



# Purely Pastel

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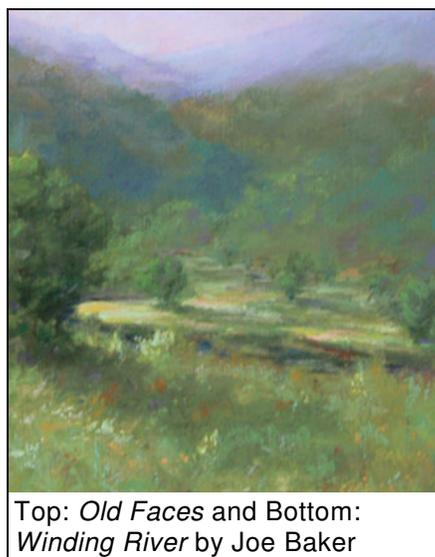
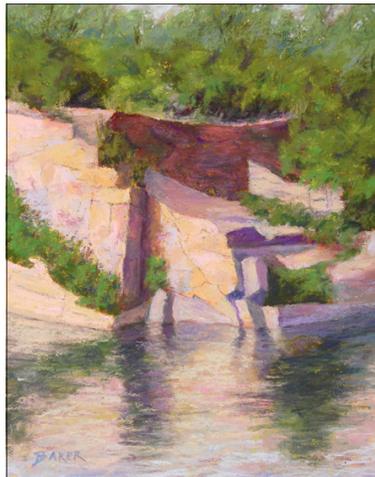
## Joe Baker: Featured Artist

When considering Joe Baker's many talents and accomplishments, it is clear that he is a modern-day Renaissance man. He is a talented pastelist, farmer, musician, and so much more. "I've had a rich life with many interests," Baker says. He has a degree in biology and worked as a cowboy on ranches in Wyoming before moving to the Berkshires.

Baker and his family own a farm where they raise their own food and make maple syrup for a cash crop. "It was a life choice we made. We moved to the Berkshires, cleared the land and built our home," Baker says. "This will be our 40th growing season. It's a rustic lifestyle, but we devote a large portion of our lives to art, music and the outdoors."

Baker comes from a family of painters and counts himself lucky to have grown up surrounded by fine art. "I knew that I wanted to pursue art from an early age, but never allowed myself to take up that interest. When my 45th birthday came along, I thought of the things I had done with my life and how much I wanted to explore painting," he says. Inspired by the work of his great-grandfather John P. Benson and John's brother Frank W. Benson, he started his artistic journey with watercolors and oils.

Music plays a starring role in Baker's life, too. He is a member of a contra dance band that has been playing together for over 30 years. Baker plays the guitar and calls the dances. Among his past pursuits, he was a violin and viola da gamba maker. "It was gratifying work, but not an easy way to make a living. Building a violin takes hundreds of hours and then comes the hard part, finding a buyer. With great regret I gave up instrument making, but I still enjoy playing guitar and violin," he says.

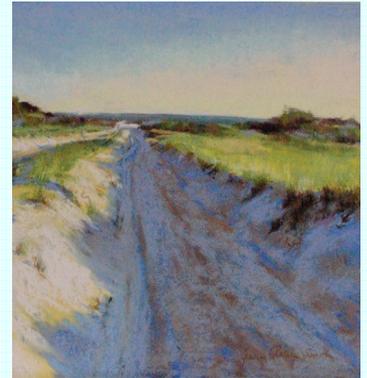


Top: *Old Faces* and Bottom: *Winding River* by Joe Baker

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## Join us for Dunes and Waves Workshop with Jeanne Rosier Smith

Learn to paint dunes and waves with award winning pastelist Jeanne Rosier Smith. The workshop will be held on March 15 and 16 at Gallery 53 in Meriden, CT.



Registration for CPS members is \$250 and \$275 for non-members. To register or for more information, contact Cindy Mazzaferro at 203-494-1676 or [CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com](mailto:CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com).

