# CLEAR CHOICES

The purposes of the TWSA are to advance the stature of transparent watercolor as a major painting medium and to foster the appreciation and interest of both the artist and the viewing public in the medium.

TWSA is recognized as the preeminent transparent watercolor society. The society offers services and education and endeavors to further recognize, expand awards and exposure to an ever-growing membership of professionals, amateurs, students and patrons.

# Fall Newsletter 2016

## 2017 Calendar

May 6 41st TWSA Exhibit Opens

June 5 - 9 Jean Pederson workshop 'Luscious Wet Portraiture'

June 5 - 9 Bruce Handford workshop 'Light & Shadow in Rural/Cityscape'

## Presidents Message

Welcome back to another year with the Transparent Watercolor Society of America. Our 2016 exhibit although now over, was a varied and outstanding show. We again distributed \$24000 to



our award winners who displayed exemplary works. I hope you were able to view it in person.

The Celebrate Watercolor Dinner in June was a huge success with about 100 people in attendance. During the dinner, we highlighted the works of our 5 new Distinguished Master artists. It was a June 10 "Celebrate Watercolor" Demonstrations and Awards Dinner

June 12 - 16 Jean Pederson workshop 'Wet Glazing Stills and Florals'

June 12 - 16 Bruce Handford workshop 'Bold & Fresh Water/Landscape'

Workshops: \$525 for members & \$560 for nonmembers

August 6 41st TWSA Exhibit Closes

## Distinguished Masters Award

Here are the FIVE artists who were honored at this year's TWSA "Celebrate Watercolor" event.

The Board decided that on this our 40th Anniversary,



we would acknowledge the artists who have had their work accepted into over 20 of our 40 annual juried Exhibitions. memorable evening with new friend ships made and old ones renewed. Remember, anyone can sign up for the awards dinner. You do not have to be one of the accepted artists to join in the camaraderie.

Frank Eber and Keiko Tanabe ran successful workshops for the membership in June. Plein air was our focus and many of you enjoyed the opportunity to learn from some of the best. Kenosha Public Museum once again played host to artists and students from all over the county. We are lucky to have such a partner in the museum.

In this newsletter, you will find our 2017 Call For Entry. We have included a link to CaFe for online submission from October 1 2016 through January 31 2017. The board of directors decided to allow artists more time after the Holidays to submit their work. We hope you take advantage of the extended entry period

TWSA Master Watercolorists Jill Witty and Lenox Wallace have written an article on transparency available on our website. We often receive questions on transparency and associated issues. Find the link here in our Fall Newsletter. Both welcome any questions you may have.

In June of 2017 TWSA offers the watercolor instruction of Jean Pederson and Bruce Handford. Sign up is now open via our website, watercolors.org. Please check out the biographies and plan to join us.

Membership in TWSA allows you to exhibit your work, possibly earn a monetary award, take workshops from accomplished watercolor artists and above all make new friends. We all continue to learn and grow as artists. TWSA is here to help you build skills and seeks to provide a supportive



Cheng-Khee Chee

entries: Cheng-Khee Chee (33 of our 40)!

We saw a presentation of all of these works at the dinner. It not only represented these artist's careers and their unique artistic development, but also their perseverance and dedication to this medium.

This also adds another level to our signature status.



They are Kent Addison, Mark

Mehaffey, Dean

Mitchell, John Salminen and with the most

accepted



3 acceptances -"TWSA" after signature on paintings.

10 acceptances -"**TWSA,MA**" for "Master"

20 acceptances -"TWSA,DM"

Mark Mehaffey and John Salmínen

for "Distinguished Master" after their signature on paintings.

We're proud to have these tremendous artists entering our exhibitions, and their careers prose that there IS a way to be known in this painting realm...

Congratulations!!



Dean Mitchell

community for your growth in transparent watercolor.

Pat Rodell President Transparent Watercolor Society of America

## 2017 TWSAE xhibition

It's that time! Which of your latest works of art will you be entering in the 2017 TWSA Exhibition? Our jurors/ workshop instructors for this year are true masters of the medium, Jean Pederson, CSPWC and Bruce Handford, TWSA MS.

