

# News from the Palette

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**April 2018** 

# **BRUCE ELLIOTT** .... Interview by Leah Schwartzman

As many of you know Lane Downs, who has been the volunteer photographer for the Guild for nigh on 15 years, moved to Montgomery, AL in the summer of 2017. Thus began the Guild's search for someone who could and would step up and volunteer to take on this very important responsibility so we could continue to provide the very popular service to our members. Enter, Bruce Elliott, a longtime member of the Guild.

In addition to volunteering his time as a photographer he also volunteers time on the finance committee. Bruce is a very warm and friendly addition to our team of volunteers and it has been fun getting to know him. We welcome Bruce and appreciate his generous contribution of time to the Guild. We would like to share a little information about Bruce, with all of you, so y'all can get to know him too.



Although, Bruce was introduced to and joined the Guild about 15 years ago; a result of taking classes from Larry Downs at LSU, it was not until his retirement 3 years ago that he was able to garner time to follow his artistic interests and become active in the Guild. Just about the time Lane was planning to move, we discovered Bruce had some experience in photography and had some time to spare... the rest is history.

Bruce was born in Tulsa, OK and graduated from OSU with a mechanical engineering degree. He satisfied a deep desire to travel by embarking on a career in the petrochemical industry and has traveled extensively ... Canada, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and points in North America. Finally, putting roots down in Baton Rouge in the early 90's, Bruce continued his career, using Baton Rouge as his home base.



Bruce says he has always been interested in the arts and found pleasure in drawing/sketching. Since childhood. When he and wife, Suzanne, became the proud parents of a baby girl, Janet, in 1978, he bought his first 35mm camera. His interest in photographing his family grew to include photographing wildlife in the Pacific Northwest and the Rocky Mountains. A determined self-taught photographer learning through books, magazines, photography clubs and trial/error, he was soon winning awards for his wildlife photos in Colorado and Michigan.

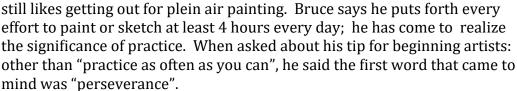
Throughout his life he also carried an ever growing interest in painting and has ventured into other art journeys; learning about and working with a variety of art mediums including, charcoal, graphite, pastel, watercolor and oils. Encouraged by a buddy from work whom he ventured out into the countryside with, easels in hand, he discovered his enjoyment of plein air painting with oils. He quickly found

out that the base knowledge of color, composition etc. he had learned in his photography, translated over to

his endeavors in oil painting and other mediums. In addition to his interest in plein air painting, Bruce is currently pursuing a path in oil portraiture painting. Although, he enjoys pastels because of the organic feel of the medium in his hands..."there is no brush standing between me and the art", he says ... his preferred medium at this time is oils. He said he was drawn to oils "back in the day"... before the materials became odorless... because he liked the earthy smell of the oils. He also enjoys working in oils because the painting remains workable for an extended period of time.

While living in the Rocky Mountains he would often venture to the many "ghost towns" for plein air painting sessions. He could always find inspi-

ration outdoors to combat "painter's block". Today Bruce has a room in his home dedicated as an art studio but, he



WELCOME, BRUCE! And thank you for the generous donation of your time supporting the mission of Art Guild of Louisiana.

# **Ponderings from the President**

Recently several people have asked me: what I have been painting, when was the last time I painted and the answer is always the same ..." my! I haven't painted a thing lately...I did finish a painting last fall....I have just been so busy!" Have you heard yourself say the same thing? Yet, I know some fabulous women artists who raised a family...children and a husband all vying for their time, or worked full time at a demanding job outside the home. There seems to be no end to the cleaning/cooking, the activities, the schoolwork and the list goes on... yet these women found time to paint on a regular basis to develop their artistic skills. Clearly, there are adjustments that need to be made in my life to make time for art ...for although being President of this AGL takes time and I do enjoy every minute of it....it certainly does not require as much time as running a home/family (or my previous job). For the artist, being able to paint...to create...to do that thing that makes your heart happy is as important for one's well-being ,as eating nutritious food. and getting a good night rest. The realization of the significance of art/creating art —doing something that makes us happy from the



cance of art/creating art —doing something that makes us happy from the inside —gives us the strength and cognition to accomplish all of our other tasks to the best of our ability. So, one of

my few new year's resolutions for 2018 was to make time to paint. So I did a little research. And, if YOU don't seem to be able to find the time to fulfill your inner desire to create art...to allow yourself to do the thing that just makes your heart happy ... to smear a little paint on a sheet of paper or canvas... following are a few tips for you (and me) from artists who have faced and I assume conquered, at least temporarily, the issue of "finding" time for painting.

