

Pastel Talk



Arizona Pastel Artists Association P.O. Box 10042, Phoenix, AZ 85064 www.azpaa.com

JULY 2009

IAPS Eighth Biennial Convention: Special Report

by Karen Budan

On the last weekend in May I was lucky enough to attend my second IAPS Biennial Convention in Albuquerque, NM. I attended my first convention two years ago and I have been anxiously awaiting the next convention for two years. The convention more than lived up to the two years of anticipation! There were over 600 pastelists at the convention from most of the 50 states and a number of international locations. Despite this fact, the convention has a warm and informal atmosphere. You find yourself mingling with the big guns you have been reading about in the art journals....and they are all very approachable! I also found myself running into people I met two years ago at the last convention and “catching up.” Perhaps my biggest surprise was the number of APAA members that were in attendance that I did not know were planning to attend! In attendance were Barb Lang, Christine Bidwell, Rita Elkins, Kay Verstraete, Dodie Ballentine, Woodie and Margaret Mackie, Sheri Morris, Sharon and Allan Frey, Linda Dellandre, Michael Chesley-Johnson, and Joan Rand.



Bob and I flew to Albuquerque on Thursday morning. We arrived at the Albuquerque Hotel in Old Town in time to check in and have lunch before I attended the first convention session. This first session was a three hour session put on by a group of Australian pastelists. This session had four painters doing simultaneous demos. One painter was doing a landscape from a photo while three others were doing portraits of a gentleman who served as the model. All of the painters used Colorfix paper or boards (which is manufactured in AU). All three of the portrait painters did some kind of underpainting. It was really interesting to see the different styles and approaches among the four painters (all of whom were very good!). An interesting tidbit was that one of the painters uses a shaving brush to brush out mistakes instead of a bristle paint brush!

Prior to the Thursday evening buffet welcome dinner was the much anticipated “Paint Around”. This year’s participants were Urania Christy Tabet, Alan Flattman, Sean Dye, Rae Smith, and Maggie Price. Five easels are put in a circle

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Next Meeting: September 6, 3pm

Primer on Everything Digital: Learn how to take pictures of your artwork and size your digital images. Photoshop tips too!

Remember to bring your paintings for our first Artist of the Month competition!

WELCOME New Members!

Our association continues to grow in skill depth and membership, and we welcome those new members who recently joined:

Dana Hale-Kalatsky
Scottsdale 480-473-1760
danahsky@gmail.com

Ellen Beth Harper
Phoenix 602-321-4165
ellen@harperstudio.net

Kathie Jand
Goodyear 623-388-6790
kathiejanda@yahoo.com

Tami Sausser
Prescott 928-778-5777
tgrafke@yahoo.com

Josie Taglienti
Phoenix 602-788-0762
ajoyfulsunrise@yahoo.com

Alice Van Overstraeten
Sun Lakes 480-883-6726
alicevano@wbhsi.net



Message From the President

Dear Fellow APAA Members,

I am writing this letter fresh off a wonderful weekend spent at the Eighth Biennial Convention of the International Association of Pastel Societies in Albuquerque, NM. What an inspiring weekend. Many APAA members were in attendance and also able to take advantage of the demos, lectures, and hands-on sessions. There were pastelists from all over the United States (including Hawaii) and many international countries such as Colombia, Germany, Canada, and Australia. A big surprise announcement was that founder and long time president, Urania Christy Tarbet is stepping down with Maggie Price assuming the leadership position. As your president, I attended the presidents' dinner/business meeting. What an opportunity to talk with the presidents of the many other societies and pick their brains about how they do things. There was also a President's Panel session. It was a three hour session but I was only able to attend the last hour because of sessions I had signed up and paid for long before any thought of being president came to light. I wish I had been able to be there the entire three hours as a lot of great topics were discussed with sharing of ideas. The Ninth Biennial Convention in 2011 will once again be back in Albuquerque. I plan to be there and encourage you to do the same!

Our newsletter is growing up! Gary Binder and Julia Patterson have done a wonderful job of making the newsletter even more professional looking. I know you

were as impressed as I was when the newsletter showed up in your e-mail! Julia has applied her design skills and knowledge to create a beautiful format. Gary has some new ideas that he hopes to incorporate into the newsletter in the coming months.



What a team! If you have suggestions for additional enhancements for the newsletter I encourage you to contact Gary. After all, Pastel Talk is our major mode of communication for APAA members as not everyone can attend meetings.

Please be reminded that we will not be meeting the months of July and August. Our next meeting is September 6th. Also...if you have been to a recent meeting you know that we have outgrown our current meeting space at the hospital. We hope to have a new meeting location soon....possibly for the September meeting....so please check the newsletter for the latest information prior to heading for the September 6th meeting.

Keep painting!