## Message from CPS Board and Committee

This year holds great artistic promise for CPS. We are a dynamic and growing organization that provides so much for members to enjoy. Our statewide organization is expanding its regional and national presence. The CPS Board and Committee are dedicated to bringing you even more opportunities to exhibit your work, expand your artistic skills and strengthen your ties to our lively pastelist community.

Plan to take advantage of the many events planned this year. Signature members can look forward to the bi-annual exhibition in Old Lyme this summer and our national juried exhibition, *Renaissance in Pastel*, takes place later this year.

Thanks to those who completed our member survey exploring art education interests and preferences. Based on member feedback, we are expanding workshop offerings. You can stretch your artistic horizons this year with workshops offered by Jean Rosier Smith, Clayton Buchanan and Liz Haywood-Sullivan. See details about the workshops throughout the newsletter and on our website.

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## Message from the CPS Board and Committee (continued)

We ended 2013 with great momentum and CPS grew by over 75 new members. The *Renaissance in Pastel* Exhibition at the Slater Museum was a great success. We thank Diane Stone and her team of volunteers for their tireless leadership in planning the event. We held the *Purely Pastel* exhibition, our first juried show just for members. Thanks go to Cindy Mazzaferro for her vision and energy she put into the show.

So stay in touch and get involved this year. Join us for one of our Board and Committee meetings. Volunteer to help with a show or workshop. Reach out and invite a friend or fellow pastelist to join CPS. There are so many ways to make the most of your CPS membership. Make 2014 the year you jump right in and take advantage of all that our organization has to offer!

## 2014 Membership Dues Time!

It's time to renew your CPS dues. If you have already renewed, thanks so much! Dues remain unchanged in 2014 with regular membership at \$25. Signature membership is \$30 and Signature membership with web exposure is \$60. If you have not paid your dues, use our online payment system. Visit the membership page on the CPS website and click the "Pay Online" button to use the secure online feature using either a credit card or PayPal account. Payment can also be made by check (made out to CPS) at this address: CPS, c/o Cindy Mazzaferro, PO Box 1342, Cheshire, CT 06410-1342.

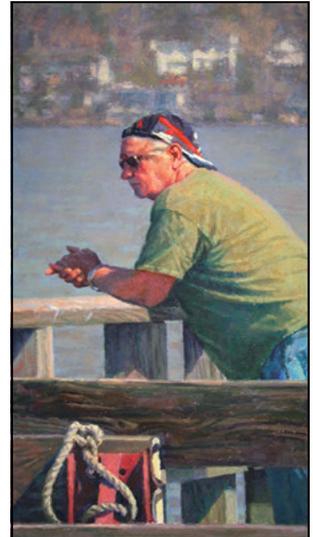
*Purely Pastel* is a publication of the Connecticut Pastel Society. Share your news with CPS by contacting the Newsletter Editor at [diana.rogers@comcast.net](mailto:diana.rogers@comcast.net).

## Join Us for Clayton Buchanan's Landscape with Figure Plein Air Workshop

You won't want to miss this dynamic two-day plein air workshop with Clayton Buchanan on May 19 and 20 in beautiful Old Lyme, CT. Understanding and capturing the beauty of nature's light, color and structure, is the goal of this "figure in the landscape" workshop.

Clayton will focus on heightening visual perceptions of how light, color, and structure come together in creating the painted illusion of reality. He will share his approach to the life journey of observation and applied practice. Students will gain an understanding of nature's reality and developing the ability to create the illusion. This workshop will not just focus on how to paint the figure in a landscape setting, but will also advance your comprehension and painting capability for all subjects including landscape, still life, portrait, or figure.

The workshop cost for CPS members is \$225 for early registration (prior to March 15) and \$250 after March 15. Visit the CPS website for detailed information and registration form or contact Cindy Mazzaferro at [CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com](mailto:CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com). Do not delay in registering as this exciting workshop is sure to fill quickly!



*Riverside* by Clayton Buchanan

## CPS Welcomes New Members!

CPS is pleased to welcome our new members. We look forward to your participation in CPS activities and events.

