



News from the Palette

Art Guild of Louisiana agl@artguildlouisiana.org 225-930-7542
artguildlouisiana.org facebook.com/ArtGuildofLouisiana

April 2020

ABOUT GLORIA PERKINS ... Interviewed by Emily Efferson

Gloria Perkins, an oil painter, grew up in Fairburn, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta where she has lived and worked her entire life. She developed a passion for color and then painting as a child which led to her painting professionally in her early 20's while also pursuing a corporate career. She started teaching while still balancing her corporate career, but the more she taught, the more she wanted to teach and paint. Finally, she left her corporate job to pursue art full-time. Here is what she shared with AGL via online interview:



When and how often do you paint?

My husband and I travel a lot, so I make a point to pencil in "paint" days in my studio on my calendar and I prefer having at least 3 days without interruptions. I typically have 3-4 paintings going at a time to keep me from overworking a painting. Each painting has its own table, so I don't have to put anything away.

What about your life experiences helped you realize art was your passion?

When I would get home from work, eat a bite, and paint until 11:00pm. You always make time for what you have a passion for. Being a painter makes me happy. The challenges and decision making are exhilarating, especially when I see them translated onto the canvas. If you ask the question "what is art to me?" My answer would be "something I can't get enough of." Painting is a wonderful, unending journey and I am very thankful that I can pursue this journey.

Do you get painters block and what do you do about it?

When I get "stuck" with a painting, I move to another one. It's very important to work on 2 to 4 paintings at a time to keep from "overworking" a painting. That is when you lose your values!

Are you self-taught or did you study at an institution?

I have invested a lot of time and money to study with artists whom I admired, and with ones who shared their knowledge with me. After corporate retirement, I followed Robert Johnson. We have become very good friends over the years and I definitely consider him to be one of my mentors. After studying in France with Huihan Lui, I returned to Giverny to paint, entered a plein air contest, and won the Claude Monet Award! As a result of this award I was given a lifetime opportunity to take groups of artists to Monet's Garden to paint after the Garden closed (and all tourists were gone).



What do you hope others see or "get" in your art?

I want to exude an energy that will set my paintings apart and make them distinctly mine. Whenever I am at the easel, I always get excited about working with the colors to develop a painting from the beauty I see. You know it is a good painting when the viewer wants to keep looking at it! Nothing is more



rewarding than to finish a painting and know it is good! As soon as I finish one, I start thinking about the excitement of another! Equally important is when I teach a workshop and have helped a student develop their skills to become a better painter.

Why do you choose subjects you choose? Has this ever changed for you?

My favorite things to paint are Florals and my husband Jim actually grows my Hydrangeas, Peonies, and Roses! When we traveled to China, we went to a "dirt" market and bought 10 wonderful Urns and Vases and shipped them home and not one was broken! My studio is filled with items we have collected.

What are your most proud of?

Winning the Claude Monet Award in Giverny, France was a moment in time I will always remember. When my name was called it was an "aha" moment. Secondly, was when I was asked to do an Art Show of my paintings at the Amsterdam Whitney Art Gallery in New York.

What advice would you give to beginning artist?

In my classes, I advise my students to keep their excitement at a high level, noting this enthusiasm will be reflected in their paintings. Just remember, you didn't learn your ABC's in a day! Keep a level of patience and if you learn just one thing in a workshop your skills will continue to grow. Always continue the path of learning and sharing.

Unfortunately we had to cancel Gloria's workshop, scheduled for May, due to COVID19. We are working to get a reschedule date. So, continue to monitor the AGL website and member emails for new dates.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This unprecedented COVID19 situation has no manual or guidebook; we are all figuring it out together and making decisions on a day-by-day or even hour-by-hour basis. The Guild is committed to keeping members informed about actions we take regarding Guild activities through member emails; posts on the AGL website home page and updates to the website calendar. The website "Calendar" will likely carry the most up to date scheduling changes.



