

NEWS from the PALETTE

Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild

www.laag-site.org

926-4657

April Issue

Seay Earehart -Interviewed by Howard Hershberg & Tom Skillern

Although relatively new to Baton Rouge, having recently moved here from Montgomery, Alabama, Seay became familiar with the local people and surroundings by working in the film industry.

Recently, Seay has been working as a scenic artist on the Miley Cyrus feature film entitled "So Undercover" in New Orleans. He was Paint Foreman on the comedy feature film "Mardi Gras" starring Carmen Electra. Last spring, Seay was commissioned to carve out of Styrofoam, detail, and paint, a replica of the Twin Fountains in Paris. His work has also been seen on the stages of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF). Before becoming a freelance designer in 2005, Seay served as Scenic Charge Artist and Production Set Designer at ASF for seven years. As a designer for Montgomery Ballet's touring and seasonal productions for seven years, Seay worked on more than 20 productions and on occasions appeared in the productions as a character actor.

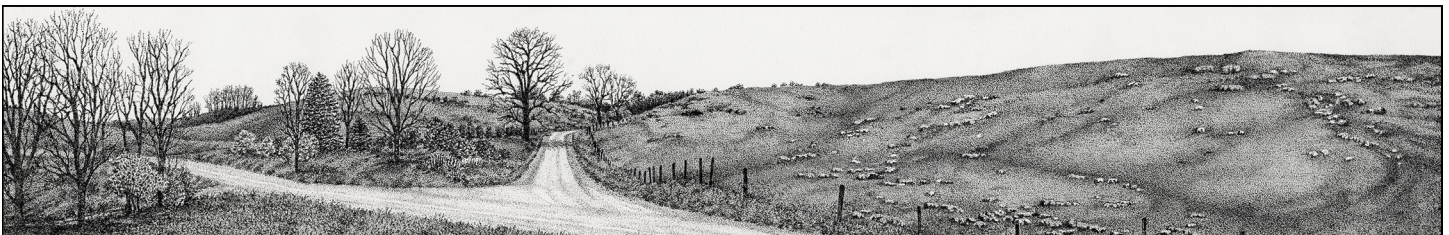


Whenever possible, between his stage productions and films, Seay enjoys working as a long-term substitute art instructor for the Montgomery Public School System. With more than 30 years of experience teaching adult and children's courses in drawing and painting, Seay's philosophy is not surprising: "I have found that teaching is one of the most rewarding professions I can perform ...the arts, in all forms, are the biggest building blocks to creative minds in any form of education. We cannot live without the arts."

Along with his success in theater, dance, TV and film, Seay is an accomplished fine artist, having started his career as a painter of realistic landscapes, portraits, and still life works in watercolor, pen and ink, and oils at the age of 15.

His drawings and paintings have been juried into national exhibitions across the US, regional exhibitions, and outdoor juried festivals from Maine to Florida. He has won over 300 awards, most recently a Merit Award in LAAG's River Road Show.

Seay has been elected as a Member-at-Large on the LAAG Board, and we look forward to working with him in the future.



What's going on in the Studio in the Park?



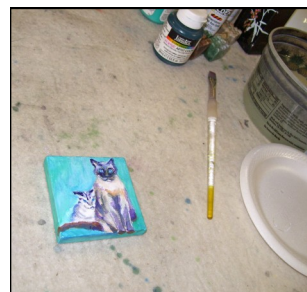
On Wednesdays and Sundays, the Studio in the Park welcomes all Guild members to meet and exchange ideas with other artists. Expect a warm welcome!

The studio provides a place to sit (or stand) to practice drawing, watercolors, or other mediums. Some folks set up easels and paint oils or acrylics. Some browse around, looking at what other folks are doing; others like to chat and just enjoy being together.

Sue Wang sets up still-life displays every week to practice. In the picture, a small group is painting with oils. But they are looking for more people to come and participate. Drawing or painting from real objects with direct light is a great challenge and provides an excellent opportunity to improve skills.



You might meet Pearl Mills who (in the picture) is painting a large oil painting. She uses the studio frequently because it gives her the time and the place (out of her house) that she needs to be able to focus on painting and relating to other artists.



The studio provides many tools for members' use. Light boxes, a library with a great variety of magazines, easels, and room to spread out, not to mention the artists who come around to talk with you, always complimenting what you're doing, and offering friendly tips (if you wish to get input on what you are doing).

You can also meet our Guild president Kay Bailey; she visits the studio often.

So ... if you want to know more about what's going on in the Studio, well ... Come and see for yourself. It's worth the trip!

Anne Thigpen



Studio Library



The Guild is currently in the process of relocating our Studio Library out of the office and into the main area where access and visibility will be increased. There are many books covering topics on every medium that can provide both instruction and inspiration. All members are invited to check out the books and also the many magazines available. Each newsletter will feature a short review of a randomly selected book from the library.