Lisa Aleim	Beth Lowell
James Boone	Abel Marquez
Debra Califia	Anne Merriam
Lisa Cunningham	Carolyn Newell
Anita Darin	Gary Ozias
Ella Delyanis	Susan Panzarella
Kathleen DeWitt Hess	Rick Petersen
Deborah LaFogg Docherty	Lisa Regopoulos
Joan Dromey	Deborah Rosato
Shelly Eager	Susan Sigel
Renee Finlay	Maureen Spinale
Jeri Greenberg	Christine Swann
Maryann Goblick	Patricia Tribastone
Anne Kenyon	Gloria Tutera
Monika Kocendova	Anna Wainright
Judith Kazdym Leeds	Alexia Rosoff Wilber
Joyce Lister	Suzi Zeffing-Kuhn

## Member News

**Peter Seltzer's** painting *Absolutely Free* was awarded the Silver Medal in the 2013 Pastel 100 competition sponsored by *Pastel Journal*. Competition results and an article about his work will appear in the April 2014 issue. His work was one of only four pastels selected for the Annual Mid-year Exhibit at the Butler Institute of American Art. This show is a survey of contemporary American art. Peter won the Art/Spirit Foundation Award at the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts show and second place at the CT+6 Exhibit. He received the Roseanne Reiff Memorial Award at the Hudson Valley Exhibition and the Dick Blick Award at the PSA Exhibition in New York.

**Frank Federico** won the prestigious Founder's Award, Best in Show at the 2013 PSA Juried Exhibition with his painting *Montfrin Rooftops*. Federico has been an active member of PSA for over thirty years and was elected as PSA Hall of Fame Honoree.



*Montfrin Rooftops* by Frank Federico

**Leslie Lillien Levy** won the Flora B. and Joseph V. Guffini Memorial Award at the PSA 41st Annual Open Juried Exhibition, earning her Master Pastelist status. She garnered the Allied Artists of America Award for Pastels in the 100th Annual Show. She and fellow pastel painter, Claudia Seymour, had a joint article published in the November/December 2013 issue of *Pastel Journal*.

**Jeri Greenberg** was awarded First Place in Pastels in the *Artists Magazine* all media competition and her work will be featured in the July/August issue. Two of her paintings were finalists in the Jack Richeson Small Works Exhibit. Her work was juried into the IAPS online exhibit. Her work was included in the Salmagundi Club Member Exhibition.

**Donna Rossetti-Bailey** was juried into the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod 2013 Signature Exhibit held at the Cape Cod Museum of Art. Her work was selected for the *Pastels by Invitation Exhibit* in Chatham, MA. She was juried into the *Renaissance in Pastel* exhibition.

**Karen Israel** won the Gold Medal for Pastel during the Audubon Artist Association exhibition. She won third place for her painting in the Pastel 100 competition sponsored by *Pastel Journal*.

**Rita Agron** received the Carlee Walker Memorial Award at the West Essex Art Association Juried Show. She won the Best Pastel Award at the Art on the Avenue show in Caldwell. At the Ringwood Manor Association of the Arts Juried Show, she won First Place in Pastels. She received Awards of Excellence from the Livingston Art Association Exhibition and the Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center. She was juried into recent juried exhibitions including the Academic Artists Association Exhibition, Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Show, Grand National American Artists Professional League Online Show, Audubon Artists Juried Online Show and *Renaissance in Pastel* Exhibition.

## Featured Artist: Joe Baker (continued)

Baker eventually pursued professional software development and web design. His programming skills can be seen in the CPS website for which he serves as webmaster. He is a creative programmer and he developed the CPS online show submission system. He is happy to announce that he now has a commercial version of the program available to other art organizations at the website [showsubmit.com](http://showsubmit.com).

Baker has pursued many creative threads in his life and this has allowed him to be his own person. "My only regret is that I didn't start painting sooner. Just think how much richer life would have been if painting had been a part of my life all those years," he says.