Karen Budan

President, APAA

Mount Vision Pastel Sale! Karl Kelley is offering discount coupons for anyone interested in Mount Vision Pastels. The coupon sale includes 10 pastels for \$20.00 (plus \$5.95 shipping) or 25 pastels for \$50.00 (plus \$5.95 shipping). This is good for the first 1000 customers only. The information for this is on www.mountvisionpastels.com. Follow the link under coupon sale.

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June 2009 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by president, Karen Budan at 3:05 pm.

The minutes from the May meeting were not available for approval.

Treasurer Report given by treasurer, Ruth Philliben. The current balance is \$6,410.98. A summary of the expenses and income from the last two months was presented. There is no more money in the Rita Jonas Award for the spring show "People's Choice Award." It was recommended that "People's Choice Award" be funded from the general membership funds, a motion that was supported by the treasurer and the membership.

Standing Reports:

1) Shows & Exhibits

- a. Karen announced that both Karin Hertzell and Nancy Sage have resigned as co-chairs of Shows. Laura Black indicated willingness to continue as co-chair if she could have some help. Sue Hunter volunteered to co-chair this committee along with Laura.
- b. We do not yet have a location for the fall show other than the show at Fountain Hills Community Center in September. Laura and Sue will be exploring possibilities and communicate with the Board as the next meeting is not until September.
- c. The Sedona City Hall show was very well received by City Hall personnel. They were very impressed with the 24 paintings submitted. The tentative take-down date is September 4.

2) Meeting Programs – Adrienne Kassel

a. Suggestions for the September meeting program were entertained by Adrienne. Suggestions for future programs included: Michael McKee, who will be in town after the 1st of the year for several months; having a presentation on the business aspects of being an artist; hiring a model; and conducting a critique. The decision was made to conduct a presentation "going digital" (producing a high resolution digital photograph of your artwork, saving it to the computer and creating CD's). Karen Budan will co-ordinate this presentation for September.

3) Newsletter – Gary Binder

- a. Members expressed appreciation for the professional look of the newsletter. Karen indicated that of the newsletters presented at IAPS, ours was among the most professional looking. Much thanks to Gary and Julia!
- b. Gary indicated that he would like to take photographs of new members to place their profile in the newsletter. He also asked for information and comments to be sent to him concerning activities and events.

4) Membership – Kathy Herranen

- a. Kathy reported that 81 members have renewed and 20 current members have not yet renewed. She will be contacting those members to ask about renewal.
- b. Linda Halabe will be sending all members the information she currently has about points and

membership status. Please RSVP if you believe your points are not accurate. Membership status will be entered into the membership book which will be distributed at the September meeting. Signature members will be identified by "S" following their name.

5) Ways & Means – Marsha Wright absent

6) Website – Julia Patterson

- a. Julia announced that the front page of the website is changing. Members noted that she has started putting videos of previous months meeting's demonstrations on this location. The Sedona Show is also posted!
- b. Julia also announced that she has posted the Arizona Pastel Artists Association on Facebook and encouraged members to OPEN AN ACCOUNT, which can be completed in a matter of a few minutes! Once into Facebook, search for the Arizona Pastel Artists Association to locate the group discussion board.

7) Arizona Art Alliance – Liz Kenyon

- a. AAA has several venues around town in the Home and Garden Shows. They will be hanging panels for artwork display and will let us know when space is available.
- b. AAA is also waiting to hear about the Street Fair which is being planned for this fall on Indian School Road between 40th and 32nd streets. Tents for AAA will be available for exhibits.
- c. AAA is reorganizing and looking for people to volunteer for board positions.



June 2009 Meeting Minutes cont....

d. An individual is trying to start an art school at 35th and McDowell called Tracy Art Academy. The academy is looking for teachers and artists. Liz will be attending the open house on June 13 and has asked for others to attend if they are able. Contact Liz for more information.

8) IAPS – Karen Budan

Karen spoke about the IAPS conference and will be reporting on this in the next newsletter. She urged members to attend the next IAPS convention which will be in Albuquerque in 2011.

9) Education & Workshops - Fred Davenport

Fred asked members if they would be interested in attending summer workshops at Alan Garn's studio.

Several members indicated interest. Fred will pursue. Watch for more info via email.

10) Art Challenge – Marcelline Lowery

The Art Challenge sheets were available today for members to sign up. You may also call Marcelline and have your name added to the list. The first challenge items will be distributed in September and the critique will be held in November.

11) Artist of the Month

Lee Borden asked for a co-chair. Alice Van Overstraeten volunteered to help. Lee will purchase inexpensive ribbons for 1st and 2nd place winners, as Ruth advised that the show ribbons are quite costly. A nicer ribbon will be purchased for the end of the year.

12) Other

a. APAA Photo Book: Julia suggested that we create a group photo book available for purchase through organizations such as lulu.com. These books are not published until ordered and a soft bound book 50 pages, 8.5 x 8.5 inches runs about \$15.50. These books could be sold for \$20 to family, friends, and at shows. A suggestion was made to start this book by including professional quality photos of pieces entered into the Sedona Show.

