend' a composition which then becomes more about the space between the objects than the objects themselves."

Siegel experiments with different formats - square, vertical, horizontal - and then builds and abstracts the



Top: *Stonington, Twilight* Bottom: *Yellow House, Full Moon* by Suzanne Siegel

shapes. "I want the viewers to feel they can easily enter the space and get lost in there while they experience the color, light and beauty of the place," she says.

Siegel is drawn to the dawn and twilight for her compositions. "It's those times of day when it's hard to tell whether



it's day or night that I find so interesting," she says. She finds that twilight skies and moonlit nights are especially interesting for a pastel painting. "Maybe it's that magic hour idea, or the fact that both day and night are present at the same time. For certain, there is saturated and intense color to capture during these quiet hours."

President's Message:

First of all, I want to thank the many CPS members who work so diligently for this organization. All of you have helped us to grow and be recognized as one of the premiere pastel societies.

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, learn from other artists and expand your horizons! Working with CPS has opened up many doors to friendships that I will cherish for years to come.

We are looking for a new volunteer to serve as Awards Chair for the Renaissance Exhibit. Bridget Herbst has done an outstanding job in this role, and I want to thank her for her hard work over many years.

We are also looking for a volunteer to assume the role of Hospitality Chair who oversees our show openings. After many years of dedicated work, Bonnie Potter will be retiring. Thank you, Bonnie. You and Ellie Bender have provided us with incredible goodies and beverages throughout the years. We will miss your creativity and enthusiasm. If you are interested in taking on either role, please contact me through the CPS website.

Thanks to Steve Linde and Ken Dusyn for co-chairing the Members Show at Gallery 53 in Meriden. David Dunlop will provide an inspiring demonstration at the end of the show. It is sure to be the best ever exhibit of our members' talents and diverse painting skills.

Signature Members have two opportunities this year to exhibit their work! Lyme Art Association will host us for the annual Signature Show, and we've added a new opportunity at the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum in Norwalk. You will be receiving additional information in the coming weeks about both exhibits.

So keep painting and I will see you all at the Members Show!

Sincerely,
Chris Ivers

2010 Renaissance Show Plans Announced

It's not too early to start planning to enter the 2010 CPS Renaissance Show to be held at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, CT. Show co-chairs are Rita Caldwell and Mally DeSomma. The awards jurors are Everett Raymond Kinstler and Colleen Howe. Claudia Seymour, president of the Salmagundi Club in NYC, will provide an inspiring demonstration at the end of the show. For more information, contact Mally DeSomma at m.desomma@sbcglobal.net or Rita Caldwell at rparadisc@hotmail.com. Here are key dates to keep in mind:

July 7: CD postmark deadline

Sept. 25: Accepted works hand delivered

Oct. 10: Reception and awards

Oct. 24: Demonstration and pick-up work

Suzanne Siegel (*continued*)

Although Siegel is an accomplished pastelist, her painting roots are with watercolor. "I'd been working with watercolors for ten years and I wanted to work with color in a different way," says Siegel. "I remember being in an art supply store and seeing all those pastel colors on display. I was captivated. The pastel medium is all about pure color. It's the saturation and intensity that comes from pure pigment in stick form that you hold in your fingers," she says. "I still love to work in watercolor. But now I work back and forth between the two."

Suzanne Siegel resides in Guilford, CT. She teaches at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Art and offers private classes and workshops. She is represented by the Mulford Gallery in Rockland, ME and Caterpillar Hill Gallery in Sedgewick, ME. Contact her at suzanne@suzannesiegel.net. Her website is www.suzannesiegel.net.



Summer Night III by Suzanne Siegel

Member News

Donna Rossetti-Bailey was a featured artist at The Seasoned Palette Exhibit at the Narrows Center for the Arts in Fall River, MA. She was juried into the IAPS International Exhibit at the City of Brea Art Gallery (CA). She won the Cheap Joe's Art Supply award at the Pastel Society of New Hampshire national show. Her paintings are featured in the *Best of America Pastels Volume II*.

Christine Ivers won the Art Spirit Foundation Award for Excellence in Pastel at the Annual Members Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club, NY. She was selected to be one of the Top 100 Pastelists for 2010 by *Pastel Journal* with an honorable mention in the landscape division. She was accepted into the IAPS Exhibition at the City of Brea Art Gallery and this year's "Richeson 75" Best in Pastels Competition. She was elected to the Board of Directors at Lyme Art Association and invited to join The Allied Artists of America, Inc. as an active artist member.

The Gregory James Gallery's Pastel Invitational 2010 show features paintings by CPS members **Rainie Crawford, Frank Federico, Liz Haywood-Sullivan, Julie Hopkins, Leslie Lillien Levy, Dick McEvoy, Alain Picard, and Peter Seltzer**. The Gregory James Gallery is located in New Milford, CT. The show runs through March 27.