You will never "find" time for anything. If you want time you must "make" it. .....Charles Buxton

# TIPS FOR FINDING/MAKING TIME TO PAINT

- 1) Make painting time an official "appointment" on your calendar ... AND STICK TO IT! Give it the same dedication that you would any other appointment.
- 2) If things around the house distract you ... get out the house. Go paint where you laundry isn't calling your name and you can't see the dust bunnies. "Wink wink" open studio is Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (soon) and Sunday afternoon. No distractions there, only other artists...yay!! Connect with other artists, get feedback, learn new tips. Find a plein air group to meet up with.
- 3) It doesn't take 4 hours to be beneficial....half hour sketches, with or without paint are very fulfilling and count as practice. The half hour challenge helps loosen up strokes and kick start creativity.
- 4) On the other hand no one says one should finish a painting in a sitting. Particularly if you have a space where you can leave most of your supplies out for easy access stop for 15 minutes once or twice during the day to just "tweak" a painting that you are working on.
- 5) Wake up 15-20 minutes early, get a cup of coffee/tea and head straight for your art ... sketch...study a painting you are working on....read that article in the art magazine of your choice ... or find that new technique you read about recently and spend 20-30 minutes practicing it.
- 6) Can't find anything to paint in 20 minutes/30 minutes ...google 20/30 minute painting challenge ... they are out there just waiting for you (and me).

If you have some tips that you would like to share, on how you make time to paint, in your busy world, please email them via the AGL contact page on the website: artguildlouisiana.org, attention Leah.

# **ART OPPORTUNITIES**

# New Orleans Art Association — Call for Art

The New Orleans Art Association is having a National Show in October 2018. \$5,000 in cash awards will be given. The judge/juror is Qiang Huang, signature member of Oil Painters of America. The show is open to all media except reproductions, prints, photography, videos, crafts, jewelry, three-dimensional (3D) works, textiles, fiber art, collages, montages, and any computer-generated elements. A prospectus and entry is available at <a href="https://www.showsubmit.com">www.showsubmit.com</a> beginning April 1, 2018.

## **Art Melt -- Baton Rouge — Call for Art**

Forum 35 is accepting entries for this year's Art Melt, through May 15 forum35.org/ArtMelt Open only to Louisiana residents Art Melt is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year and is noted as Louisiana's largest multimedia, juried art exhibit. All art must be original pieces produced within the last two years. Accepted artwork will be displayed to the public and available for sale in the Art Melt exhibit from July 21 to Aug. 23 in the Capitol Park Museum gallery downtown. Gallery viewing is free to the public on July 21, the Art Melt's opening day. After July 21, gallery viewing will be available during regular museum hours as part of the regular museum admission fee.

# **49TH RIVER ROAD SHOW CALL FOR ART**

The Art Guild of Louisiana, previously Louisiana Art and Artist Guild is proud to announce the 49<sup>th</sup> national RIVER ROAD SHOW exhibit will be held at the Louisiana State Archives Building, 3851 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge Louisiana, September 4<sup>th</sup> until September 28, 2018.

We are honored to have the very sought after watercolor painter, author and instructor Iain Stewart as our juror and judge for the show. Iain is signature member of the National Watercolor Society and the American Watercolor Society. He has won numerous national and international awards for his works and has been featured in numerous magazine across the world.

He maintains a studio in Opelika, Alabama but travels throughout the United States and Europe conducting watercolor workshops.

For details and requirements in the prospectus visit our website: <a href="www.artguildlouisiana.org/river-road-show-prospectus/">www.artguildlouisiana.org/river-road-show-prospectus/</a>

### \*\*\*IMPORTANT DATES\*\*\*

Deadline for submission of entries: June 13, 2018 (postmarked)

Accepted Entries Posted: July 14, 2018

Shipped artwork delivery deadline: August 15, 2018 Hand delivered artwork received: August 30, 2018 Reception/Awards Presentation: September 20, 2018

Pick up hand delivered work/return shipped work: September 28, 2018

In conjunction with the River Road Show, AGL will host a 3 day watercolor workshop conducted by Iain Stewart at the Studio in the Park. Because Iain is a popular instructor and registrations have already started coming in we suggest you register early. Details for the workshop can be found at <a href="https://www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops">www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops</a>

## **MEMBER NEWS**

#### **Judi Betts**

All of you who know Judi Betts, know she is not restricted by boundaries in painting or in life.. A talented artist full of "joie de vivre", she is always out there making beautiful art and sharing it with the rest of the world. Judi was recently awarded the Margaret M . Martin Memorial Award in the American Watercolor Society 's 151st International Exhibition. The wonderful watercolor painting that earned the prestigious award is "Secret Shadows" and will he on exhibit, April 9-28, at the Salmagundi Club in New York City; a center for fine art since 1871.