The business meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm. Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Philliben

Jean Hildebrant Demo Wows Group

At the June meeting we were fortunate to have one of our own artist members, Jean Hildebrand, provide a demo on her portraiture style and methods. Jean is an award-winning artist who specializes in portraits and figurative works. She has won many awards throughout her career, including the Pastel Journal Magazine's 2006 "Pastel 100" competition, placing first in the portrait/figure category and the Pastel Society of America's National Annual Exhibition, New York, NY (B. & V. Giffuni Purchase Award). Jean's work can be found in private, public and corporate collections. According to Jean, she "desires to capture the essence and inner beauty of the human spirit through the use of light and color. She wants her paintings to speak to the emotions and spirit of each person who views them. She paints realism with the purpose of leaving an indelible impression." **Please see a little video of her demo at the June meeting on our website: <http://www.azpaa.com>.**





May 2009 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Paulette Redmond. She installed the new officers for 2009-2010. Immediately after the induction of the new officers, Paulette announced and handed out the awards for the Sedona Spring Exhibit. She then turned the meeting over to the newly installed president, Karen Budan.

The meeting minutes as presented in the newsletter were approved.

There was no Treasurer's Report, as Ruth Philliben was out of town.

Sandra Ortega gave a brief analysis of the Sedona Show, stating it once again was a success, with a number of paintings sold.

Adrienne indicated that the program for the June meeting will be a session on portraits by Jean Hildebrand.

Julia Patterson agreed to print and mail the newsletter to those members who have no email. Paulette will send her the list.

Kathy Herranen said that the new membership cards are made out, and that everyone should pick there up. There were 6 new members in attendance, they were asked to introduce themselves.

Marsha Wright indicated there were magazines for sale.

Julia Patterson asked for concurrence of the membership to put videos on the website. It was approved.

Liz Kenyon discussed AAA opportunity with the 4 Home Expos Shows around the valley. She indicated

if you have an interest to contact AAA.

Fred Davenport reported that the May 18th Workshop with Alan Ganes was cancelled. He proposed a "Bootcamp" at Alan's studio. Fred will propose a date then get commitments from members, also might include a portrait workshop.

Laura Black said there was an opportunity for APAA to exhibit at Sedona City Hall. She indicated that no more than 25 paintings could be accommodated, asked for a show of hands, 27 members want to participate. All will be allowed, Laura will forward information ASAP.

Paulette indicated that there may be an opportunity to show at Gamage. The venue will accommodate ~70 pieces, she thought it might be a juried show, she turned the application with the name of the gentlemen to call over to Karen & Nancy.

Paulette also said that she would speak to Heather Green regarding a APAA Scholarship Program. Heather has handled the scholarship for AAG. She will bring a proposal to the September meeting.

Julia Patterson encourages members to start their own Facebook pages and said she would assist those who need help.

Karen proposed two new programs for the membership going forward. First program, ARTIST OF THE MONTH. This program will be open to all members and will run from September through June each year. Members pay \$5 for each painting

submitted and bring pieces in each month. The members present vote on their favorite piece, the winner will be artist of the month, second place will also be awarded. Then each year in June, the members will vote from the winners of each month for Artist of the Year. New works should be submitted. This new program was approved by the membership. Lee Borden agreed to coordinate this program.

Second program, ART CHALLENGE. This program will happen three times a year. Members interested will sign up to participate in the program. They are given an object or objects that they will incorporate into a painting in any manner they choose. They will have two months to complete the painting. At the meeting after the two-month period, the program participants will bring the matted or framed paintings to the meeting. The membership present will conduct a critique of the paintings. The program was approved, participants for the first challenge were picked, Marcelline Lowery agreed to coordinate the program.

Karen submitted each of these programs to the membership in writing.

Josie Taglienti conducted the program on her very large and unique pastels.



Member Accomplishments

from *Linda Dellandre*:

“Many thanks for the set of Terry Ludwig pastels (prize for first place award in Spring Show) - I LOVE them!

Linda will be jurying and selecting awards for the Mid-Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association Annual Show in November in Maryland. She is also teaching a 2-day workshop during that event. Her pastel painting “Zion Road” was installed as part of the permanent exhibit at the St. George Museum of Art, in St. George, Utah for the “Century of Sanctuary” Zion National Park Celebration.

Another accomplishment included being juried into the Frank Bette Center for the Arts, “Jewel of the Bay” Plein Air Competition in Alameda, Calif. for the 3rd year in a row. (Won Best Quick Draw in 2007, and Best Garden in 2008)

Thanks for the opportunity to share my good fortune with all. Go Pastels!”

APAA Show at Sedona City Hall All Summer

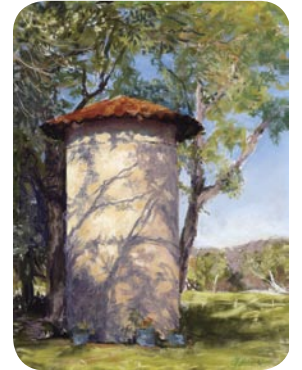
Thanks to Laura Black and Sue Hunter who graciously delivered our group’s 24 paintings that are now hanging in Sedona City Hall and to Karen Budan who made a flyer to accompany them.

