



Newsletter

QUARTERLY
2010

Special Points of Interest:

- 2010 Juror of Selection and Awards: Frank Francese
- Henry Fukuhara 1913-2010
- "The Most Valuable Lesson Learned" by Eric Wiegardt

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Spring



The President's Message

By JoAnn Formia

It is that time again. I hope everyone is working on their entry for Watercolor West's 42nd Annual Open Juried Exhibition. I encourage you all to read the 2010 Prospectus thoroughly. The framing requirements are important and there is also a change in fees. Please note the additional fee for slide entries. Keep in mind when working on your entries that we are a *transparent* watercolor society.

Watercolor West is going through a few changes this year. For one, we have contracted with a professional shipping agent, *Orange County Fine Art Shipping*, to receive, store and return all shipped work. This will be a big change for us because for the past decade the National Watercolor Society has graciously allowed Watercolor West to use their building in San Pedro, California for receiving and storing the work submitted to our annual shows. Now, with the successful renovation of their facility, NWS will be holding their exhibits in their own space and can no longer store our paintings. So, on behalf of the Watercolor West Board of Directors and the Membership, I would like to extend a very BIG THANK YOU to the National Watercolor Society for their generosity and say CONGRATULATIONS to everyone who put in countless hours to get the building to this point.

I would like to welcome three new Members-at-Large who are coming on board to serve the membership. They are: Peggy Moore from Los Angeles, a member of Mid-Valley Art Association, Judy Todd from Seal Beach, a member of the Huntington Beach Art League and Teri Adams from Redlands, a member of the Redlands Art Association. I am very happy to have the opportunity to bring additional members to the board because I feel it is always an asset for our organization to have new opinions and fresh ideas.

We said goodbye to a fine artist this past January. We lost Henry Fukuhara on January 31st at the age of 96. I am sure he will be missed but we will always be reminded of him when we think of shapes, balance and dominance and Henry's quote "A Painting is Not a Painting Until it is Painted!" Thank you Henry.

Attention 2010 Exhibit Entrants

The mailing address was accidentally omitted from the Prospectus!

Please send your entry to Exhibition Chair:

Francesca Brayton, 3961 Toland Circle, Los Alamitos, CA 90720



Frank Francese



To view
more
of Frank
Francese's
work go to
his website
at
www.ffrancese.com



Calendar

Introducing Frank Francese

The 2010 Juror of Selection and Awards



Frank Francese NWS, TWSA Master, SDWS, WW, has been a professional artist since 1976. He achieved the groundwork for his profession while attending Western State College in Colorado.

He has published articles in Watercolor Magic, the Artist's Magazine and performed a demonstration for PBS in 2008. His awards in National and State exhibits are too numerous to list. He is a signature member in over eight organizations and has taught over 220 workshops in the U.S.A. He specializes in bold washes, landscapes and clear focused design.

Frank Francese will be the Juror of Selection and Awards for the 2010 Watercolor

West Annual Juried Exhibition that will be held in The City of Brea Art Gallery in Brea, California. He will discuss the accepted artist's paintings at his "Juror Seminar" that will be held on September 19th from 9am to 1pm. The attendees will get valuable insights from his expertise.

The exhibit will open on October 9th. Please join us for the opening reception that night from 5pm to 7pm. Just prior to the reception, from 3:30 to 5pm we will hold the Annual Meeting. After a brief business meeting including board elections, Tony Sheets will present what is sure to be a lively lecture entitled "Diversity in Art".



Dates to Remember

42nd Annual Juried Exhibition at the City of Brea Art Gallery

June 30	Entry submissions due (slide or digital)
Sun., Sept. 19th	Juror Seminar & Demonstration by Frank Francese, 9am to 1pm
Sat., Oct. 9th	Annual Meeting, 3:30 to 5pm; Opening Reception, 5 to 7pm
Sat., Oct. 16th	Tony Sheets Demonstration, 10am to 3pm
Sat., Nov. 6th	Geri Medway Demonstration, 10am to 3pm
Sat., Dec. 4th	Chris Sullivan Demonstration, 10am to 3pm
Sun., Dec. 19th	Pong Apinyavat Demonstration, 12pm to 5pm

(Hand delivered paintings must be picked up on Sunday, Dec 19th between 5pm and 6pm or Monday, Dec. 20th, 11am to 12:00 Noon.)