## **Betty Efferson**

The Pastel Journal held their 19th Pastel 100 Competition and chose the top 100 artist with over 2,500 entries in five categories. Betty won a third place in the ABSTRACT CATEGORY with her painting "Up and Away" You can find the find the winning pastel painting and an article about Betty, her techniques and thoughts on page 76 in the April 2018 edition of the Pastel Journal.

Pastel Journal writes; "Whether the triumph is expressed in hyperrealism or complete abstraction; whether the subject is all about

nature or distinctly human; the paintings that took top honors in this year's competition represent the power of pastel to both touch our hearts and stir our senses."

# AGL Members take top awards at Brush with Burden Exhibit

CONGRATULATIONS!! TO the following AGL members who were winning artists in the recent Brush with Burden Exhibit on display at the Orangerie on the Burden Plantation Grounds.

 $1^{st}$  Place – Cheri Fry – "Camille"

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jane Flowers – "Louisiana Pinks"

 $3^{\rm rd}$  Place – Judi Betts – "Tropical Holiday"

Honorable Mention: Betty Efferson - "Bananas"

If you missed these paintings during the Brush with Burden exhibit, you can still see them at the Shaw Center; where they will be on exhibit till the end of April.









Tropical Holiday



Bananas

## AGL members win awards at LWS Golden Anniversary Exhibit

Louisiana Watercolor Society held their celebrated 50 years with their Golden



Anniversary Member Exhibit at the Louisiana State Archives Building during the month of March. Two of the award winners are also members of AGL; Louise Hansen, Honorable Mention for "Church in Portugal" and Larry Downs, Honorable Mention for "Exotic".



#### **EXHIBITS**

#### **EXCITING CHANGE OF VENUE!!!!**

The AGL is happy to announce: the **Summer Judged Show**, normally held at the Independence Park Theatre, will be held at the State Archives Building on Essen Lane and will be a one month exhibit in August.

The exhibit take-in is scheduled for **August 1st** from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and the take-down date will be August 30, 2018 from 11:00am to 1:00 pm; the entry fee will be \$15 per painting. River Road show take- in will occur simultaneously with the take-down of the Summer Judged show.

There are lots of tasks that need to happen simultaneously, especially on the takedown date, August 30. We will be looking for several people to volunteer 2-3 hours of time to help with the various tasks involved with getting this accomplished. Details will be forthcoming as the event date approaches.

#### **Spring Judged Show**

March 25, 2018 the Art Guild of Louisiana held a reception and awards presentation at Independence Park Theatre for their Summer Judged Art Exhibit. The exhibit will be on display until May 10, 2018 and is open to the public free of admission Tuesday – Friday from 10:00 am – 5:00pm. We were privileged to have Denyce Celantano, associate professor of drawing and painting at the LSU Art Department as judge for the exhibit. The Guild sends congratulations to the follow artists for their winning art works.



 $1^{st}$  Place – Calvin Balencie – "Forgotten" – Watercolor  $2^{nd}$  Place – Tim Lloyd – "Yosemite Falls" – Oil  $3^{rd}$  Place – Larry Downs – "A Cool Quiet Place" – Watercolor **Honorable Mentions**:

Beverly Heil – "Resting Easy" – Watercolor Sue Wang – "Sanshia Bridge" – Oil





In addition to the awards presentations at the recent reception at Independence Park, on Sunday March 25, well-known local artist and instructor, Larry Downs entertained Guild members and visitors with his talk and demo on how to paint without first drawing. Larry shared several resources he's relied on in the past. "Drawing, You Can Do It" by Greg Albert is one of the books he recommended. Guild members listened raptly and watched as he illustrated drawing with a paint brush.

# Spring Member Show —May 10-July 12, 2018

Calling all LAAG members!!! Now is the time to "show up". Art Guild of Louisiana (formerly Louisiana Art and Artists Guild) will be sponsoring a Spring members only exhibit May10, 2018 –July 12, 2018!!

