



# Purely Pastel

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November 2016

## Best In Show



Track 2

Deborah Quinn Munson

## Award Winners



CPS has a new address:

PO Box 653, Bethel, CT 06801

## 2016 Exhibit: Renaissance in Pastel

Diane Stone and Debbie Temple, co-chairwomen, opened the 2016 Renaissance in Pastel exhibit at the Slater Memorial Museum in Norwich, Connecticut on October 23 with a wine and cheese reception and award ceremony. Hospitality chairwoman Lynda Regina and her husband Tom welcomed the crowd who were eager to attend the gallery tour led by artists Gigi Horr Liverant and Laurel Friedman.

The paintings were selected this year by a jury, using a system designed by CPS member and technical

advisor, Joe Baker. The program, called Show Submit, allowed five jurors from across the country to view and select entrants from the 348 images submitted by 164 artists, approximately two-thirds of who were from outside the state of Connecticut. Working from their own locations, the jury panel used a numeric scoring system to rate each work of art, which was later compiled with results from the other jury members. Finally, our award judges viewed the entire show in person to select the award winners.

*Continued next page*

## 2016 Renaissance, continued



*Dance of the Dawn* Maria Marino

### CPS Founders Award

*“Choosing the award winners from such an impressive group was a difficult task. After careful consideration and many rounds through the gallery, the award winners emerged. Clarity of vision, use of color, shape, composition, skill in handling of the pastel, and mark making were all important considerations in our choices. Congratulations to the award winners, and all the artists juried into the show!”*

*Diane Reed Sawyer*

The judges expressed appreciation for the wide range of works represented in the 112 paintings included in Renaissance in Pastel 2016, from landscapes and still life to figurative and abstract works, and noted the challenge involved in selecting the award winners. Award winners share in the total \$10,000 in cash and merchandise, thanks to the indefatigable fundraising efforts of Awards chairwomen Pat Boes and Maryanne DAmbruoso.

We thank Diane Stone and Debbie Temple for their four years of dedicated service heading up the Renaissance show. The effort of all the volunteers is deeply appreciated. Thank you to Chris Ivers for graphic design. Next year, we welcome Vicki Rooney and Jane Penfield, who bring their own experience and creativity to the exhibit. In 2017 the event moves to Art Center East in Vernon, Connecticut.

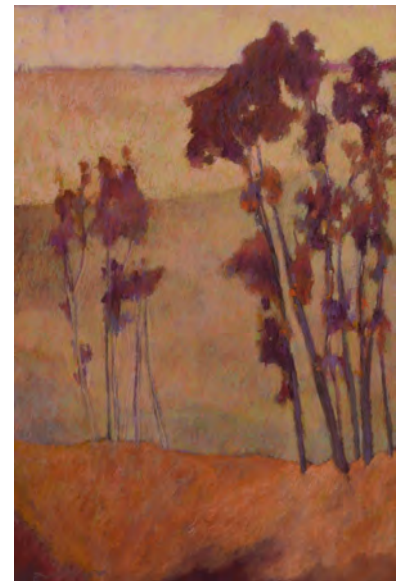
*Higher*

Julie Friedman

### CPS Presidents Award

*“Judging a show of this caliber is both daunting and exciting. I look for paintings that stop me in my tracks, engage my interest and holds it. Composition, sensitivity to value, use of color, and a wide vocabulary of mark making are key...when combined with authenticity, excitement of discovery and an absolute evidence of the artists passion and soul...then it moves me. There were many extraordinary pieces that did just that.”*

*Ed Chesnovitch*



## Renaissance In Pastel Award Winners 2016

CPS Renaissance Best in Show	Deborah Quinn Munson
CPS Founders Award	Maria Marino
CPS Presidents Award	Julie Friedman
Art Spirit Foundation Dianne B. Bernhard Award	Anna Wainwright
Board of Directors Award	Alain Picard
CPS Honor Award	Laurel Friedman
CPS Memorial Award	Gigi Horr Liverant



## From our Co-Presidents: Karen Israel and Diane Stone



*Karen Israel* became co-president;  
Polly Castor is our

new membership chairwoman; Peggy Davidson Post edits "Purely Pastel" newsletter; Jane Penfield and Vicki Rooney will head up the 2017 Renaissance in Pastel; Diana Rogers and Phyllis Brown lend their talents to our membership show; and Laurel Friedman and Gigi Liverant will lead Purely Pastel exhibition.

Our new website is up and running -- and updating constantly -- so be sure to visit often to keep current with developments. Thanks to Joe Baker and Jean Louis for launching our new site.

Renaissance in Pastel 2016 is currently on view at The Slater Memorial Museum. Stop by before November 12 and see some wonderful pastel paintings. As CPS directors and on behalf of our entire membership we want to thank Diane Stone and Debbie Temple for their years of leadership in

The fall season stimulates our visual senses. The abundance of color reflects the change of season, and reminds us of the new developments at CPS. Over the past few months, Diane Stone

planning the exhibition. Thank you to all of the members who stepped up to complete all the many tasks inherent in putting on our national show.