On October 1st, the CaFÉ online website will have the 2017 Transparent Watercolor Society of America 41st National Exhibition Call for Entry open and ready for entries through the deadline of January 31st, 2017 @ www.callforentry.org. We will also have a direct link to our CaFÉ Call For Entry on our TWSA website, www.watercolors.org. You may still print the prospectus from the TWSA website to use as a guide for TWSA requirements and CaFÉ image size restrictions. We only accept entries online.

The most efficient way to cover your dues and enter the exhibition? When entering the exhibition on CaFÉ you can pay your annual dues at the same time! If this is your first time using CaFÉ , they will require you to register (free). Otherwise, use the same account you opened in previous years.

There will be two COUPON CODES listed on both the TWSA website and in the online information for the CaFÉ

## 2016 Workshops and Demos

Keiko Tanabe's Workshop and Demo







Frank Eber's Workshop and Demo

Call For Entry. Life members use their COUPON CODE for a 100% discount. If you are not a Life member, and have paid your dues prior to entering the exhibition (either through the website or regular mail) the second COUPON CODE is for you. It will give you a \$40 discount, the entry fee is all you pay. One image is \$10; two images will be \$15.

Coupon codes are entered at the very end of the process. Have your code written down prior to finalizing your entry so you will not have to back track in the process. You will not be entering a credit card number until after you have finalized your entry. There is no need to be concerned about paying for anything mistakenly.

PLEASE use the correct code if you qualify for one. We will be monitoring and disqualify anyone who uses a code who is not a Life member, or who has not prepaid.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need any help at TWSAexhibition@aol.com.

\*Notice the new deadline of January 31st!! The efficiency of online entry has allowed us to extend the deadline!!

We look forward to another successful exhibition in 2017!!

Sheryl Fletcher Coon 2nd V.P./TWSA Exhibition Chair 815-941-9555

2016 "Celebrate Watercolor" Dinner and Awards







A great time was had by all!

Thank you Keiko and Frank!



## TWSA Fall 2016 Member News

Studies in Watercolor, a book on the work of Gladys Becker, is now in the collection of the Harold Washington Public Library in Chicago. Two of her watercolors, *Life and Death* and *50th Wedding Anniversary*, will be on display at the Paper Rose by Jean Pederson, CSPWC and recipient of the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal



## Coming in 2017

Transparent Watercolor Society of America presents-Jurors & Workshops at the

Kenosha Public Museum Jean Pederson, CSPWC Bruce Hanford, TWSA MS



Tangled Vine by Bruce Hanford, TWSA MASTER

for more information go to www.watercolors.org

## TRANSPARENCY: AN ON-GOING DISCUSSION

...words and ideas contributed by John Salminen, Catherine Wilson Smith, Tom Francesconi, Gerald Brommer, Nia Pirnat , Lenox Wallace and Donna Jill Witty

"...white paper showing through a transparent wash is the closest approximation to light in all the media, and light is the loveliest thing that exists." This is how Edgar Whitney describes and extols the virtues of transparency. Cheng Khee Chee expands on Whitney's definition by describing the effects of transparent washes. "The flow of washes possess a strong evocative power. The interpenetration of colors creates mysterious precipitations and nuances." Respected artist and teacher, Frank Webb, describes luminosity as "...the painting's Austin Irving Library Branch from October 1 to December 30.

Dan Burt was one of 34 artists included in the North Light Book, *Watercolor Masters and Legends* by Betsy Dillard Stroud.

A painting of his was included in the Joint International Small Image Exhibition that was held first by the Shenzhen International Water Biennial in three different Chinese cities from February through June 2016. The painting was shown next at the National Watercolor Society Gallery in San Pedro, California in July and August 2016.

In May, Burt won the Joe Miller Award at the 67th Annual Texas Watercolor Society National Exhibition in New Braunfels, Texas.

Brian Gordy will be one of two featured artists at the historic Brown County Art Guild during the month of October.

Horsing Around with Australian Sea Dragons by Georgia Kandiko was juried into the 48th Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition.

J. M. Littleton received the Excellence in Figure Award in the 2016 Pennsylvania Watercolor Society 37th International Juried Exhibition for her painting *See Us in Our Shadows*. The exhibition was held at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art in Millersburg, Pennsylvania.