This is a non-juried show and artists must bring their entries to the Independence Park Theatre on May 10, 2018, between 11:00 am and 1:00pm. All Art must be picked up on July 12, 2018 between 11:00am-1:00pm. Maximum size of artwork should be 48"x48".

A People's Choice Ribbon will be awarded at a reception on June 3, 2018 between 2:00pm -4:00 pm.

All regular hanging/exhibit requirements apply. Please, follow the hanging requirements available on LAAG website at laag-site.org/exhibits to ensure that you painting will be accepted at the take-in. Exhibit and originality requirements can be found at the twww.laag-site.org/exhibits until we complete the transition to the new AGL website.

#### **RECENT WORKSHOPS**

Roberta Loflin's recent group of workshop participants had a great time learning about "Painting Luminous" land-scapes. Roberta's 'gift' of teaching watercolor and acrylics is enhanced by demonstrating the how-to's of creating drama to your paintings, strategically using techniques to illuminate your landscapes causing texture, movement depth and mood. Each participant learned to apply the techniques to their very own personal favorite landscape.





#### **Betty Efferson**

There's a reason for 'fun' in the title of **Betty Efferson's** workshop "Fun with Pastels". he's entertaining and knowledgeable. So, those participants fortunate enough to attend her workshop understand and are truly learning from a high-energy, talented artist. Her pastel work speaks for itself, winning several prestigious awards over the past year. Betty's workshops are a fun and relaxing atmosphere that is encouraging to even the most timid participant. Betty set up a dramatic still life and utilized the studio new system to project the image on the large screen TV allowing everyone an excellent view point from wherever they were seated.

#### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

\*\*\*\*Cheryl Caro – "Winning Techniques Using Color Pencils"

Saturday – Sunday, April 14-15, from 9:00am to 4:00pm

Registration \$200, includes all supplies

To register, contact Kay Bailey at <a href="mailto:baileykay7850@gmail.com">baileykay7850@gmail.com</a> or 225 933-6008

Cheryl Caro, an accomplished, award-winning artist, will be conducting a workshop teaching how to best utilize quality color pencils to create a viable piece of art. She has her own, unique methods of using color pencils in her work and will be sharing her style to this small class of participants.

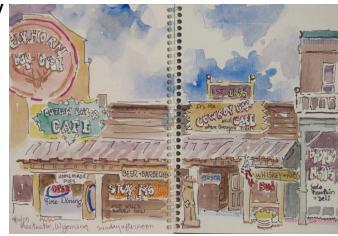
\*\*\*\*We are able to offer this unique art opportunity, at such a low cost, because, the instructor has donated/volunteered her time. All proceeds, after expenses, go directly to the operations of the Guild.

# Judi Betts - "An Extraordinary Sketchbook Journey - Try the Untried"

Saturday - Sunday, April 21-22, from 9:00am to 4:00pm Early Bird registration until March 26 - \$140 AGL members / \$180 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$180 AGL members / \$220 nonmembers To register, contact Nikki Spencer at nspence@lsu.edu or 225 928-0018

Judi Betts is an extraordinary artist teaching a workshop on extraordinary sketch booking. We are truly grateful and looking forward to Judi taking time out of her busy schedule to show the importance of sketching to the



workshop participants. Judi's sketchbook techniques include contour drawing and simplification, drawing and designing with words, creating altered pages - 3D and semi-popup, inventing surprises with collage, recording and inventing. There's a lot to learn in an atmosphere she claims will be fun.

\*\*Sterling Edwards - DVD "The Essence of the Southwest — Watercolor", Betty Gravois, facilitator Saturday, May 5 from 9:00am to 4:00pm

Two levels of registration are available for this workshop.

**Registration \$30**: includes lunch only

**Registration \$60** includes lunch and certain items specified in the supply list.

To register, contact Kay Bailey at baileykay 7850@gmail.com or 225 933-6008

NOTE: The deadline for registration at the \$60 level ) which includes lunch & several of the supplies/ paper) has been extended to April 30. We have supplies to accommodate only 4 more participants.

This popular painting experience is back by popular demand, after the first one in 2017. After transferring a drawing of a southwestern scene provided by the facilitator, participants will follow/paint along with the DVD. The facilitator who has previewed the DVD, pauses the DVD at appropriate intervals to allow participants to catch up Sterling's demonstration on the DVD. The DVD is shown on the elevated large screen TV equipment and is clearly visible to all participants from their seat.

Sterling Edwards, a contemporary water media artist, teacher, author and juror, is featured on this 60 minute DVD showing how to paint a southwestern scene of adobe dwellings. He approaches the construction of his paintings using positive and negative shapes, glazing color, saving white paper, and teaching composition.