The paintings can be viewed through August with a pickup date no later than Sept 4th. As a reminder, 15% of any sale proceeds will need to be paid to APAA as part of the deal. Artists are responsible for any shipping or delivery associated with those sales.

Karen Budan was juried into the Cave Creek Film and Arts Festival Visual Arts Division for the second year in a row. This year’s entry was “Boot Scootin’ Wannabes.” *Julia Patterson* was also juried into



the final selection exhibit with her painting, “Otero Ranch Gatehouse.” *Laura Black* was also juried in with her painting. The juried entries will be hung at the Desert Foothills Library in Cave Creek from June 19th through July 31st. Awards will be announced July 19th from 6 to 9 pm at the awards ceremony for all festival divisions at the Fine Arts Center of Cactus Shadows High School in Cave Creek. www.cavecreekfilmmandartsfestival.com



Get Ready for the ART CHALLENGE!

Sign up sheets for the Art Challenge were provided at the last meeting to gain some momentum in preparation for the September kickoff. Recall that there are three cycles (Cycle One-Sept.’09; Cycle Two-Dec.’09; Cycle Three-March ‘10), with slots for up to ten artists on each sheet. To add a little intrigue to the challenges, the object(s) will remain a mystery until they’re “unveiled” at each meeting. We think the surprise element is a fun idea, and hope you do too! How each artist incorporates the object into a finished piece should prove interesting and could generate more challenges as successive cycles continue.

Please contact Marcelline Lowery (602.795.5376 or mangoartwk@aol.com) if you want to add your name to a cycle of participants.



Call for Entries

These listings are from Pastel Journal (www.pasteljournal.com). Please ensure that you obtain information to get more specific details on each opportunity. Also, we'd like to get more information on more local shows and competitions, so please send info on any opportunities you might know about.

ARKANSAS (LITTLE ROCK)

Arkansas Pastel Society, "Reflections in Pastel" National competition for soft Pastel. Dec4-Jan10. Doug Dawson, Juror. Deadline Sept. 5th, digital entries; awards \$5000. www.arkpastel.com email: hurstgallery@yahoo.com or SASE: Susan Hurst, #9 Roanne Ct., Little Rock, AR 72211

CALIFORNIA (PLACERVILLE)

43rd Mother Lode National art Show. August 16-30. Slide/digital entry deadline July 6th. www.placervillearts.com or #10 SASE: PAA PO Box 905 Placerville, CA 95667 Juror: Dan Peterson, Judge: Gil Dellinger Awards \$4000

COLORADO (LONGMONT)

5th Annual Mile High National 2009 Exhibition sponsored by Pastel Society of Colorado. Aug 8-Sept 27, Longmont Museum and Cultural Center. Slide or digital jurying. Deadline June 19th. Juror: Susan Ogilvie, Awards \$5000 www.pastelsocietyofcolorado.org or SASE: Diane Fechenbach, 2204 Stratford Ct., Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

CONNECTICUT (WATERBURY)

Connecticut Pastel Society 16th Annual National exhibition,

"Renaissance in Pastels" Oct 2-25, deadline postmarks July 7th. Soft pastels only awards: \$10000 www.ctpastelsociety.com or #10 SASE to Mally DeSomma; CPS, 37 Rutland St., Waterbury, CT 06708

GEORGIA (BLUE RIDGE)

Southern Appalachian Artist Guild 2009 National Juried Show, Oct 17- Nov 13, deadline July 31st, digital image/CD entry, Juror: Ann Templeton, Awards: \$5000, www.southernappalachianarts.org

LOUISIANA (BATON ROUGE)

Louisiana Art and artists guild 40th Annual River Road Show, Dec 2-Jan 29, deadline Sept 14th, Artists 18+only, CD entry only, entries \$5 each/\$35/3 limit 10; Awards:\$4000, Juror: Don Andrews, www.laag-site.org/River_Road_Show_09.html

MARYLAND (BETHESDA)

Maryland Pastel Society, "Shades of Pastel" National Juried Exhibition, Sept 26-Oct 31st, deadline July 3rd, Juror: Richard McKinley, Awards: \$6500, Soft Pastels only, digital entries only www.marylandpastel-society.com or #10 SASE: Dawn Capron 16651 Batchellors Forest Rd., Olney, MD 20832

NEW HAMPSHIRE (PORTSMOUTH)

Pastel Society of New Hampshire National Juried Exhibition, Sept19-Oct19th, deadline July 27th, Soft Pastels only, Selection Juror: Liz Haywood Sullivan, PSA, Awards Juror: Bob Rohm, PSA, awards: \$5000, digital entries www.pastel-

societynh.com or SASE: Deidra Baldwin, 22 Emerson Rd. Durham, NH 03824

NEW MEXICO (ALBUQUERQUE)