Urban Landscape In Watercolor

A Film Review by Jim Salchak

Last fall at the NWS Annual Exhibition I stood for the longest time in front a large watercolor by John Salminen. The subject was a street on a hill in San Francisco that had a wonderful feeling of light and atmosphere and was full of subdued detail. It was entitled Winter Light. I was thinking WOW, how did he do that!

John Salminen is certainly the master of the urban landscape and has many top awards for his work. When I saw that Creative Catalyst Productions had produced a DVD workshop featuring John painting an urban landscape I had to get it.

The film starts with John in New York City shooting reference photos in Times Square. He relates how he tries to compose images through the viewfinder of his SLR camera using a telephoto lens. This lens lets him capture people in action from long distances and compresses space so things appear more like flat shapes.

For his painting John chose a night scene in Times Square with many lights and neon signs that are reflecting on a wet street along with car taillights. The composition of the reference required little modification except for a dark silhouette of a police officer in the right foreground, which he will replace with a woman with an umbrella from another reference photo.

He demonstrated how to introduce a figure from another reference into the scene so its

size and location were correct using the rules of perspective. Using a simple grid system he first drew the figure and then the complex night scene on to his watercolor paper. The drawing appears quite complex as John draws the shapes of the various value shapes in the reference photos. He explains that grid system allows him to keep accurate proportions as he draws.

In this DVD workshop we get to see the entire painting process as John provides a running dialog on what he is doing. He continuously solves design problems by modifying colors and values. There are many good lessons on color, value, texture and making transitions from this master of the medium. We see how he uses careful masking and pays close attention to value relationships. He is a master of grays that he creates with complementary colors placing them against areas of intense color to create glowing passages. He uses a mouth atomizer to tone down conflicting areas and to also create texture. He explains how he is using the shimmering reflections to draw the viewer's eye into the painting.

This is a great DVD workshop that is two and one-half hours long. You can also download and print the reference photos, the finished painting, close up of details showing the reference, drawing and finished painting and a lesson on perspective.



Film Review



To purchase the
DVD visit

www.ccpvideos.com

or call toll free
1-877-464-2228.

You can see a short
trailer of the DVD
by going to the
website.

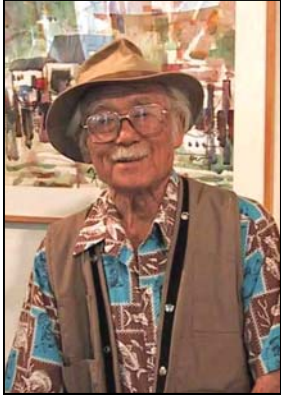


F. Y. I.

For Your Information:

A CD with all the paintings from the last Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition can be purchased for \$30. A catalog will arrive with your CD, for identification purposes. You will need a digital projector to show the CD to your group or class.

To order, please send check made out to Watercolor West to:
Watercolor West, Attn: Exhibition CD, P.O. Box 213, Redlands, CA 92373



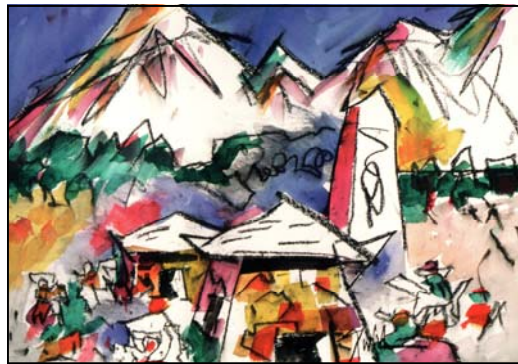
Henry Fukuhara

*Sadly, Henry's wife
Fujiko Fukuhara,
passed away
at 93 years
of age on
March 2, 2010.*

*She and Henry are
survived by their
loving children,
grandchildren,
great-
grandchildren,
nieces, nephews,
brothers and
sisters-in-laws and
other relatives.*

Henry Fukuhara

1913 - 2010



Manzanar 2001

Artist and teacher Henry Fukuhara passed away on January 31, 2010 at the age of 96. He was one of the living legends of watercolor and had been honored by Watercolor West and the National Watercolor Society. He had been the subject of feature articles in all the major artist magazines and other publications. His paintings have been seen in many books on watercolor.