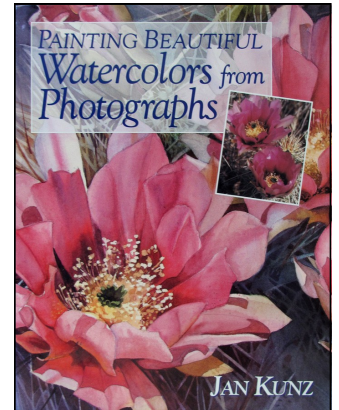
Painting Beautiful Watercolors from Photographs by Jan Kunz

Donated to the Guild by member Barbara Dupree

Reviewed by Guild president Kay Bailey

Besides being a lovely book with many beautiful paintings, this book is packed with information on executing successful paintings using photographs. Kunz gives step-by-step painting demonstrations to illustrate specific techniques. This is an easy-to-read reference with information on taking good photos, transferring images to paper, combining photos to create new pictures, and solving busy background problems.

An entire chapter is devoted to "Answers to Students' Most-Asked Questions" and concludes with "Points to Remember". The artist's writing style, detailed illustrations, and beautiful paintings make it a great book to refer to over and over again. Both beginner and experienced painters will enjoy this book.



Member News

The Burden Horticulture Society sponsored its first juried and judged art show "A Brush with Burden" at the Burden Center off Essen Lane February 3-6th, 2011. The multi-media exhibition featured works that captured the natural beauty of the surrounding area, including the Rural Life Museum.

Paintings by **Jane Flowers, Leah Schwartzman, and June Tuma** were among the 50 pieces accepted into the show. Jane's piece "Harvest Days Candle Maker" won the "People's Choice Award". June Tuma's piece was chosen to be used on the invitation for the "A Brush with Burden" reception.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners plus the People's Choice Award will hang at the Shaw Center until the first week in March. Of the 50 pieces juried into the show, 20 were sold.

Look for the show to be held again next year!

Tips for Submitting Paintings

- I Carefully read the Hanging Rules in the LAAG Handbook. If your art is not prepared according to these rules, it may be rejected for hanging.
- II Clearly identify your artwork on the back with your name, number and the title, medium, price of the painting.
- III Paintings for Theater exhibits must be submitted at the Theater on take-in day. Paintings for other exhibits should be brought to the Studio in the Park on any Wednesday or Sunday before the exhibit opening date.
- IV Note any hanging fees. Theater exhibits require submission of hanging fee for each painting. Guild members receive discounts on hanging fees.

Ongoing Exhibits

The Guild's Ongoing Exhibits are not juried for entry—all members are welcome to submit artwork for exhibit. If you are putting time, heart, knowledge, and materials into each painting, why not share your effort with our community?

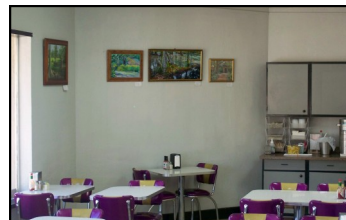
Serop's Express Restaurants

Two locations on Jefferson Hwy and Highland Rd.

The next exhibit change will happen on May 10.

Calvin Balencie will be featured at the Highland Rd location

Eve Carmena will be featured at the Jefferson Hwy location.



Space for about 7 or 8 paintings is available. Visiting the sites would provide a better idea of the available space. The restaurants are located at 712 Jefferson Hwy (close to Government St) and 18169 Highland Rd (close to Blue Bayou Water Park). This opportunity is free and open to all members. Because these are one-person shows, you are required to hang and to take down your own pictures. Any member who is interested in hanging a one-person show at either location should contact the Guild at laagbr@laag-site.org or 225-926-4657.

Forum Salon

In Town Center on Corporate Blvd

The next exhibit change will happen on **May 23**.

The Forum Salon provides space for approximately 10 pictures, depending on size; spaces for paintings vary in size. However, space limits painting sizes to 24"x30" (or smaller). This exhibit provides good exposure since the salon is quite popular.



Atelier Rouge Salon Closing

The Atelier Rouge Salon in the Hilton Hotel provided a great opportunity for us to showcase our art to the clientele of the downtown area. However, the salon is closing its doors. For more info contact the Guild at laagbr@laag-site.org or 225-926-4657.

Current Exhibit

Spring Judged Show

The Spring Judged Show is on exhibit at the Independence Park Theater Gallery from February 17 to April 28. The show was judged by Carol Creel.