Pastel Society of New Mexico 18th Annual National Pastel Painting Exhibition, Nov6-29th, deadline Aug15th, digital entries only, Judge: Colette Ody Smith, Jurors: Robert Carsten, Clark Mitchell and Jimmy Wright, Awards: \$10000, Original and soft pastels only www.pastelsnm.org or SASE: PSNM, PO Box 3571, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3571

NEW YORK (NEW YORK)

Pastel society of America 37th Annual Open Juried Exhibition at the National Arts Club, Sept 8-27, deadline postmarks July 1, soft pastels only, awards: \$20,000, Entry fees: \$25/1 slide, \$35/2, \$45/3; www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org or #10 SASE: Pastel society of America, 15 Grammercy Park South, New York City, NY 10003, Info: 2125336931 or pastelny@juno.com

TEXAS (PLANO)

Pastel Society of the Southwest 28th Annual Juried Exhibition, November 09, deadline August 15th, awards: \$5000 Juror: Bob Rohm. #10 SASE: June Holloway, 7517 Vanessa Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76112 or www.pssw.info.



Art Opportunities

ATTENTION ALL AAA JURIED ARTISTS!

The Arizona Art Alliance is continuing their partnership with the prestigious SKYE Restaurant in Peoria to provide first class art in their beautiful supper club. The second phase exhibition that began January 31st, 2009 will be taken down on July 31st, 2009. We need new 2D and wall mounted 3D art work for the third phase exhibition which will begin July 31st, 2009 and continue through January 31st, 2010. This exhibit opportunity is open to all Arizona Art Alliance Juried Artists only. Entries are being taken for Phase Three from now until the deadline of July 15th, 2009.

All entries should be sent via email to Alan Arne, the show director, using high resolution photos and jpg format. Each entry needs to include the artists name, name of the piece, size (outer dimensions), medium and price. Gallery wrapped canvas are acceptable without frame. All others must be properly framed. All entries must be properly wired on the back. No saw-tooth hangers will be accepted. Miniatures are discouraged due to the expansive nature of the venue walls. Medium to large size art pieces are best. There is room for about 55 pieces to show.

Submit you image(s) and information to: Alan Arne, Exhibition Director, aaarne@cox.net. Questions? Call 602 788 6349 office or 602 334 3824 cell.

GALLERY OPPORTUNITY IN TUBAC

The Rogoway Turquoise Tortoise Gallery in Tubac and a group called "Copper State Artists" has a gallery opportunity for those interested. Copper State Artists is primarily landscape, western, and wildlife painters, ranging from very professional ones like Lois Griffel to less noted artists. The group rents wall space, and artists can hang 1 large, 4 medium sized, and 2 minis. No one sits the gallery except the new owners. They are redoing the website to include these individual artists and connecting to their websites as well. New ads, and new publicity are being included. Some (there are 13 currently) have done rather well in this venue. You sign for 6-month periods, and the next contract starts August, coming into best season from fall, over Christmas, through January. For further details of contract, contact Linda Dellandre at dellandw@yahoo.com

PASTEL WORKSHOPS AT THE AH HAA! SCHOOL FOR ARTS

The Ah Haa! School for the Arts, a non-profit art school in the small mountain town of Telluride, Colorado, a funky, progressive resort town, is offering Pastel Workshops.

Rachel Loomis-Lee
Operations & Program Manager
Ah Haa School for the Arts
970-728-3886 (office)
970-728-9709 (fax)

THE PASTEL 100

Get rewarded for your finest work—enter the Pastel 100 Competition today. It's your chance to win CASH and PRIZES for your art! Sponsored by The Pastel Journal, America's leading magazine devoted to pastel artists, and sister publication of The Artist's Magazine, this annual competition offers cash, prizes and publicity to its lucky winners. All entries must be postmarked by September 1, 2009, so don't wait to start creating!

CLICK HERE for information:
https://competitions.fwmedia.com/dynamiccompetition/pastel100/entry_form

UTRECHT 60TH ANNIVERSARY ART COMPETITION

Utrecht Art Supplies is proud to announce our 60th Anniversary Art Competition, in appreciation for the patronage of Artists over the past six decades. All Artists are invited to submit works created in Oil, Acrylic, Watercolor or Mixed Media*. Winning entries will be judged on quality, creativity and originality. Editors of American Artist, Utrecht Resident Artist and Artists from the Ridgewood Art Institute will serve as jurors.

CLICK HERE for rules:
<http://contests.interweave.com/utrecht/rules.aspx>



What's Up @ the Phoenix Art Museum

by Paulette Redmond

Phantom Sightings: Art after the Chicano Movement is the first comprehensive consideration of Chicano art in two decades. It explores the work of a young generation of artists working today after the initial social struggles of the Chicano movement—a larger political and cultural movement that in the late 1960s and early 1970s began campaigning for justice and equality for Americans of Mexican and Latin American heritage.