CPS has a new home at "SOCCA" (Southington Cultural Community Arts

Center, 93 Main St., Southington, CT.) From now on, our board meetings and our Members Exhibit will be held there. All are welcome to the board meetings, which are usually the first Saturday, every other month, from 10am-12 noons. An exception to that is our next board meeting, which will be held at the Slater Museum to coincide with pick-up from the Renaissance exhibit. We are currently seeking a secretary for the board (someone who will keep minutes and type them up for distribution), and a hospitality chairman. This person will organize the receptions at our three shows.

Our Purely Pastel Exhibition is slated for June 8-July 22, 2017, At the Lyme Art College of Fine Art. This is an excellent opportunity for members to showcase their best work. We look forward to hearing Alain Picard lecture June 15 about his travels and portraits of children.



*Diane Stone*

### IAPS 2017

**CONVENTION DATES: TUESDAY, June 6  
through SUNDAY, June 11, 2017**

To learn more and register :

<http://www.iapspastel.org>

*CPS Members enjoying dinner on the patio, 2015*

*Left to Right: Leslie Levy, Arlene Richman, Val Mandra, Karen Israel, Christine Ivers*



## Member Profile: Valerie Mandra



*Setting Sun on the Black River*

Valerie Mandra

Valerie Mandra, CPS treasurer, loves snow. Just ask her where she'll be on most any winter weekend, and expect to hear she's on a mountain somewhere: maybe Vermont, maybe Chile, or somewhere watching her son racing at breakneck speeds. Just as she expertly carves down a steep mountainside, she approaches her painting with confidence and grace.

You could say she's at the top of the mountain now, recently earning three major awards: Best in Show at CPS's Purely Pastel 2016; Allied Artists Gold Medal of Honor 2015; and Diane B. Bernhard Silver Medal in Pastel at Allied Artists in 2013. Perhaps even more exciting, she will be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Pastel Journal* in an article on upcoming artists,

having been nominated by her long time teacher, Rae Smith.

As Val tells it, her mother had been taking classes with Rae and she decided to join her. That was it. "I fell in love with the pastel medium. I liked that it was direct and immediate. No mixing colors on a palette or clean up and I could work as long as I liked." Val came to the pastel medium after studying Psychology and later completing a Master of Arts in Studio Art at the



College of New

Rochelle, where she specialized in graphic design and illustration.

So what's next? Val is experimenting with mono print under-paintings and watercolor washes. *"I feel like I'm always learning – and it's good for the soul."*

See more of Val's work at

[valeriemandrafineart.com](http://valeriemandrafineart.com)

## What's Coming Up

**Margaret Dyer, PSA** master pastelist,

"The Figure in Pastels"

Indoor studio workshop with models  
June 14-16, 9am-4pm

Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Old Lyme, CT

**Deb Quinn Munson, PSA**

"Composition"

3-day workshop Sept. 2017

Weather permitting, combined studio and plein air approach.

Southington Community Cultural Arts Building –*more to follow.*

**Purely Pastel; an Exhibition, Workshop and Lecture** co-sponsored by the Connecticut Pastel Society and Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts

**Alain Picard "Reflections of Hope"** June 15, 2017

6 p.m. reception 7 p.m. Lecture Hall, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts.

## Member's Classes

For more information, please see the link at each teacher's name.

**Joe Baker** – Stockbridge, MA –  
[www.bakerworks.com](http://www.bakerworks.com)

**Janet A. Cook** – New York, NY  
– [janetacook.com](http://janetacook.com)

**Mally DeSomma** – Waterbury, CT – [www.mallydesomma.com](http://www.mallydesomma.com)

**Christine Ivers** – Meriden, CT, nationally –  
[www.christineivers.com](http://www.christineivers.com)

**Karen Israel**, Hartford area  
[artbykarenisrael.com](http://artbykarenisrael.com)

**Liz Haywood-Sullivan** – eastern MA, nationally –  
[www.lizhaywoodsullivan.com](http://www.lizhaywoodsullivan.com)

**Anne Heywood** – eastern MA –  
[www.anneheywood.com](http://www.anneheywood.com)

**Pieter Lefferts** – Sharon, CT –  
[www.northlightartcenter.com](http://www.northlightartcenter.com)

**Paul Leveille** – Holyoke, MA –  
[paulleveillestudio.com](http://paulleveillestudio.com)

**Leslie Lillian Levy** – Kent, CT –  
[www.leslielillianlevy.com](http://www.leslielillianlevy.com)

**Linda Bull Neilan** – East Lyme, CT

**Alain Picard** – Southbury, CT –  
[www.picardstudio.com](http://www.picardstudio.com)

**Jane Penfield** – Vernon, CT –  
[www.janepenfield.com](http://www.janepenfield.com)

**Claudia Post** – Chester, CT –  
[www.claudiapost.com](http://www.claudiapost.com)

**Peggy Davidson Post**, Mt. Kisco, NY  
[www.theartistsplace.net](http://www.theartistsplace.net)

**Peter Seltzer** – Woodbury, CT –  
[peterseltzerfineart.com](http://peterseltzerfineart.com)

**Jeanne Rosier Smith** – Sudbury, MA, nationally –  
[www.jeannesmithart.com](http://www.jeannesmithart.com)

## Member's News

**Linda Armstrong** has been elected to artist membership in the Salmagundi Club and received an Award of Merit in the Salmagundi members "Noble Nocturne" exhibition.