Henry Fukuhara was born in Los Angeles in 1913. In high school he developed a strong interest in art and studied briefly at the Otis Art Institute. His work progressed to the point that at the age of 20 he had an exhibit of his woodblock prints at the Los Angeles County Art Museum. But his budding art career was cut short by World War II. In 1942 Henry and his wife Fuji and their two small daughters were transported to Manzanar, the Japanese American Detention Center located near Lone Pine. Released in 1944, the Fukuhara family was relocated to Long Island, New York. On the East Coast Henry joined his father and brother in establishing a wholesale floral business. Working in the business and raising a family that now included another daughter and a son left no time for serious painting. However, Henry visited the museums and galleries in New York City as often as possible. In 1972, Henry began painting with Edgar Whitney's Saturday Group. Whitney was an

inspirational teacher known for his teaching of the principles of design. Soon Henry had the opportunity to take workshops with Robert E. Wood, George Post, and Rex Brandt. However, it was Carl Molno, a teacher of modern art that had the greatest influence on Fukuhara's painting. His innovative teaching caused Henry to go beyond just reporting and to develop a unique personal viewpoint. His work matured quickly and awards and gallery representation soon followed. In 1981 he conducted his first workshop in New York City. Henry discovered that he enjoyed teaching and many workshops followed in many parts of the country. In 1987 Henry and his family moved back to Santa Monica, California where he continued to teach and mentor many artists.

In 1998, Fukuhara organized a group of 25 artists to travel to the Manzanar War Relocation Center, now a National Historic Site, and the Alabama Hills to paint the magnificent scenery he experienced when he and his family were interned at the camp. This was the beginning of the Annual Henry Fukuhara Watercolor Workshops. Each year the number of artists increased until over 80 were attending including many well known artists and teachers. At the Alabama Hills and Manzanar locations Henry would give a short lecture and do a demonstration. At the end of each day he would do a critique of the day's work. Due to his failing health and the loss of his eyesight Henry had not been able to participate for the past four years but remained involved in the planning. The 13th workshop will take place in May, 2010.

Henry was a very generous person who loved to teach others and enjoyed hearing about the success of his students or colleagues. His habit was to send a note containing a little watercolor sketch that was like getting a special award. He will be missed by many.

“The Most Valuable Lesson I Learned was...”

Insights from the Studio of Eric Wiegardt

The question: “What is the most important thing I ever learned” has caused me to stop and rethink what I thought was going to be an easy question to answer. There are some painting fundamentals that were drilled into my neophyte skull in art school that have proven to be very helpful; such as, develop drawing and observation skills, make sure the lights are definitely separated from the darks, don't over stroke the pigments, keep my values limited, and color can be anything as long as it is reasonable, but my value pattern must be strong. But one small piece of advice that has proven to be instrumental in my career came not from my mentor, Irving Shapiro, but from the legendary Bill Parks, my life drawing teacher. I am sure Irv said the same thing to me many times, but the time I heard it from Bill Parks it stuck. I guess I was ready to hear it at that point. (I was probably grinding my teeth over a painting problem and was consequently fertile ground for some help.)

He said, “You need to have fun in the painting process. It will show up in your painting”. This simple statement has kept me from futilely chasing techniques and styles of painting that have no bearing on my painting personality. As much as I have enjoyed what others are doing, I regard with the highest priority whether or not their insight would be fun for me. Simply, if I don't like doing a painting, it is going to show up. I can't hide it.

This driving cause for my work has sustained me through nearly 30 years of painting with-



Calla Lillies II 22x30

out burning out. It is the single purpose for me getting up the next day and going back to the easel, even if my paintings have fallen short and failed. It's got to be fun, or else I'm not going to do it. The only alternative is a frustrating painting process exempt from the uplifting creative experience I seek; one I will wilt under and be the death of me as an artist.