This exhibition explores the current experimental tendencies of this younger generation of American artists with cultural ties to Mexico and Latin America. The art works are oriented less toward traditional media of painting or sculpture and declarative polemical assertion than toward conceptual art, performance, media-based art, and “stealthy” artistic interventions in urban spaces.

Organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and traveling to five museums in the United States and Mexico, the exhibition includes 120 works by 32 artists in all media: painting and sculpture as well as installation, video, performance, and mixed-media works using film, digital, and sound. A partial list of artists includes the seminal LA-based Chicano art collective Asco; conceptual artist Ruben Ochoa, sculptor Margarita Cabera; photographer Christina Fernandez; performance artist Mario Ybarra Jr.; and Nicola López, who creates dramatic drawing and sculptural installations.



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IAPS Convention: Special Report *cont. from page 1*

with each artist starting a painting from their photo. Over the course of an hour they rotated around to work on each of the paintings. All participants sign each painting. The paintings are auctioned off over the course of the convention with all proceeds going to the Urania Christy Tarbet scholarship program. We observed that the men worked with bold solid strokes with little hesitation while the women tended to work with smaller more deliberate strokes. It was fun to watch someone put in something and often the next person covered it up!!

My Friday morning session was the first of two sessions I signed up for with Liz Haywood-Sullivan focused on the business side of art. Liz is an excellent artist with a business background in design. She serves as a new member on the IAPS board. Rumor at the conference is that she is an excellent teacher....and I found this to be very true about the two sessions I attended although they were not art instruction. Among the many topics covered she shared:

1. Liz shared the forms she uses to track her paintings. She has a page for each painting with a quick view list in front of the pages for each calendar year. She keeps them in a notebook as well as on a computer.
2. She sends an annual inventory to each of her galleries to double-check that they agree on what the gallery holds.....never depend on a gallery to be on top of this side of their business.
3. She clarified what is meant by a "body of work." A body of work is

a series of paintings of one type or topic. You may have a body of work composed of landscapes and another body of work of still lifes. A body of work would not be a mixture.

4. She stressed that a painting is only as good as the frame. Invest in good frames (she definitely did not support metal frames!!!)
5. We spent a lot of time discussing pricing of your art work. The thing she stressed was to price your pastel work at the same level as oil pieces. Do NOT price your pastel work as if it is a lesser medium.
6. Liz writes a thank you note to everyone who buys one of her paintings. She gives little tips as to not hang it in direct sunlight, how to clean the glass, etc. She also tells them a little bit about the piece and why she painted it.
7. Galleries want an artist they can peg.....example: this is an Arizona artist who paints indigenous people.
8. When your work begins to look too much like your instructors it is time to change. You need your own style.
9. She has three versions of her resume. Her one-page version is her workhorse. It has no personal information on it. Her two page version includes information about her career in the past. The third version is the master version and contains every single thing....it is her repository to pull versions from.

Liz's sessions were excellent and I learned a lot that I cannot begin to share in this article.

I also attended two different sessions with Kim Lordier as I am very impressed with her work. Kim is

from CA and is an up and coming powerhouse in landscape painting. She does a lot of plein air painting. Kim's first session focused on "Simplifying for Strength".

1. She is a big advocate for using notan sketches to create a design based on the scene selected. She used Tombow markers in three values to create the notan sketches. These sketches drive the painting.
2. Kim uses an indigo or deep purple Nupastel to create the sketch of masses based on her notan sketches. She then uses turpenoid to create an underpainting based on the masses....although she will leave the light masses of paper untouched.
3. It was fun to watch Kim work. She uses very bold strokes. She very consciously chose colors to match the value masses...but within that value chose cool or warm colors to build her concept for the painting.

Kim's second session was "Drama on the Coast". To Kim the drama is in the light striking the landscape....and that happens in the early morning or end of the day.

1. Kim demonstrated how she gets the glow by creating a darker underpainting so that the lighter strokes added later really "pop" or "glow".

I also attended a session with Michael Chesley-Johnson on "Painting the Maritimes. Michael opened the session with a slideshow of painting locations in the Maritimes with plein air paintings and scenes. It was fun to watch. Michael's session was very similar to the demo he did for us....creating a painting with a monochrome underpainting. The



demo he did for us was in brown monochrome while the one he did at IAPS was a grayscale monochrome underpainting. It was a great opportunity for me to solidify in my mind some of the concepts Michael had presented to us as I heard them a second time.....and more importantly saw them demonstrated a second time.