She also received the Dakota Pastel/Pastel Journal Award at the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod "For Pastel Only" national exhibit.

**Jeri Greenberg's** painting, **At The Counter**, was juried into the American Women Artists Exhibition at the Bennington Art Center, Bennington VT,

"Sunday 5:30 pm" by the artist was featured in the advertisement in Fine Art Connoisseur magazine.

Her paintings **A Good Book** and **Sunrise on White** quilts were both juried into the Degas Biennial Show in LA.

**The award winning "A Good Book"** will be published in the book *Strokes of Genius*, volume 9 in 2017.

Three pastels by **Susan Hollis** were chosen to be in the Cahoon Museum of Art for the "Pastel Invitational - Cotuit MA.

She is also included in the Copley Society of Arts "Copley on Cape Cod" at the Cape Cod Cultural Center, South Yarmouth, MA.

**Karen Israel** is now an elected member of the Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club.

Her pastel won the Dakota Pastel Award at the Adirondack Pastel Society's National Exhibit, juror Doug Dawson

Most recently, she was awarded the Cheap Joe's Award in the national exhibit of New Hampshire Pastel Society

*Empty*, by **Cristine Kossow, PSA** has won the Pastel Societies of the West and Southwest Award at the PSA 44th Annual Exhibition: Enduring Brilliance

*Button, Button, Who's Got The Button?* has won an Honorable Mention at the IAPS 28th Juried Exhibition at Salmagundi Club.

Cristine's recent solo show, *A Collection of Collections*, was at Village Hall Gallery, Hastings Municipal Building in Hastings, NY.



## Member's News, *continued*

**September McGee** had a painting in the 2016 Pastel Society of America 44th Annual International Juried Exhibition, NY, and 2016

Northwest Pastel Society 30th Annual International Juried Exhibition, in Washington.

**Peggy Davidson Post** showed her paintings in five exhibits this Fall, including:

Catherine Lorillard Wolf Art Clubs 120th Annual Open Exhibition at the National Arts Club, NYC. Nov. 29-Dec.16.

88<sup>th</sup> Grand National Exhibit of the American Artists Professional League at Salmagundi Club, NYC Nov. 6-18, 2016.

Collective Impressions, Art & Sound Gallery, 101 Mill St., Greenwich, CT Oct. 1-31

Member **Denise Vitollo** has been notified that two of her works have been accepted to the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Exhibition of the Degas Pastel Society in New Orleans. The national juried show will be held from October 1 to 29<sup>th</sup> at the New Orleans Academy of Fine Art Gallery.

Additionally, Denise will be one of the artists at Plein Air Brandywine Valley October 16-23. The exhibition of plein air works from the week will be held October 21-23 at Winterthur Museum Visitors' Center.

In November, she will exhibit with Farm to Table Plein Air, at The Frame Station Gallery, Berwyn, PA.

**Suzi Zefting-Kuhn's** *I Have My Eye on You* has been named a finalist in the 2016 Art Renewal Center's International Salon in the Animal Category. Awards will be announced in late October or early November.



Anna Wainwright

*Just Before Dark*

**Art Spirit Foundation Dianne B. Bernhard Award**



Hi I'm Peggy Davidson Post, the new editor of *Purely Pastel*. I plan to publish the newsletter in November, March and June. Send me your news a month before those issues at [peggydpost@gmail.com](mailto:peggydpost@gmail.com)

## Renaissance Award Winners cont.

Great American Pastels Award	Jeanne Tangney
Heilman Box Award	Albert Handell
Terry Ludwig Pastels Award	Laura Bleau
Philip Danylik Memorial Award	Michele Poirier Mozzone
Savoir-Faire: Sennelier Award	Linda Armstrong
CPS Membership Award	Mike Kolasinski
Pastel Society of America Award	Peter Seltzer
Dakota Art	Eileen Casey
HK Holbein Inc. Award of Excellence	Diana DeSantis
Allied Artists of America Award	William Schneider
Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Award	Arlene Richman
Jack Richeson Merchandise Award #1	Lyn Asselta
Jerry's Artarama of West Hartford	Jeanne Rosier Smith
Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod Award	Joyce Hanson
Salmagundi Club Award	Frank Federico
Jack Richeson Merchandise Award #2	Clayton Buchanan
Pastel Premier Paper Award	Diana Rogers
Guerrilla Painter Award #2	David Kaphammer
Guerrilla Painter Award #1	David Francis
Jack Richeson Merchandise Award #3	Judy Perry
Madison Art Society	Barbara Groff
Maryland Pastel Society Award	Terry Lennox
Pastel Painters of Maine Award	Christine Bodnar
Pastel Society of the West Coast Award	Christine Ivers
Pastel Society of New Hampshire Award	Elizabeth Rhoades
UART Sanded Pastel Paper Award	Kurt Weiser
Wholesale Frame Company	Jory Mason
French Canvas Award	Kate Bergquist

