



# News from the Palette

**Art Guild of Louisiana**

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**OCTOBER 2022**

## Meet Diego Larguia

Diego began his artistic journey at the age of 21, after several years of working in the marketing field. During his tenure at an ad agency in Buenos Aires, where he was born and raised, he became intrigued by the art being created in the “art department” of the Agency until one day he decided “that’s what I want to do”. So, at 21 he crossed the ocean and moved to Florida where he attended college majoring in art. There he met his wife and their journey, as a couple, took them first to New York and then to New Orleans where they currently live and have called home for the past 25 years.



In New Orleans, Diego attended the New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts for 5 years honing and further expanding his art studies. He has come full circle and is currently a faculty member/instructor at the NOFA where he has been teaching oil, watercolor, drawing, acrylic, figure, still life and landscape both in the studio and en plein air for the past 15 years. He says painting can often be quite a solitary profession; that teaching has been very rewarding, not only because it provides a meaningful social component to his work but it provides him an opportunity to share his enthusiasm for the arts, as well as share the knowledge he has gained from others along his art journey.

Diego says, “In retrospect, I chose to be an artist because I like the visual language of picture. It didn’t happen overnight but I kept coming back for more. I’m immensely grateful to all artists who showed me the way and hope to add my two cents to that tradition. In my view, painting is a way to celebrate the world around us. As artists we create visual documents that remind the public of the gift of sight. I will never retire.”

Diego says he paints about 5 days a week for varying lengths of time, when inspiration strikes – and time allows - in addition to his classroom. He considers himself a multifaceted artist, as he likes to work in a variety of media and is always trying to grow and expand his knowledge. It is his belief that working in multiple media, one learns to be flexible and adapt to the inherent possibilities and limitations of each medium and “that makes us stronger all around artists ... keeps us on our toes”. Diego’s current focus is on watercolor in preparation for his upcoming solo exhibit in October. (see details in the “Member News” section of this newsletter.)

As a self-proclaimed “paintaholic”, he says he is not drawn to or singularly focused on any given subject matter. It can be figure, portrait, still life, interior or landscape – whatever presents itself at any given time and place. He also shares with us that one should hold onto their early art pieces so that “as the years go by one can witness the evolution of one’s knowledge, temperament and technique as it manifests in one’s style.” His work has been featured in *American Artist* magazine and other art magazines, some of which can be seen/read on his website. His work has been exhibited in New Orleans Museum of Fine Art, Alexandria Museum, Walter Anderson Museum in Mississippi and can be found in many private and corporate collections.



To beginning artists, Diego offers this insight: "focus on drawing from direct observation, learning light/shadow and values before taking on color"



"Other profession??? I do quite a bit of housework".

To learn more, check out Diego's website at [www.diegolarguia.com](http://www.diegolarguia.com)

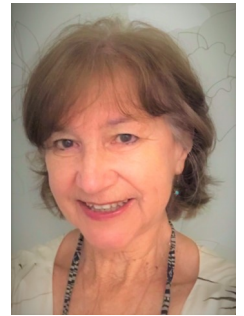
He is also represented by "Gallery 600 Julia" in New Orleans.



## PONDERERINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Oh, what a year it's been! We are heading down the home stretch of a year that has been our comeback from the ravages of the pandemic.

This year we've seen a gradual increase in participation in exhibits. We've had several workshops done by local artists who donated their time and talent as well as the proceeds to AGL. (Thank you, Emily Efferson, Lisa Sanchez, Kathy Redmond.) We've ventured into new areas, participating in the Ebb and Flow Festival, the Arts at the Capitol Day, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Arts Market downtown. We even reaped the benefits of many of you cleaning out your studios and donating to our first art supply "Garage Sale." Thanks to Olivia Pass, Kathy Redmond, and Pat Wattam, whose work has helped us to increase the frequency of publicity for our events via newsprint and social media. The River Road Show was beautiful and attendance at the rewards reception was back to "normal". And, as an added bonus, Frank Eber, the RRS judge, has donated an original painting that we will be able to raffle off!



And to add to our joy, no major hurricanes have hit the Louisiana gulf coast—as of this writing. I am not yet sure of the fiscal impact of our efforts, but money is only one part of what we, as an organization, need to survive. We also need members, old and new, who are willing to give of their time and talent to make this ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION thrive. Seems like I see the same tireless, energetic and hard-working faces at all the events. I have heard many artists from other states comment that they have not seen an art organization quite like ours (dedicated studio space, dedicated public exhibit space, variety of programs/opportunities) anywhere else. We have many benefits for our members already, but looking forward, we do need fresh ideas—and fresh faces!

Thank you for your support and your enthusiasm for our classes and programs.