As I look over a blank sheet of watercolor paper with the anticipation of starting a new painting, the criterion I have set for myself is: Is this a subject matter I would enjoy doing? What technique will give me the most pleasure in executing it? How can I get a thrilling ride out of it, even if I ruin the painting? What fun, unexpected stroke, wash or pattern can I weave in the painting, even if reality doesn't call for it?

So my friends, have fun painting!



Eric Wiegardt



*Thanks to
Eric Wiegardt
for his
contribution
and his
creativity!*

*You can see more
of his work
online at:
Wiegardtgallery
@centurytel.com*



Sneak Peek!!! The 2009 Demonstration artists have been selected!

Frank Francese will show and discuss images of the selected paintings for the 2010 show as well as demonstrate some of his painting techniques on Sunday, September 19th. Tony Sheets, who will also be the special speaker at the Annual Meeting on October 9th, will kick off the demonstration series on Saturday, October 16th. Geri Medway will follow on November 6th; Chris Sullivan will demonstrate on December 4th and Pong Apinyavat will wrap up the 2010 Demonstration Series on December 19th.



Criteria for Member News

Please note that the following items may be included in this column:

- Awards in Exhibitions
- Publications
- Solo or two artist exhibitions
- Small group invitational exhibitions
- Serving on juries
- Additions to permanent collections

The following items will NOT be included:

- Admissions of an entry to a juried exhibition
- Workshop listings
- Member News items achieved more than six months before submission

Sending the information:

The preferred method is via e-mail for both pictures and text. Use "Member News" in the subject line.

Contact us at web site:
www.watercolorwest.org

Summer issue deadline is July 2, 2010

Thank You!

Member News Congratulations!

David Drummond was awarded Third Place in the 35th Annual International Miniature Art Show in January 2010. His work was published in *Art Journey New Mexico: 104 Artists' Perspectives*, December 2009, Gallery Guide, FW Publishing.

Roland Lee had paintings selected for Northlight Books "Splash 11" (spring 2010 release) and "Painters of Utah's Canyons and Deserts." He was also featured in Oct 2009 issue of "Western Art Collector Magazine" and was interviewed on National Public Radio's show "All Things Considered." He presented a one-man-show at the Mission Gallery in St. George, UT Nov 2009 and will present a solo exhibit at Zion National Park Museum in June 2010.

Reiko Hervin's painting was selected as one of 10 finalists of 'Flowers & Gardens' Challenge No.56 in the International Artist Magazine April/May Issue 2010.

Fealing Lin's watercolors are currently on display through April 17th at the Crain Art Gallery, Crowell Public Library in San Marino, CA.

JoAnn Formia had her entry "Southern California Coast" accepted into the AWS 143rd Annual International Exhibition. The exhibition opens April 6, 2010 and continues through May 2, 2010.

Dan Burt won the Erickson Family Award at the Signature Member AWS Exhibition at the Fallbrook Art Center in Fallbrook, CA. He also won the Windsor Newton Merchandise Award at the 61st Annual Texas Watercolor Society Exhibit and had a painting accepted into the AWS International Exhibit and their Travel Show. He will have a solo exhibit at the 1550 Gallery in Kerrville, TX in April 2010.

Henry Fukuhara Workshop Available on DVD

At the 2005 workshop, Sacramento artist Woody Hansen video recorded Henry Fukuhara's pre-demo lecture and painting demonstration at Alabama Hills and Manzanar. He later edited and produced two DVDs, one for each day. The DVDs are divided into chapters for ease of moving through the presentations. These are not highly refined studio-like presentations but reflect the outdoor workshop environment that existed. Those of you who love Henry's work will surely enjoy watching Henry "Go for it."