New CPS Signature Members

CPS is pleased to announce our newest signature members. Congratulations for this achievement:

Joe Baker - Monterey, MA

Mally DeSomma - Waterbury, CT

September McGee - Laguna Beach, CA

Diana DeSantis - Whitestone, NY

Kurt Weiser - Scituate, MA

Tips for Success: Signature Status and Juried Shows

With the national juried show season upon us, now is the time to plan to maximize your success. These tips are also useful if you are considering applying for CPS Signature Member status. The expert advice is provided by nationally-recognized pastelists Frank Federico, Rainie Crawford and Peter Seltzer.

Image quality: Make sure your images are in focus and that there is no extraneous visual information (e.g., mats, frames, and shadows).

Image selection: Aim for consistency. Avoid showing how many different subjects or styles you can tackle. Simply focus on your best work in your strongest genre (e.g., portrait, still life, or landscape).

Label slides and CDs carefully: Follow the labeling instructions closely. Information such as name, title, and dimension needs to be included in the correct format. Skipping the required information and format puts you at risk of being disqualified or giving the judges a reason to select other works.

Supply all the required information: Read the show or selection instructions carefully. For example, CPS signature status submission requires a resume, correct number of slides, jury fee of \$25 and SASE.

Each organization and show requires different elements, so invest the time in carefully preparing your submission.

CPS Signature Members Show Set for LAA

The 2010 Signature Members Show will be held at the Lyme Art Association in Lyme, CT from August 13 to September 18.

Thanks to show co-chairs Jane Wright Wolf and Laurel Friedmann for organizing the show. Here are key dates:

Tues. 6/1: CDs due (postmark by 6/1)

Thurs. 8/5: Shipped deliveries deadline

Mon. 8/9: Hand delivery from 3 pm - 7 pm

Fri. 8/13: Reception from 6 pm - 8 pm

Sun. 9/19: Pick up work from 3 pm - 5 pm

For more information, contact Jane Wright Wolf at jwrightwolf@yahoo.com or Laurel Friedmann at laurelfriedmann@yahoo.com.

Member News (contd.)

John B. Conroy had his work acquired by the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD for their program exhibiting art in patient care units. His work was recently installed with a collection of art for the new wing of the Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, NY.

Calling all Volunteers!

CPS is recruiting members to serve in two vital roles.

Awards Chair: Renaissance Show

The Awards Chair is the liaison with awards sponsors. Duties also include tracking sponsors, working with judges on jurying day and contacting award winners. The Awards Chair is encouraged to add his/her own personal touch to the job and can share the duties with a co-chair if preferred. CPS thanks Bridget Herbst for her leadership in this role over the past several years!

Hospitality Chair: Annual Member Show

We thank Bonnie Potter who has graciously served in this role over the years.

If you are interested in serving in either role, please contact Chris Ivers through the CPS website.

Upcoming Workshops

Purely Pastel features upcoming workshops offered by CPS members:

Workshops with Frank Federico

May 28-30: Pastel Society of Maine, Boothbay Harbor area

June 18-20: Pastel Society of Maine, Kennebunkport, ME

July 16-18: Concord Art Association, Concord, MA

July 27-29: Gibson House B & B, Haverhill, NH

Aug. 14-16: North Shore Arts Association, Cape Ann, MA

For more information, contact Frank at 860.489.7229 or studiofedart@aol.com.

Workshop with Chris Ivers

March 7: Paint the Night Workshop, Meriden, CT

For more information, visit www.christineivers.com or contact Chris at 203.235.1417.

Workshops with Donna Rossetti-Bailey

Aug. 13 -15: Introduction to Pastels: A-Z, Terry Ludwig Studio, Denver, CO

March 20 -21: Painting Night Scenes, Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, Barnstable, MA

For more information, contact Donna at dllrb@comcast.net.

It's CPS 2010 Membership Renewal Time! Use this form to complete your membership renewal.




Membership Form 2010

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone (Day): _____
Telephone (Evening): _____
Cell Phone: _____
Email: _____

I am interested in volunteering to work on the following committee(s).
(Check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Hanging (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity (PR)
<input type="checkbox"/> Receiving (R)	<input type="checkbox"/> Give a demonstration (D)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality (HS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Plein Air (PA)
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> Catalog (C)
<input type="checkbox"/> Program (P)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (O) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Workshop (W)	

Membership Category (please check one):

<input type="checkbox"/> Artist (\$25)
<input type="checkbox"/> Signature (\$30)
<input type="checkbox"/> Signature + Website (\$60)

Please mail this form and a check made out to:

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c/o John B. Conroy
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Greenwich, CT 06831



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