He was exposed to pastels when taking a workshop with Frank Federico and was immediately hooked on the medium. He finds pastels to be expressive and direct, ideal for landscape painting. "I'm a naturalist and my life is oriented to the out-of-doors. There is endless subject matter. I can focus on skies, meadows and woods," Baker says.

He encourages fellow artists to take workshops with many teachers. "It's great to be exposed to other approaches, because it's all grist for the mill. It can help you understand why you want to paint the way you do, or it can give you the nudge you need to strike off in a new direction," he says. Teaching pastel painting is a recent endeavor for Baker who offers classes at IS183, the Art School of the Berkshires in Stockbridge.

Baker and his family live in Monterey, Massachusetts. He is a Signature Member of CPS and a member of PSA. His website is [www.bakerworks.com/art](http://www.bakerworks.com/art) and he can be reached at [joe@bakerworks.com](mailto:joe@bakerworks.com).



*Marsh Sundown* by Joe Baker

## Signature Member Show Returns to Old Lyme

The Signature Member Exhibition returns to the Lyme Art Association in Old Lyme this summer. The show runs from August 1 through September 20. This is an excellent opportunity for Signature Members to showcase their best work at this historic and high-traffic venue. We encourage all Signature Members to participate. Cindy Streit Mazzaferro is our show chair and we thank her for organizing this exciting event! Contact her for more information at [CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com](mailto:CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com).

### Triple Demo and Silent Auction

The show will include a triple artist demonstration and silent auction. Join us to watch the artists bring their paintings to life on August 2 from 1 pm to 3:30 pm. Artists participating in the demonstration include: Gigi Horr Liverant (landscape), Chris Ivers (landscape), and Claudia Seymour (still life). The artists will donate their paintings for the silent auction. Bidding begins during the opening on August 8 and concludes on September 20. Proceeds from the auction will benefit CPS.

### New Mini Auction

We are expanding our auction opportunities this year. Participating artists are invited to donate a small work for our "mini auction" to be held during the opening on August 8. Due to limited space, the first 15 Signature Members signing-up for the auction will be included. Work must be 8" x 10" or smaller (including frame). To reserve your spot for the auction, contact Cindy Streit Mazzaferro at [CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com](mailto:CindyMazzaferro@gmail.com). You may also bring a piece to donate on opening night should spaces remain open. All auction proceeds will benefit CPS.

### Key dates to remember:

May 11: Online entry deadline

May 25: Notification by email

July 27: Accepted works hand delivered from 2 pm -5 pm

Aug. 2: Triple demo at LAA from 1 pm - 3:30 pm

Aug. 8: Opening reception from 6 pm - 8 pm

Sept. 21: Pick up work

## Guidelines for Applying for Signature Member Status

Achieving CPS Signature Member status is an important artistic accomplishment. Signature status is open to members who have won three prizes in *Renaissance in Pastel* Exhibitions or through application to the jury panel. Applications are viewed three times a year during April, August and November. Submit CDs with up to five images during March, July and October. Images should be high-quality jpg files with dimensions of at least 700 pixels on the long side and resolution of 300 dpi. Visit the web site or contact CPS at [cpsinfo@ctpastelsociety.com](mailto:cpsinfo@ctpastelsociety.com) for more information.

## Signature Status Jury Trio - Panelist Changes Announced

Two esteemed members of our Signature Member jury panel, Rainie Crawford and Frank Federico, have decided to step away from those duties. Peter Seltzer will continue to serve on the jury. This trio of accomplished jurors began their work together in 2000. CPS sends heart-felt thanks for 13 years of leadership, inspiration and hard work!

We are pleased to announce that Chris Ivers and Claudia Seymour will join Peter Seltzer on the panel. Thanks to Chris and Claudia for your willingness to take on this important role. We thank Peter for his continued commitment to the Signature Member jury panel.

According to Frank Federico, the jury experience has been very rewarding. "It has been a stimulating and exciting experience, viewing and accepting many CPS signature aspirants," Federico says. "We had many heated discussions regarding the pros and cons in weighing the acceptability of an applicant and finally arriving at a decision. Now it is time to go forward with the new jury. We wish you much success in this new process and hope that the engagement will be as fulfilling as ours has been," he says.

