



Purely Pastel

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March 2017

CPS Member Show Award Winners



2017 Members Show

The Connecticut Pastel Society's 2017 Members Show opened March 4 at Southington Cultural Community Art Center in Southington, Conn. A shoulder-to-shoulder crowd attended the opening and awards ceremony.

The 73 artists whose work appears display obvious richness and talent. Co-Chairs Diana Rogers and Phyllis Brown organized the successful event, and handed out 30 awards.

The CPS Best in Show Award went to Alain J. Picard for his painting "Window of Opportunity." Awards judge David Kaphammer, PSA, PPSCC, explains his decision: "The expression on the little girl is mesmerizing, her story writes itself as you look at this piece. Expertly handled pastel and gorgeous color make this a winner in technique as well."

"A Brush with Greatness," by Peter Seltzer, grabbed the Great American Artworks Award. "Such finely rendered textures, subtle light and shadow, and the image of Gandhi in a beautifully put together composition" is how Kaphammer

sums up the painting.



Peter Seltzer with his award winning painting "A Brush With Greatness"

Frank Frederico's "Diversity" on Final Day of 2017 Members Show.

Frank Frederico, PSA-HF, NEWS, PPSCC, NWS, presents "Diversity" a Powerpoint demonstration about his life as an artist on Saturday, March 25, 1-3 pm at the close of the annual members exhibit.

What's Coming Up

CPS Exhibits

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

June 15 – July 21, 2017.

Chauncey Stillman Gallery, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, 84 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, Conn. 06371; (860) 434-5232.

Online entry only 1/15/17 – 4/5/17.

Jury of Selection: Jamie Markle, Diane Rappisi.

Awards Judge: Sam Goodsell.

Opening Reception 6/15 5-7pm followed by lecture by Alain J. Picard (lecture cost \$15).

Prospectus available now

SUBMIT BY APRIL 5, midnight

Laurel B. Friedmann

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Co-chairs Purely Pastel 2017

Renaissance in Pastel 2017

The Connecticut Pastel Society announces its 24th Annual National Juried Exhibition, Renaissance in Pastel.

October 4th through November 5th, 2017

Arts Center East, Vernon, Conn.

Artists reception and awards ceremony Saturday, October 21st from 1pm-3pm, pastel demonstration by Dave Kaphammer, PSA from 3:00 - 5:00pm.

Awards presentation 4pm

Our nationally recognized judges Jane McGraw-Teubner, PSA-MP, and Jean Dalton will award approximately \$10,000 in cash and merchandise.

Removal of work: Nov. 5, 1-3pm.

ENTRY June 1- August 4th, 2017, midnight

Notification emailed August 18

Receiving: Oct. 1, 10-12. Shipped artwork: Must arrive by Sept. 27.

For more information, www.ctpastelsociety.org

Vicki Rooney, Co-Chair

Jane Penfield, Co-Chair

CPS Workshops

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, Conn.

Alain Picard, PSA, "Reflections of Hope"

June 15, 2017

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

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.*



Alain Picard, “Window of Opportunity”

Best In Show

From our Co-Presidents: Karen Israel and Diane Stone



Freedom to Fail

Identifying oneself as an artist takes courage. Throughout most of my life I resisted that reductive and intimidating label.

Even after I could own the title of artist, I felt a need to justify my desire to create. Whether it was selling my work, garnering awards or earning titles I relied upon that validation. My ambitions drove me forward which was helpful but not always healthy for artistic growth.

Artists often say that the need to create is not much different from the need for nourishment, sleep or breathing. I never completely understood this and imagined my 4-week recuperation while my dominant hand was in a cast would be a time when I would abandon all creativity. To my surprise, the visual side of me would not shut down; I still had to create. So I began painting with my left hand. As

I started, I felt dizzy and nauseated. I think my brain was sending signals to the wrong extremity. I told myself “what the hell, if I fail I can blame it on this temporary handicap.” Surprisingly, my paintings became a bit looser. That didn’t necessarily make them better but the experience offered important insight into the psychology of the creative process. Giving myself complete freedom to fail took away expectations and allowed for greater expression. I realized that our hands, like technique, are just tools; that the real creation occurs in our thoughts and feelings towards our external world. Will I use my left hand as an additional tool in my future creations? Most definitely! – *Karen Israel*



Karen’s “other hand art”

left: “Beyond the Horizon”, 9x12”.

above: “Painting the Roses”, 10x10”



Member Profile: Diana Rogers



View Towards the Dunes

DianaRogers

My artistic passions are nature and color. I've always loved to go on hikes to explore nature in slow motion and to get to know a valley, mountain or stream. Painting on location allows me to spend time to study beautiful places at an even slower and deeper level. I really don't mind schlepping equipment down a trail to paint in a very special place. Plein air painting always offers an artistic adventure because you never know what the weather might bring or what nature will reveal.

With pure intense pigments, pastels are ideal for painting the landscape in an expressive colorful way. The medium is the perfect complement to the colorful bounty of nature; it's easy to travel with pastels and head down a trail for a painting session.

Landscape painting allows me to express and record what I appreciate in nature. I hope to raise awareness about the need to protect the places we love before they are gone. Marshes of New England have been my focus for several years. They protect our coastline and offer an endless array

of subject matter. The color palette of our marshes dramatically changes by season, time of day and with each tide.

Great teachers have guided my progress while painting on location. I've made many trips to Little Cranberry Island off the coast of Maine to study with Henry Isaacs and Ashley Bryan. They teach students to immerse themselves in the setting, using exuberant color. My respect for the tradition of painting outdoors has grown through my studies with Maddine Insalaco and Joe Vinson, New York-based artists who have focused their careers on the history and practice of plein air painting.