..... Marilyn Gensler

**Art and business may be strange bedfellows, but an artist must make room in bed for both.**

..... Eri Maisel



## 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual River Road Show Winners

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! River Road Show Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Carol Peebles (New Orleans, LA) – *Quarantine Zen Masters* (Pastel)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - William Schneider (Village of Lakewood, IL) – *Hopeful* (Oil)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Cheri Fry (St. Francisville, LA) – *New Orleans Sidewalk* (Watercolor)



### Merit Awards

Marilynne Bradley (Webster Grove, MO) – *Dock of the Bay* (Watercolor)

William Buck (Baton Rouge, LA) – *Still Crooked* (Watercolor)

Cheryl Carol (Geismer, LA) – *Night Light* (Colored Pencil)

Judi Betts (Baton Rouge, LA) – *Barn Dance* (Watercolor)

### Honorable Mention Awards

Harold Wilke (Mandeville, LA) – *Boy Scout Road – Evening* (Acrylic)

Jane Flowers (Austin, TX) – *I've Got My World on a String* (Oil)

Tracy Hebert (Port Allen, LA) – *Cover Me in Sunshine* (Watercolor)

Michael Meadows (Prairieville, LA) – *A Bowl of Turnips* (Oil)

View images of all River Road Show award winning artwork at [www.artguildlouisiana.org/river-road-show](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org/river-road-show)

**Trunk Show Notice!** The 3rd Annual Trunk Sale has been cancelled due to lack of participants.

**The Studio Art Supply “Garage Sale”** was a huge success and netted the Guild over \$2400. Thank you to all the volunteers who help sort and price items, who worked on the sale days, and who brought food. A special “thank you” to all of you who donated sale items, and the shoppers. We couldn't have done it without you all.

**Early Notice – Save the Date – AGL Christmas Party**

**December 11, 2022**

**Sunday, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Studio in the Park – 2490 Silverest Ave – Baton Rouge

## Membership Drive and Dues Increase

### NOTICE TO MEMBERS!!!

Effective January 1, 2023, annual dues for the Art Guild of Louisiana will increase to \$45 per year. As stated in the President's Pondering, we have heard from visiting instructors and artists how unique our small all-volunteer art organization is. Members who have moved away miss us and say they can't find anything like it, and members who have moved here from other places are very impressed with all we have to offer. They all are very complimentary of the amount and quality of programs and opportunities available to our members, as well as our volunteer involvement. But it does all come at a cost. As a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization, AGL membership dues are tax deductible and as an all-volunteer organization, **100%** of your dollars go to the operations of the Guild.

You get a lot for your money being a Guild member!

Right now we have a dues discount offer for the next three months.

**JOIN OR RENEW BY DECEMBER 31 AT THE 2022 PRICE OF JUST \$40.**

### MEMBER BENEFITS

REMEMBER: Join or renew any time before January 1, 2023, and receive a \$5.00 discount on 2023 dues. New members who join in October receive immediate access to access to the following member benefits (that's 3 free months):

Public Exhibit Opportunities  
Member emails of upcoming opportunities  
Free use of extensive art reference library  
Free artists gallery on the AGL website  
Discount at select art supply stores

Member Newsletter  
Discounted Workshops/exhibits  
Free photography of artwork  
Free use of open studio space

### WHO DO YOU KNOW THAT WOULD LIKE TO JOIN AGL?

## Area Opportunities

### ART Donations for Ronald McDonald House

A new 22-bedroom Ronald McDonald House is currently being built on the campus of Children's Hospital in New Orleans and they are looking to fill it with donated art from talented artists like yourself!

Sarah Lindstedt, an artist and long time-native of New Orleans who recently moved to Greenville, SC is the facilitator for this project and invites you to email her with any questions, comments or concerns:

[art@rmhc-sla.org](mailto:art@rmhc-sla.org)

AGL invites members to take part in this worthwhile project. To get more details and sizes of available wall space, download the pdf file at [www.artguildlouisiana.org/downloads/Ronald-McDonald-House.pdf](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org/downloads/Ronald-McDonald-House.pdf)

## MEMBER NEWS

Diego Largaia is having a solo exhibit of watercolors at the New Orleans Academy of Fine Art (NOAFA) at 5256 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA, beginning October 8-November 4, 2022. An opening reception will be held on October 8, 2022 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Congratulations to **Tad Hardy** and **Diego Largaia** and **Nancy Stutes** who each sold their paintings exhibited at the River Road Show (shown below respectively).



Congratulations also go to **Pat Wattam** who sold her 1<sup>st</sup> Place winning painting, *Evening Glow*, currently on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre (Image can be seen below in the Exhibits section.)

## EXHIBITS

### Workshop Show Winner

Congratulations to Pat Wattam whose oil painting *Portrait of a Horse* won the People's Choice ribbon. This lovely piece was painted by Pat during an online a la prima workshop with Jennifer Gennari.

The lucky exhibiting artist who won the random drawing for a \$100 gift certificate from Mo's Art Supply was Kay Bailey. Yaaaay Kay!