While our hearts and prayers go out to those who have fallen ill, to the families and friends who have lost loved ones and to those enduring hardships resulting from temporary business shut-downs due to this unseen foe; now is the time, more than ever to remember our blessings. Take advantage of this down time to do good things: give a call to friends and family members you've lost touch with because of our busy lives, finish that project you started last year; enjoy the great outdoors; take time to daydream, look for a 4-leaf clover, surprise someone special with a hand written note (email does not count), sit down and color alongside your child or grandchild and create something...anything; paint, draw, craft, cook, sew, garden. Remember what life was like before you were on call 24/7. Be grateful...love one another. And if you are so inclined pray, especially for our health care workers. Stay safe, stay well, and keep creating!

People everywhere are responding to COVID19 in positive ways to help others deal with these trying times. Here are a few art resources/opportunities that have been shared with me from members:

<https://www.batonrougegallery.org/covid19>

<https://www.lsumoa.org/permanent-collection>

[https://emptyeasel.com/art-tutorials/?](https://emptyeasel.com/art-tutorials/?utm_source=EmptyEasel+Artist+Community&utm_campaign=49194cd358-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_25_03_20_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_51fc70cfef-49194cd358-115919975)

[utm_source=EmptyEasel+Artist+Community&utm_campaign=49194cd358-](https://emptyeasel.com/art-tutorials/?utm_source=EmptyEasel+Artist+Community&utm_campaign=49194cd358-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_25_03_20_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_51fc70cfef-49194cd358-115919975)

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_25_03_20_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_51fc70cfef-49194cd358-115919975](https://emptyeasel.com/art-tutorials/?utm_source=EmptyEasel+Artist+Community&utm_campaign=49194cd358-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_25_03_20_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_51fc70cfef-49194cd358-115919975)

51st River Road Show

At this time, the 2020 national River Road Show is still on track to take place as originally scheduled. The deadline for River Road entries is **MAY 13, 2020**. However, we stand ready to make adjustments should that become necessary.

For those of you who are concerned about having artwork photographed in time for the River Road deadline we have a “River Road Picture Day” scheduled just for River Road entries on May 3, the week before the entry deadline. Of course, we still do not know where we will be in regard to the COVID19 “stay at home” situation at that time.

Pastel Open Studio

AGL members interested in trying their hand at pastels or who are interested in “honing” their pastel skills are invited to join other like-minded members once a month from 11:00am to 4:00pm at the Studio in the Park, 2490 Silverest Avenue in Baton Rouge. The studio has several containers of “community” pastels available if you just want to “try out” working in pastels without having to buy yet another art medium only to find out that it isn’t for you.

2020 Pastel Open Studio Schedule: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

May 28

June 18

July 23

August 27

September 24

October 22

November 29



NOTE: The previously scheduled April 23, Pastel Open Studio has been cancelled.

Sympathies

On behalf of AGL, the Board sends its deepest sympathies to the friends and family of Ralph Marino; Ralph passed away on February 16, 2020 in Baton Rouge at the age of 81.

Ralph was a longtime member of the Guild and an active exhibitor of his artwork in Guild exhibits. He was a talented artist whose work extended all the way to the NASA. His work has been accepted into the national River Road Show several times. He was an occasional visitor to the Guild open studios. His warm friendly smile and mild manner will be missed by many.

MEMBER NEWS



Jo McWilliams was presented with the Best of Adult Award in the Swamp Art Spectacular "Louisiana Nature" Show held January 16 - March 1, 2020, at the Bluebonnet Swamp. The winning painting is an acrylic titled "St. Francisville Oaks".

Leah Schwartzman's watercolor painting, "Time Traveler" was awarded a Merit Award by the Louisiana Watercolor Society during their member show at the State Archives held in March.



What have YOU been doing?

The Guild is very proud of its members and their artistic achievements. We want to share your "good news" with other members. If you have been accepted into an exhibit, won an award or participated in some other artistic endeavor drop us an email. Also, please enclose a photo of the event or the related art work. Inspire others by sharing YOUR story and art adventures. Send your news to newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org.

EXHIBITS

Spring Member Show

Congratulations to Larry Downs, who won the People's Choice Ribbon for his acrylic painting "Wheat Field and Purple Mountains."

SPRING JUDGED SHOW

The Spring Judged Show was hung at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery as scheduled. However, in accordance with COVID19 mitigation guidances issued by our elected officials, all BREC facilities are closed to the public at least until April 13. We could not access the building to select the winners and we cancelled the April 5 awards reception.