By day, I lead a market research team for a major U.S. corporation. My husband and I live in Clinton, Conn.

Diana Rogers served CPS as editor of the newsletter for the past several years. Now she steps into the role of members show co-chairperson, and was instrumental in planning and display of the current exhibit at Southington Community Cultural Arts Center. We congratulate her on winning the Hull's Art Supply Award this year. She was also awarded Pastel Premier Paper Award in the 2016 Renaissance in Pastel. We wish her continued success with her artwork and thank her for all her contributions to Connecticut Pastel Society.
– Editor



Diana Rogers

Member Classes/Member's News

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

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

IS183, Art School of the Berkshires, in Stockbridge, MA (www.is183.org)

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

Anne Heywood – eastern MA – www.anneheywood.com

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

Paul Leveille – Holyoke, MA – paulleveillestudio.com

Leslie Lillien Levy – Kent, CT – www.leslielillienlevy.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 – Sudbury, MA, nationally – www.jeannesmithart.com

Alain J. Picard, PSA

The Painterly Approach

Picard Studio: 203.297.1399; alain@picardstudio.com or visit www.picardstudio.com

March 23-25, 2017 UART, Newtown, Connecticut. The Painterly Portrait, Three-Day Workshop, Thursday-Saturday 9:30am-4:30pm. Contact: www.uartpastelpaper.com

April 21 & 22, 2017, Newtown, Connecticut. The Painterly Landscape, Weekend Workshop, Friday 7:00-9:00pm, Saturday 9:30am-4:30pm. Contact: picardstudio.com/workshops

May 2-5, 2017, Napa Valley Area, California. Pastel Society of the West Coast. Capturing Light Workshop, Four-Day Workshop, Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm.

Contact: picardstudio.com/workshops

June 15-16, 2017, Lyme, Connecticut. Connecticut Pastel Society. The Painterly Portrait Workshop, Two-Day Workshop, Thursday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm. Contact: ctpastelsociety.org

July 1-8, 2017, Istria, Croatia. Pastel Workshops Croatia. Capturing Light in Croatia, Seven-Day Workshop.

Contact: www.workshops.pastelnews.com

Karen Israel, PSA, MP

Saturday, April 14, 2017

1:00 pm pastel painting

Farmington Valley Arts Center

<http://artsfvac.org/adult-classes-2/>

Windsor Art Center

<http://www.windsorartcenter.org/class-schedule/>

Karen Israel won Best In Show at SoCCA's first juried exhibition.



Polly Castor won the CPS merit award for "Confidence"

Member's News, *continued*

Linda Sweeney was inducted into The National Association of Women Artists in New York City as a Juried Signature Member.

One of her paintings was purchased by the Foundation of The University of Vermont Health Network-Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital for installation in the waiting room area of the Infusion Center.

Dian Kingsbury
"What Takes My Fancy"
March 4-30
Duncaster Art Gallery
40 Loeffler Road
Bloomfield, CT

Robert Carsten, PSA, IAPS MC
Pastel Workshop
Saturday April 22, 2017 9-4:30
Presented by Northeaster Connecticut Art Guild, the Old Pomfret Townhouse, 11 Townhouse Rd., Pomfret, CT

For information contact Judy: tel. 860 774 4250 or e-mail jdoyle673@gmail.com



Karen Suponski with her award-winning piece.

From our Co-Presidents: *cont.* Karen Israel and Diane Stone

As our thoughts turn to spring and bursts of color soon to come, remember to get your paintings entered into the Purely Pastel Show! Deadline is April 5th.



With two workshops at the same venue it will be exciting to see what everyone will accomplish! Alan Picard's "Portrait" workshop and Margaret Dyer's "Figures" workshop, are each to be held at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Art. If you haven't taken a class with either of these experts, now is the time to give yourself a treat. Learn something new in June.

Diane Stone

Hoping you all are having fun playing with pastels.

-Diane Stone

CPS Scholarship

In support of our mission to educate the public and promote pastels as a medium, the Connecticut Pastel Society provides scholarships to aspiring pastel artists. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded in 2017. This program is open to all non-professional members of CPS, 16 years of age and older and working specifically in the soft pastel medium. **Applications will be accepted from April 1 to May 28, 2017.**

Award winners will be announced at the Purely Pastel Exhibition, June 15, 2017, to be held at Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, 84 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT.

For more information and scholarship requirements please contact Steve Porter: sporter68@gmail.com

Member's News, *continued*

Andrew Anderson-Bell will be a featured artist in a show at the Connor Summers Gallery at 48 Market Street in Newburyport, Massachusetts. The show opens February 24 and runs through March 31. The gallery phone is [978-462-9196](tel:978-462-9196) and their website is connersummers.com.

CPS Members were well represented at the Salmagundi Club of New York with paintings by **Marilyn Caissy, Valerie Mandra, and Peggy Davidson Post** in the January New Members exhibit.

The Pastel Journal's Pastel 100 singled out works by CPS members Jeri Greenberg (Silver Award), Arlene Richman and Jane Penfield for recognition.



Photos from Members Show opening March 2017



From the editor of *Purely Pastel*.

I plan to publish the newsletter in November, March, and July. Send me your news a month before those issues at peggydpost@gmail.com.

Your news should be summarized in a single paragraph. Please no brochures, flyers or enrollment forms. Word files preferred. Please write **CPS News in the subject line**, so your news and events don't slip into the black hole of my email stream. Thank you to a very inspiring group of artists.

-Peggy Davidson Post