### Award Winners – Autumn Judged Show

Thank you to Diego Largaia of New Orleans, for being the judge for the Autumn Judged Show. Diego is an instructor at the New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts; has had solo exhibits in several museums including the Walter Anderson Museum in Mississippi and is represented by Gallery 600 Julia in New Orleans. We were very fortunate and excited to have Diego attend the awards reception to personally present the awards and share comments about the winning pieces.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Pat Wattam – *Evening Glow* – Oil
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Nancy Charpentier – *Gertie and Me* – Oil
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Jim Packard – *Fishin'* – Acrylic

#### Honorable Mentions

- Larry Downs – *The Old and the New* – Watercolor
- Jo McWilliams – *We Are Siamese* – Oil







Top left: *Gertie and Me*  
Top right: *Fishin'*

Left: *The Old and the New*  
Right: *We Are Siamese*

### **CALL FOR ENTRY – “Deck the Walls” – Members Only**

The AGL “Deck the Walls” exhibit at Independence Park Theatre will be open from November 10, 2022 – January 12, 2023. An artists’ award reception will be held from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at a date to be announced. So, continue to check member emails for that date.

“Deck the Walls” is a non-juried exhibit and all members interested in exhibiting must deliver their artwork to the Independence Park Theatre on November 10, between 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. The exhibit fee is \$10 for the first entry and \$5 for each additional painting. A 20% commission is taken by BREC on all sales. Artwork may not be removed from the exhibit until January 12, 2023 by the exhibit committee. The rules for the “Deck the Walls” exhibit are a little different from our other exhibits: all current works will be accepted, as well as works older than 2 years. Past prize-winning paintings and old master’s copies may also be entered. Workshop pieces are not eligible since we have a dedicated annual exhibit for workshop pieces.

In addition to the People’s Choice ribbon award, we will once again have a random drawing for exhibiting members. A \$50 cash prize will go to one lucky exhibiting member. Exhibiting artists will earn one “chance” per painting entered in the exhibit.

### **Special Member Exhibit – EBR Library at Goodwood**

The Guild will sponsor a special exhibit for members only at the EBR Library at 7711 Goodwood Boulevard, Baton Rouge, December 1 – 30, 2022.



All artwork must meet the AGL exhibit requirements except the time during which a piece must have been painted is extended from 2 years to 3 years. So, if you have a painting that was painted in the past 3 years and has only been shown one time in a Guild exhibit, it can be shown in the December exhibit. A terrific opportunity to sell some holiday art.

Artwork must be delivered to the Goodwood Library on December 1, 2022, between 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. The entry fee is \$5 per painting and a People's Choice Ribbon will be awarded. at the conclusion of the exhibit. The winning painting will be publicized on the AGL Facebook page and on the Guild website.

No commission will be taken on artwork sold during the exhibit. Artwork may not be removed from the exhibit until December 30, 2022, between 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. by the exhibit committee.

## RECENT PAST WORKSHOPS

There was a full house of artists at the Studio in the Park August 12—14 for the three day watercolor workshop presented by the River Road Show judge, **Frank Eber** of Paso Robles, CA. It was intense, fun, enlightening, and fast passed as Frank demonstrated and then worked individually with workshop participants. At the end of the three days participants had worked on four different paintings. Frank also conducted a "sold out" one day plein air oil workshop at Hiltop Arboretum.



## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### Kathy Redmond – Zentangle Christmas Cards

Saturday – November 5, 9:00 am - noon

Registration Fee: \$20 Member / \$30 nonmember

Workshop Coordinator: Kay Bailey – [baileykay7850@gmail.com](mailto:baileykay7850@gmail.com) or 225-933-6008

Surprise your friends and family with original Christmas cards made by YOU!



Let's make some fun art that can be used to create your own personal Christmas cards. We will create a fun little gnome and a lovely Christmas tree using simple tangles. We will discuss ways to add color and reproduce your masterpiece to print your own cards. We will focus on the line art in class and add color as time permits. Paper will be provided. The proceeds from this workshop will go directly to the operations of the Guild. Thank you, Kathy.



**Lisa Sanchez and Emily Efferson – Journal Cover Painting (acrylic, metallic & hot glue)**

Saturday - November 12, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$40 member / \$50 nonmember

Workshop Coordinator: Kay Bailey - contact at [baileykay7850@gmail.com](mailto:baileykay7850@gmail.com) or 225-933-6008

This will be a super fun workshop for artists or crafters of all skill levels seeking a different, adventurous, and easy new technique to add texture and dimension to a painting project. In this workshop we will customize/personalize sketch journals, diaries or appointment books. They make great gifts for friends, family or yourself. These techniques can even be used on canvas board or other fairly rigid surfaces. Put your imagination to work! And register now!

The instructors will have some designs to share or if you have some designs of your own the instructor can help you select a design that will ensure your success. For registration and supply list visit [www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops/lisa-sanchez-emily-efferson-journal-cover-painting](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops/lisa-sanchez-emily-efferson-journal-cover-painting)

All proceeds from this workshop go directly to the operations of the Guild. Thank you Lisa and Emily.



Happy  
Halloween!





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If you would like to help with any aspect of producing the newsletter please contact Leah Schwartzman at [newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org](mailto:newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org).

Send member information for the newsletter to [newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org](mailto:newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of every other month : January, March, May, July, September, November.



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**— ask them to do the same —**

**Get the word out about YOUR organization**

**"connect art and people"**