Woody Hansen gave the rights to the DVDs to Henry who has graciously allowed Watercolor West to reproduce them and make them available to our membership for a donation of \$25.00 for the two DVD set. To obtain the DVD set, send a check for \$27.00 (includes \$2.00 for packaging and postage) payable to Watercolor West to:

*Watercolor West c/o Jim Salchak
18220 Hoffman Ave.
Cerritos, CA 90703*

Patrons Award *An Invitation to Participate*

Watercolor West wishes to invite everyone to contribute to our Patrons of Watercolor West Award for the 2010 Annual Exhibition. Those who contribute a minimum of \$50 to the fund by September 10th will have their names published in the catalog as Patrons. Please make checks payable to Watercolor West with a notation that it is for the Patrons Award.

*Mail to Watercolor West c/o Jim Salchak, 18220 Hoffman Ave. Cerritos, CA 90703.
Thanks!*

Member News *Continued*

Jim Salchak will have a one-man show at the Schroeder Gallery in Orange, California. The opening reception is on May 1. Jim will be one of the jurors of selection for the next NWS Annual Exhibition that will take place in the fall.

Brenda Swenson's painting "Roof Top and Spires, Prague" was accepted into the TWASA (Transparent Watercolor Society of America) show. Her painting "The Forbidden Fruit" received Special Honors at the Valley Watercolor of Society juried exhibit. She has also been honored with being selected as the featured artist at the San Dimas Festival of Western Arts this April.

New Members *Welcome !*



Sustaining Associates

David Castle, Denver, CO
 Lisa Flahive, Las Vegas, NV
 Kristi Grussendorff, N. Logan, UT
 Desiree Habicht, Riverside, CA
 Lynnett O'Bryan, Rossmoor, CA
 Kaaren Oreck, Madison, WI
 J. Lynn Peterson, Roseburg, OR
 Pete Roberts, Orange, CA
 Jan Vander Linden, West Des Moines, IA
 Lasella Christine Vittone, Temecula, CA
 Shirley Winslow, Las Vegas, NV



Watercolor West Membership

Sustaining Associate requires only an appreciation of purely transparent watercolor and the payment of \$30 annual dues.

Juried Member requires at least one painting accepted and exhibited in WW Annual Juried Exhibit and the payment of \$30 annual dues

Signature Member requires three paintings accepted and exhibited in WW Annual Juried Exhibits and the payment of \$35 dues.

Dues are payable February 1 and delinquent April 1. Watercolor West will send out a dues notification on approximately January 1.

All member categories receive the newsletters and catalog of the Annual Juried Exhibit. Only Signature Members may use the name or initials of the society in the signing of their paintings.

Contact us at web site:
watercolorwest.org

2010 Purchase Selection Opportunity

Every year, Watercolor West invites art patrons to participate in the annual exhibit's Purchase Selection Program. This year, we are making this opportunity available to all Watercolor West members.

You will have the opportunity to preview the show on Jury Day (Monday, September 20), and be able to select a painting of your choice from the eligible paintings on display. You will then be able to purchase that painting for \$700.00 (plus sales tax). (The Brea Art Center does not take commission from Purchase Awards.)

Most of the paintings will be for sale. You will be one of a select group that will have first pick and the painting you select will be recognized in the exhibit and in the show catalog with your name as a Purchase Selection Award for the artist. You will also be getting a beautiful piece of original artwork at a very reasonable price.

Please contact Joseph Stoddard (jstoddard@skadesign.com) if you would like to be a part of the Watercolor West 2010 Purchase Selection Program.

Important Notice: *Where's my name?*

If your name does not appear in the 2010 Directory of Members it is because your dues were not received by April 15th. To get back on the membership list, mail your dues to:

Jim Salchak, Membership Chair, 18220 Hoffman Ave. Cerritos, CA 90703.

Thanks!



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Newsletter Spring Issue 2010

Watercolor West Board of Directors 2009 and 2010

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Tom Fong, Exhibition Screening Chair	Julian Bloom, Special Assistant
Sharon Rachal, Annual Meeting Program Chair	Joseph Stoddard, Member at Large
Peggy Moore, Member at Large	Gladys Nichols, Member at Large
Judy Todd, Member at Large	Teri Adams, Member at Large

Watercolor West Contacts

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Publicity Chair, Historian and Slide Librarian. Robin St. Louis, 76952 Sheffield Ct. Palm Desert, CA 92211

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www.watercolorwest.org