#### Dan Simoneau

will have a solo exhibition of his male figurative paintings in acrylic and watercolor at the Kenosha Public Museum in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The show, titled *Bell'uomo* will be on display in the Touhey(east) Gallery from June 10th, 2017 until August 20th, 2017.

Watercolor artist Carol Curtis is exhibiting 42 paintings at the Murfreesboro City Hall Rotunda from September 27 to November 24.

We would love to hear from you. Please send your news of awards and achievements and upcoming solo shows to jean.tobin@uwc.edu and please label your email "TWSA news."

Sorry, but we can't include information about local classes, nor will we be including images of watercolors.

ability to give off light. It generally derives from the light within and beneath - such as the white of watercolor paper under paint."

The Transparent Watercolor society of America is dedicated to advancing the stature of and fostering appreciation of transparent watercolor. And while this may sound simple, it is becoming increasingly complex. In the past, our prospectus has listed what we won't allow in the show in our attempt to encourage purely transparent watercolors. As new products appear, however, this list becomes longer and more unmanageable.

The definition of 'transparent' from the Webster Dictionary states: "Having the property of transmitting rays of light through its substance". By simplifying our concept of what a transparent painting should be, we can place our trust in the final screening committee to guarantee continued high standards.

## WHAT MAKES A PAINTING TRANSPARENT?

All watercolor pigments applied in a transparent manner allow light to penetrate the layers of glazes and reflect back through the pigments from the paper below. The whites are brilliant paper left unpainted. This light, reflecting off the white of the paper, makes the medium work.

White paint is by its very nature opaque, not transparent; it covers up what is underneath. It also permanently changes the surface of the area it has covered and its use can be both noticeable and unattractive. No white paint is accepted. Artists are required to preserve the white of the paper's surface wherever a white statement is intended.

While white paint interferes with the natural transparency of the medium, the use of transparent watercolor paint includes pigments classified as 'opaque', such as the cadmiums and others which are acceptable as long as they are applied largely in a transparent manner. The focus on the way paint is applied to the paper, 'in a transparent manner', is to allow the white paper to create luminosity rather than, 'in an opaque manner', which obscures the reflected light. This shifts the emphasis from a discussion of pigment to the way in which pigment is applied. In practical terms, if the texture of the paper can be seen through a dark area of the painting, or there is an undulation of value or color(s) within it, then it is not 'opaque'. However, if the area shines, then the light is reflecting off of the pigment and not from the paper underneath.

## WHATIS NOT ALLOWED ?

TWSA Prospectus Guidelines for all submissions state: "Transparent watercolor applied in a transparent manner on a single sheet of 100% rag or cotton paper which is free of pigment and/or embedded materials"

The list of Unacceptable materials and techniques include (but are not limited to):

White Paint Gesso or any other priming Acrylic Gouache Ink

# Check out our website for downloads

You can download our membership form, newsletter, workshop application, or dinner invitation from our website: <u>www.watercolors.org.</u>

We would love to hear from you!

#### Our address has changed!

Transparent Watercolor Society of America 1288 Summit Avenue Suite 107 #204 Oconomowoc, WI 53066

We always look forward to hearing from you!



Privacy by SafeSubscribe<sup>SM</sup> For Email Marketingyou can trust Pastel Metallic / Iridescent paint Collage or surface constructions Embossing / Varnishing Yupo / Other types of paper not listed as acceptable

Use of digital images or enhancements (this means that you may not print an image onto your paper and then apply paint over it. Sounds ludicrous, I know, but it has been attempted.) Use of any pencil to be for planning marks only

TWSA recognizes a distinction between the terms 'transparent watercolor' and the broader designation 'water-based media' which refers to any media that is resoluble in water. Modern technology has made possible many new products which fall into the 'water-based media' category. There are innumerable watercolor societies that provide opportunities to exhibit water-based mediums in all their diversity; yet, there exist only a few societies whose unique purpose is to preserve and present transparent watercolor as a major media. We are one of those societies.

If you have a question we have not covered, please contact us!

Lenox Wallace and Donna Jill Witty

TWSA email: info@watercolors.org

This information will be permanently on the website as a reference for anyone who needs it.

http://watercolors.org/anexplanationoftransparency.html