## Liz Haywood-Sullivan Workshop Offered this Fall!

Plan to join us for workshops this fall with nationally acclaimed artist and author, Liz Haywood-Sullivan. Two sessions are offered with a four-day session scheduled for September 29 to October 2 and a three day session scheduled for October 4 to October 6. She will cover a range of topics such as aerial perspective, handling fall foliage, underpainting and much more! The plein air session will be held in the beautiful autumn landscape of Litchfield and Bantam. Liz will offer one-on-one instruction at your easel. Visit the CPS website for detailed brochure and information or contact workshop coordinator Carol Moore at [ctmoore4@optonline.net](mailto:ctmoore4@optonline.net) or 860.567.0618.



## CPS Elects New Signature Members!

Congratulations to our new Signature Members: Linée Baird, Tom Bailey, Linda Armstrong, Cheryl Wildermuth and Gary Ozias.

## CPS Member-Led Workshop Opportunities

Here are upcoming workshops offered by CPS members:

### Christine Ivers

April 5 - 6: Explore the Dark Side Pastel Workshop: Reflections, Glows and Textures, West Barnstable, MA

April 19: Paint the Night Pastel Workshop, Ivers Homestead Studio, Meriden, CT

May 18: Nights in the City Pastel Workshop, PSA, New York, NY

June 19 - 21: Plein Air Painting for the Studio Artist Workshop, Lake Sunapee, NH

July 10 -13: Explore the Dark Side Pastel Workshop, Greenville, NY

Contact Christine Ivers at 203-235-1417.

### Alain Picard

March 14-15: Weekend Portrait Workshop, Picard Studio, Southbury, CT

Contact Alain Picard at [alain@picardstudio.com](mailto:alain@picardstudio.com).

### Donna Rossetti-Bailey

Sept. 23 - 25: Pastels and Beyond, Terry Ludwig Studios, Denver, CO

Contact Donna at [Donna@DonnaRossetti-Bailey.com](mailto:Donna@DonnaRossetti-Bailey.com)

## Renaissance in Pastel Dates Announced

It is never too early to start creating your best work in anticipation of entering the 2014 *Renaissance in Pastels* Exhibition. The show runs from October 8 to November 9 at the Slater Memorial Museum in Norwich, CT. Janet A. Cook and Liz Haywood-Sullivan will serve as Award Jurors. Aline Ordman will offer an inspiring demonstration on the closing day.

A hearty thank you goes to Diane Stone and Debbie Temple, our show Chairs, for leading the effort! Keep these dates in mind:

Aug. 6: Online submission deadline

Aug. 13: Notice of acceptance emailed

Sept. 30: Arrival of shipped paintings deadline

Oct. 4: Accepted work delivered from 1 pm - 3 pm

Oct. 8: Show opens to public

Oct. 19: Reception from 2 pm - 4 pm with awards ceremony at 3 pm

Nov. 9: Aline Ordman demonstration from 1 -3 pm and pick-up from 3 pm - 4 pm

For more information visit the CPS website or contact Diane Stone at 860-655-9374 or [dstone322@gmail.com](mailto:dstone322@gmail.com).