\*\*We are able to offer this unique painting opportunity, at such a low cost, because, the facilitator has volunteered her time. All proceeds, after expenses go directly to the operations the Guild.

# Roberta Loflin - "Break Out the Acrylics - Basic Acrylics"

Monday, May 28, 2018 from 9:30am to 12:00noon Early Bird registration until April 28 - \$60 AGL members / \$75 nonmembers Regular Fee - \$75 AGL members / \$90 nonmembers

To register, contact Barbara Andrepont at <a href="mailto:bellsouth.net">bellsouth.net</a> or 225 773-8020

Open to artists new to the medium or those looking to just "brush up" on the medium. We will focus on materials and will start by mixing colors, making a color wheel, mixing tones & tints. Participants will work from their own photo and a still life learning to use composition, values and color.

#### Don Andrews - Landscape Color and Composition - Watercolor

June 20-22, 2018 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Early Bird registration to May 8, 2018 \$300 members/\$350 nonmembers Regular registration \$350 members/\$400 non-

members

Workshop Coordinator: Linda

Pace, lpace588@gmail.com, 225-247-1309

Join Don Andrews, nationally known watercolor artist, author and instructor for 3 days of painting and fun at the AGL, Studio in the Park. Don believes that watercolor is the best medium to convey a sense of light, because of its transparent qualities. His award winning art work is known for its strong design and vibrant light. Participants will be working from photos or sketches of their preferred landscape or figure. Don will focus on color harmony to guarantee vi-



brant color and neutrals; share tips about adding glowing lights for maximum benefit; setting up your composition and how to achieve loose, natural strokes .

Check out Don's fabulous art on his website <a href="https://www.donandrewsstudio.com/">https://www.donandrewsstudio.com/</a> and read an interview with Don on Artists Daily website, <a href="Meet Watercolor Painter Don Andrews - Artists Network">Meet Watercolor Painter Don Andrews - Artists Network</a>

## Louise Hansen—Capturing Vacation in Pen and Ink

Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Early Bird registration to June 13, 2018 \$40 members/\$45 nonmembers

Regular registration \$45 members/\$50 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Betty Gra-

vois, elizabethgravois@gmail.com, 732-216-1095

This is a fun media and will enhance your drawing skills. It is very portable for those always on the go. Subjects can be simple or very complex. We will cover pen strokes, tonal value and composition. Also covered will be pattern drawing that is usual for borders and backgrounds. This class is open to adults only, all levels, but



some drawing experience is helpful. For those of you have taken this course before or have prior experience in pen and ink and want to combine pen and ink with water color, you should bring your watercolor supplies and 140# cold or hot press watercolor paper.

NOTE: Checks for all workshops should be made payable to Art Guild of Louisiana and must include the name of the class, participants, phone number, address and email address. Details/supply list and a link to instructors' websites are available on AGL website at <a href="https://www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops">www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops</a> Participants should monitor the website for the latest updates in scheduling changes for workshops.

#### **AREA EXHIBITS**

# Art Exhibit /Sale — Deridder, LA

Announcing a unique art exhibit and sale at the **RealArt DeRidder Art Gallery** (RAD; 108 W. First Street, Deridder, LA 70634 during the month of April 2018. The exhibit will consist of the private collection of oil paintings and drawings owned by Ralph Liliedahl. The collection will include paintings by the late Johnnie McRae Liliedahl, a native of Leesville, others by some of the best-known realist artists in the U.S., such as Daniel Keys, David Leffel, Dan Gerhartz, Scott Burdick, Zhaoming Wu and more.

The exhibit opens Wednesday, April 4, 2018, and continues through out April during the hours of 11:00AM to 3:00PM, Wednesday through Saturday: a special late evening viewing is scheduled for Thursday, April 19th from 5:00 to 8:00pm and appointments for a personal viewing during off hours may be made by emailing Ralph Liliedahl at Liliedahl@gmail.com to make arrangements.

The **Louisiana Watercolor Society's 48th International Exhibit** in New Orleans will be open for viewing on May 5th, 2018 with an awards reception scheduled for May 12,, 2018, 2:00-4:00pm at Place St. Charles.

The **Associated Women in the Arts'** show "Study to Studio" is on exhibit at the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge, until April 29. It is a unique exhibit in which the artist's working storyboard/study is also on exhibit, along with the completed piece. demonstrating the artist's path of inspiration.