Saturday evening's banquet included several interesting components. First was the announcement of the Master Circle recipients (see IAPS website for criteria). Recipients receive a beautiful 5" wide medal that is dipped in 24 karat gold. It is quite impressive!! I want one! But the true highlight of the evening was the presentation by Isabel LaRoche on the history of LaRoche pastels. She is the great niece of Henri LaRoche. She shared letters and photos of such artists as Degas who used LaRoche pastels almost exclusively. The slideshow showed the steps in the making of the pastels.....all of which are made by hand by Isabel herself. It was fascinating to listen to her. The pastels were for sale in the vendor hall. One person I know bought three pastels and it cost just over \$50. I decided to look....but not buy!

Speaking of the vendor hall....better known as the "candy shop"..... there were lots of deals!!! Oh my! Ludwigs were open stock at \$2.50 a stick. You walked in the door to face the rainbow of Ludwig colors before you! Terry Ludwig introduced a new line of pastels called the "confetti pastels." They are fairly neutral col-

ors with chunks and flecks of other colors embedded in them. I found I just had to buy them! The new Richeson semi-hard pastels were there (like Nupastels but softer) as well as their semi-softs (like the Unisons but a little harder). I did manage to somewhat restrain myself....but not totally.

On Sunday morning I attended a three hour session with Sean Dye on "Painting Large Pastel Paintings". Sean painted a piece that was 27" x 36". His standard painting sizes are 16x20 and 18x24. Sean is from Vermont and was painting a neighbor's house which is typical of the farm area (which happens to be his doctor's home). Sean is also an art professor at the University of Vermont and works in a variety of media.

1. Sean likes to tone his painting surface (Pastelbord) with a complementary color using watered down Holbien mat acrylic.
2. He then creates his drawing using Holbien black ink using a round brush and ammonia as his solvent. He extends his drawing to create value masses. He uses a quadrant grid to assist in his drawing.
3. He uses very bold strokes and works all over the painting slowly building up the entire painting being sure to maintain his value masses.
4. Sean works dark to light and hard to soft.

My final session was with Richard McKinley who I have been working with for over a year now. His session was on "Finishing Touches." As usual, Richard was very prepared and

organized. Although it had been building across the conference, Richard's session brought me to a big "Ah Ha!" Richard started by reviewing the steps one should take in setting up a painting.

1. Have a clear focus and concept for the painting
2. Use thumbnails to establish the best format to express the concept
3. Use notan to develop the design to best express the concept
4. Develop a solid value study that will express the concept
5. Create color studies to select the main color that will determine color harmony across the painting.

Richard's point was that it is the above steps that drive the "finishing touches" of a painting. When you have developed a painting that clearly expresses your focus or concept it will be because you have stayed true to your value study, color harmony, etc. The "Ah Ha" for me was that the preparatory steps are not just for set-up.....but should drive your thinking and actions all through the painting of the piece. The painting itself may drive modifications based on its needs.....but it still must be within the confines of the concept that you wished to express. Don't ask me why it took so long for this to sink in....but it did. Wow!!! I feel like I have reached a new plateau in my painting!

Thinking and talking art for four days with such a wide variety of people is so much fun, so gratifying, and so informative! Attending IAPS should be a must for all pastelists. I know I personally just can't wait for the Ninth Biennial IAPS Convention in 2011! I encourage you to join me!



Other Art Groups ...

AZ Plein Air Painters

The Arizona Plein Air Painters is established as a state-wide fellowship of artists who are dedicated to practicing and promoting the tradition of plein air painting. The organization works to protect public access to landscapes and historic areas within the State that are important to this tradition. The organization understands the importance of art education and seeks opportunities to form partnerships with private and government organizations to support and strengthen the arts. Members seek excellence in the pursuit of honestly interpreting the diversity of Arizona's landscapes, history, and cultures. Members strive to mentor emerging artists and share their expertise with fellow professional artists in order to maintain the highest standards of artistic endeavor. The organization sponsors local paint-outs and shows that provide opportunities for new artists to embrace painting from life. Annual state-wide shows and other events serve to showcase the beauty of Arizona, the excellence of member's artwork, and the importance of art to the quality of life. The art of APAP members, the partnership and educational programs they support, and the programs they conduct, will contribute significantly to capturing and documenting the beauty and history of Arizona.

This group has an established "paint out schedule at State Parks and Nature conservancies across the state, and welcomes APAA members to join or host events. Try these if you like a challenge. The paint-outs are timed events and competing artists vote for the top 3 pieces at the end of the event. Each of those monthly winners can then show their work at a selected venue in February next year. This year's was held at Mayo Clinic where several paintings sold. Even if you don't care to try your hand competing, it's still good camaraderie with talented artists supporting the beauty of Arizona.

The following is APAP's "paint out" schedule for the balance of 2009:

July 18th: Fool Hollow SP, 8-noon

Aug 8th: Roper Lake SP, 8-noon

Sept 19th Slide Rock SP (Apple Festival) 8-noon

Oct 3rd Riordan Mansion SP, 8-noon

Nov 29th Boyce Thompson Arboretum SP (Fall festival) 8-noon

For information on the paint outs please contact: Cindy Carrillo at cindylcarrillo@yahoo.com.