## CPS 2014 Show & Event Calendar

### Exhibitions

#### CPS Members Show

March 1 to March 29

Gallery 53, Meriden CT

March 1: Opening reception from 2 pm - 4 pm

March 29: Demo from 1 pm - 3 pm and pick up work 3 pm - 4 pm

#### Signature Members Exhibition

August 1 to September 20

Lyme Art Association, Old Lyme, CT

May 11: Online entry deadline

July 28: Accepted works received 2 pm to 5 pm

Aug. 2: Triple demo

Aug. 8: Opening reception from 6 pm to 8 pm

Sept. 21: Pick up work

#### *Renaissance in Pastel* National Juried Exhibition

October 8 to November 9

Slater Museum, Norwich CT

Aug. 6: Online submission deadline

Oct. 4: Accepted work delivered from 1 pm - 3 pm

Oct. 19: Reception 2 pm - 4 pm with awards at 3 pm

Nov. 9: Demo from 1 -3 pm and pick-up from 3 pm - 4 pm

### Workshops

March 15 & 16: Dunes and Waves Workshop with Jeanne Rosier Smith

Sept. 29 - Oct. 2 and Oct. 4 - 6: Landscape

Workshops with Liz Haywood-Sullivan

May 19 - 20: Figure in the Landscape Workshop with Clayton Buchanan

## 2014 Annual Members Show Update

The annual Members Show runs from March 1 to 29 at Gallery 53 in Meriden, CT. Our Awards Judge is Maceo Mitchell. Jane McGraw-Teubner will inspire us with a demonstration on closing day. Heart-felt thanks go to our show Chairs Karen Israel and Kerry Heidenis for leading the effort! Keep these dates in mind:

March 1: Opening reception from 2 pm - 4 pm with awards at 3 pm

March 29: Demonstration by Jane McGraw-Teubner from 1 pm - 3 pm and pick-up from 3 pm - 4 pm

For more information, contact Karen Israel at [karenisrael59@gmail.com](mailto:karenisrael59@gmail.com) or Kerry Heidenis at [kerry.images@gmail.com](mailto:kerry.images@gmail.com).

## Renaissance in Pastel Celebrates Color

The 20th annual *Renaissance in Pastel* Exhibit celebrated the many talents of CPS members and pastelists from across the country. The Slater Museum in Norwich was a wonderful venue to celebrate the pastel medium. Awards Jurors were Jimmy Wright and Rae Smith and the top prize went to Karen Suponski. Paul Leveille offered an inspiring demonstration on closing day.

An immense thank-you goes to show Chair Diane Stone for organizing a world-class show. And kudos to the many CPS members who volunteered to make the show happen! CPS is grateful to the many organizations that generously sponsored awards. Congratulations to all artists juried into the show.



Top: *No Reservations* by Karen Suponski and  
Bottom: *Moving Mountains* by Julie Friedman

## 2013 Renaissance Award Winners

Best in Show: Karen Suponski	Pastel Painters of Maine Award: Shauna Shane
CPS Founders Award: Julie Friedman	Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod Award: Mike Kolasinski
CPS President's Award: Susan Panzarella	Salmagundi Club Award: Maria Marino
Dianne B. Bernhard Art Spirit Award: Jeanne Ciravolo	Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Award: Christine Bodnar
CPS Honor Award: Shelly Eager	Dick Blick Merchandise Award: Anna Wainright
Maggie Price Memorial Award: Dick McEvoy	Jerry's Artarama Merchandise Award II: Genady Arkhipau
CPS Board of Directors Award: Cheryl Wildermuth	Mount Vision Pastels Award: Claudia Post
Great American Pastels Award: Eileen Casey	Jack Richeson Merchandise Award II: Karole Nicholson
Canson MiTeintes Paper Products/Pastels Award: David Francis	Levy DeMedici Award: Chris Ivers
Heilmann Box Award: Kim Weineck	Maryland Pastel Society Award: Stephanie Cook
Jack Richeson Merchandise Award: Terence McManus	Pastel Society of New Hampshire Award: William Schneider
Terry Ludwig Pastels Award: Gigi Horr Liverant	Pastel Society of West Coast Award: Linda Armstrong
CPS Membership Award: Clayton Buchanan	UART Sanded Pastel Paper Award: Karen Tighe
Pastel Society of America Award: Martin Siegel	Rochester Fine Arts Award: Jeanette Dick
Jerry's Artarama West Hartford Merchandise Award I: Michele Poirier Mozzone	Philip M. Danylik Memorial Award: Paul Leveille
Salter Award for Innovation: Suzanne Siegel	Wholesale Frame Award: Judy Perry
Allied Artists of America Award: Alain Picard	Madison Art Society Award: Peggy Post