1st Place: William Crowell, *Salvation on Canal Street*

2nd Place: Jules Haigler, *Pounding Wind*

3rd Place: Sue Warnock, *Winter Wonder*

Honorable Mention

Joe Lackie, *Charles*

Mike MacDonald, *Royal Street*

William Crowell, *Silent Treasure*

Jules Haigler, *Caught in the Moment*

People's Choice

Joe Lackie, *Charles*



William Crowell, *Salvation on Canal Street*



Jules Haigler, *Pounding Wind*



Sue Warnock, *Winter Wonder*

Upcoming Exhibit

Workshop Show - Members Only

Independence Park Theater Gallery

Thursday, **April 28**, 12 - 4 pm

Reception is not until Sunday, July 10, 2 - 4 pm

Entering this show is an opportunity to share what you've learned in any workshop or class. This show differs from our other exhibits at Independence Park Theater Gallery where workshop pieces are not allowed. Another big difference is that this exhibit is FREE, no hanging fees. Note that entry is not limited to workshop pieces, and all the regular hanging rules still apply.

Life Drawing

Life Drawing Sessions

Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Fee: \$10.00 per night / \$30.00 per month

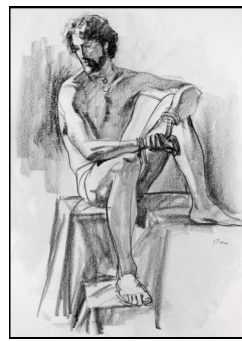
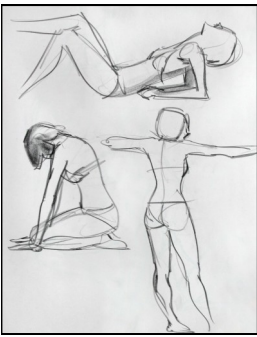
Sessions are open studio, no instruction provided.

Artists are welcome to draw or paint from a live model in different poses for various durations.

The sessions start off with approximately fifteen 1 minute warm-ups in different action poses.

Then the times increase to 5 minutes and 15 minutes. We also try to have two 30 minute poses followed by one long 45 to 60 minute final pose. For more information contact Steve Shamburger at steve@steveshamburger.com.

These sketches by Steve Shamburger are from different length poses: 1 min, 5min, 15min, 30min.



Recent Workshop

Kathy Miller Stone, NWS

Watercolor - Making a Masterpiece Using Light and Shadow

March 21-25, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Many LAAG members have expressed an interest in attending an evening workshop. Kathy Stone is a well known local artist who agreed to do our first five day workshop from 6-9pm. There was a good turnout of 13 people and many expressed interest in attending more workshops and classes in the future. Kathy taught her technique of masking and pouring watercolors to create dramatic shadows as the predominate subject of the painting. Kathy also demonstrated how to refurbish and rework old paintings using Saran Wrap and other techniques. When not demonstrating, Kathy shared numerous other tips and tricks. By the end of the workshop, each student had a completed painting.



Upcoming Workshops

Billie Bourgeois **Acrylic Painting for Beginners**

May 16 - 19, Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 3:30 pm

Fee: \$150.00 members / \$200.00 non-members

To register, contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com,
or 225-803-6785.

Supply List: laag-site.org/Artists/Bourgeois/Workshop_info.html

Billie Bourgeois' website: www.billiebourgeois.com



Class Description: The workshop will include a variety of exercises and techniques for developing a painting with the idea of composition being the key discussion, along with some basics of color theory. Hopefully everyone will get several pieces started and possibly finish some fast compositions. Emphasis is on the process of painting; no so much on completion. Billie is a big believer in having a dozen paintings 'going' and flipping the work from one to another to avoid stagnation. She will discuss how to come up with a variety of subject matter, good ways to utilize photographs and how to go from sketchbook to canvas. Participants can look forward to a balance of technical information and creative development.

Morten Solberg **Experimenting in Water-based Media**

June 6 - 10, Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm

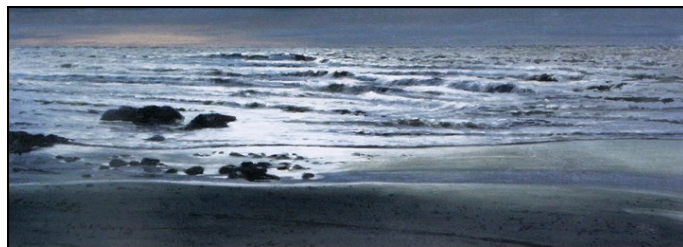
Fee: \$275.00 members / \$325.00 non-members

To register, contact Betty Klenke at bjklenke@gmail.com, or 225-371-3405.

Supply List: laag-site.org/Artists/Solberg/Workshop_info.html

Morten Solberg's website: www.mortensolberg.com

Class Description: This class will focus on the use of water-based media working in a more experimental direction, landscape, figure, florals and wildlife, etc. Mort will demonstrate every day for 2½ hours. He will be working in transparent watercolor, gouache, acrylic, gesso, and the combination of all of these mediums. He will demonstrate at artists' tables during the afternoon.





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This newsletter is produced by a Committee consisting of the following members:

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Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot
Exhibits: Anne Thigpen
Workshops: Leah Schwartzman
Interviews: Tom Skillern and Howard Hershberg

Information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Trish Poynot at grannytrishp@yahoo.com by the first of every other month. The newsletter is then published and mailed on the first of the next month.