For more information on APAP and related events and opportunities visit: www.arizonapleinairpainters.com

For more information about the partnership between APAP and Arizona State Parks, to view an online gallery of past paint out winners, or to find out more about the parks themselves, please visit www.azstateparks.com.

Arizona Art Alliance

The most recent minutes from the AAA meeting included several topics of interest to our group. This meeting added a change in jurying requirements, and noted the most recent jurying deadline of June 30th. Discussion also centered around the economic impact on art sales, and some of the alternatives AAA is considering and recommending. These include a new fall art show venue (Indian School Street Fair), the Home and Garden Expo venues and related offerings, and a recommendation to consider smaller more affordable artworks. For more detailed info on any of these items, please visit the AAA website, www.azartalliance.com.

Mesa Arts Center

Upcoming community art events and opportunities for artists coming to Mesa Arts Center:

El Dia de los Muertos Celebration
October 31-November 1, 2009

Holiday Art & Music Festival – December 12-13, 2009

For information please contact: Courtney Tjaden
Coordinator of Festivals, Volunteers & Tour
Direct: 480.644.6627 Fax: 480.644.6503
Courtney.Tjaden@MesaArtsCenter.com



You've heard of FACEBOOK...

You're curious about BLOGS...

Well, fellow artists,
It's time to dive in now!
It's **CHEAP, FUN & EASY!**
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Facebook: http://artist.to.julia_patterson/
Art Blog: <http://juliapatt.blogspot.com>
Art Website: juliapattersonart.com

APAA Board 2009-2010

PRESIDENT:

Karen Budan
480-473-1752
budan@cox.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS:

Adrienne Kassel
623-363-6044
bonniecasette@yahoo.com
Co-Chairs:
Paulette Redmond
602-861-9615
paulette.redmond@cox.com
Joan Rand
480-836-8366
jrand05@cox.net

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: SHOWS

Co-Chairs:
Laura Black
623-362-9158
lauraartaz@cox.net
Sandra Ortega
602-371-1545
soinaz000@yahoo.com

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Paulette Redmond
602-861-9615
paulette.redmond@cox.com

TREASURER:

Ruth Philliben
480-783-6892
rphilliben@mac.com

CORRESPONDING SECRE- TARY:

Cecelia Nedlin
602-547-2163
art-n-soul@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Kathy Herranen
602-569-6209
kathyherranen@cox.net

WAYS AND MEANS:

Marsha Wright
623-561-0477
wrightthues@aol.com

SOCIAL:

Carol Peluso
602-992-2250
carolapeluso@cox.net
Martha Goodrich
602-687-7979
martha.a.goodrich@irs.gov

E-MAIL:

Barbara Lang
623-544-8406
bel58@cox.net

SIGNATURE HONORS, POINTS

Nancy Halabe
623-975-1849
halabel@cox.net

NEWSLETTER/HISTORIAN:

Gary Binder
480-656-8460
Gary.Binder@gdc4s.com
Julia Patterson
480-488-8548
Julia@writedesignaz.com

PUBLICITY:

Sandi Ciaramitaro
480-325-1945
tropical02@cox.net

IAPS LIAISON:

Rita Elkins
928-634-8623
ritaelkins@commspeed.net

AZ ART ALLIANCE REP:

Jean Hildebrant
480-529-9477
Jean.hildebrant@cox.net

WEBSITE MANAGER:

Julia Patterson
480-488-8548
Julia@writedesignaz.com

EDUCATION/WORKSHOPS:

Fred Davenport
480-730-5574
nemo9@webtv.net



The Upcoming Year

MONTH	ACTIVITIES	PROGRAM
July 09	Hiatus	
August 09	Hiatus	
September 6	Cycle One Art Challenge presented Artist of the Month Fountain Hills Open Exhibition	Digital Delights: Have all your questions answered about photographing your images, burning cd's, making jpgs, resizing them, etc.
October 4	Jurying for Fall Show Artist of the Month	No program – show jurying
November 1	Artist of the Month Fall Juried Membership Show	Cycle 2 Art Challenge Critique/Discussion
December 6	Cycle Two Art Challenge presented Artist of the Month	Christmas Social Gathering and Auction
January 3	Artist of the Month	
February 7	Artist of the Month Nominations Committee appointed	Cycle 2 Art Challenge Critique/Discussion
March 7	Cycle Three Art Challenge presented Artist of the Month Nominations Committee presents slate of candidates	
April 4	Jurying for Spring Show Artist of the Month Spring Juried Membership Show Election	No program – show jurying
May 2	Artist of the Year Installation of Officers	Cycle 3 Art Challenge Critique/Discussion

Please send your newsletter items to

Gary Binder

480-656-8460

Gary.Binder@gdc4s.com

OR

Julia Patterson

480-488-8548

Julia@writedesignaz.com

CHECK OUT THE NEW VIDEO PAGE ON THE APAA WEBSITE (www.azpaa.com).