We are working on a plan to rearrange the current 2020 exhibit schedule for the remainder of the year and hope to solidify a plan in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime **CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL SPRING JUDGED SHOW ON THE ART GUILD OF LOUISIANA FACEBOOK PAGE**

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Larry Downs - You Can Learn to Draw - Drawing

June 4, 11, 18 and 25 - Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Early Bird through May 20, 2020 - \$60 AGL members / \$75 nonmembers

Regular Fee begins May 21, 2020 - \$75 AGL members / \$90 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont 225.773.8020 or bandre-pont@bellsouth.net



Many instructors believe that a good drawing is essential to a good painting; a good drawing is a map, a plan, the corner stone of putting together a strong composition. If you want to hone your drawing skills regardless of your current skill level this workshop is for you. Larry is a local artist/instructor who has also conducted workshops at LSU in the Lagniappe program. He will cover the hows and whys of drawing first through demonstrations, followed by hands on exercises and personal guidance. You will work from still life set ups arranged by Larry using direct lighting.

Roberta Loflin – Painting Your Everyday! Watermedia

Two Thursday mornings, July 9 and 16, 2020 from 9:30 am to NOON

Early Bird through June 23, 2020 - \$30 AGL members / \$40 nonmembers

Regular fee beginning August 24, 2020 - \$40 AGL members / \$50 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: 225.775.8020, or bandrepont@bellsouth.net

Instead of creating the grand, monumental painting, we will focus on the objects of our everyday life to create more intimate compositions in watermedia. We will have daily demonstrations and personal critiques as you work on your individual paintings.



Roberta Loflin – Hidden Treasures – All Media

One Thursday morning, July 23, 2020 from 9:30 am to Noon.

Early Bird through July 7, 2020 - \$20 AGL members / \$25 nonmembers

Regular fee beginning July 8, 2020 - \$25 AGL members / \$30 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: 225.775.8020, or bandrepont@bellsouth.net

Bring your “problem” compositions to this session...the ones that you have stacked behind the sofa, under the bed or in the back of your closet. Roberta will guide you to make the best of these works - your own “hidden treasures”. The class will include demonstrations and personal critiques as you work on your individual paintings.

Soon Warren – Vibrant Watercolor

August 22-24, 2020, Saturday – Monday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Early Bird until July 7, 2020 - \$350 AGL members / \$400 nonmembers

Regular fee beginning July 8, 2020 - \$400 AGL members / \$450 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Betty Gravois: contact at 732.216.1095 or elizabethgravois@gmail.com

AGL is honored to host the national and international award winning artist/instructor and judge Soon Warren as the judge for the 2020 national River Road Show. In conjunction with the River Road show she will also present a 3 day workshop at the Studio in the Park.

If you enjoy working in watercolor this is a workshop not to miss. Soon Warren is widely known for her skills in the use of color, light and contrast. This workshop will focus on bringing a new vibrancy to your work as she shares her tips and techniques for optimizing the use of those 3 elements and learning to control water and color ratios.



Visit her website at www.soonwarren.com to see the wide variety of subject matter that she “magically” fills with light.



Art Guild of Louisiana
PO Box 41115
Baton Rouge, LA 70835



News from the Palette

Art Guild of Louisiana agl@artguildlouisiana.org 225-930-7542
artguildlouisiana.org facebook.com/ArtGuildofLouisiana

April 2020

If you would like to help with any aspect of producing the newsletter please contact Leah Schwartzman at newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org.

Please send member information for the newsletter to newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org by the 10th of every other month : January, March, May, July, September, November.



Do You use FACEBOOK? Friends? Family?

Calling ALL MEMBERS who use FACEBOOK ... Be sure to visit the Art Guild of Louisiana's Facebook page and "Like" us. "Share" AGL with your friends and family and ask them to do the same. Let's get the word out about YOUR organization ... we want Louisiana and surrounding artists to know what great opportunities we have to offer and we want friends and family who are not artists to know what we are doing ... to visit our exhibits and support our artists. We want to "connect art and people".