



FLORIDA
WATERCOLOR
SOCIETY

Tampa International Airport
proudly presents the

**Florida Watercolor
Society at 50 Years:
*A Selective
Retrospective***

WHAT IS WATERCOLOR PAINTING?

In fine art painting, the term 'Watercolor' denotes a painting medium in which color pigments are bound in water-soluble agents. Originally, these binders were animal glues or certain sugars, but for decades the standard substance has been gum arabic. A variety of additives can be used (honey, glycerin) to increase plasticity and create other effects. Watercolors are a highly versatile medium and can be applied to an infinite number of substrates.

In 'pure' watercolor painting, no white is used. Instead, the white of white paper is left unpainted in areas to depict white objects or reflected light.

Currently, there are many water-soluble media available, including watercolors, acrylics, watercolor pencils and crayons, gouache, egg tempera, acrylic inks, and others. The main difference between watercolor and acrylic is that watercolor, when dry, is water-resoluble, meaning subsequent application of water will move the dry paint. Acrylics are water-resistant when dry. The Florida Watercolor Society accepts work in all water-soluble media (except oil paint or pastels) and acrylics and encourages our members to be bold and experiment. The paintings exhibited here were created with a large variety of water media and styles.



FLORIDA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

The Florida Watercolor Society is one of the largest State societies of its kind in the United States. Its mission is promote the art of watercolor and to educate the public as to the importance of watercolor as a creative and permanent painting medium, while contributing to the cultural atmosphere of the state of Florida.

50 years ago, Guy Beattie, Director of the Maitland Art Center, invited Florida watercolorists to contribute their work to an exhibition. Because of interest in the show, the Florida Watercolor Society was founded with twenty-six artists becoming Charter Members. Today, membership has grown to around 1000.

2021 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Florida Watercolor Society. This exhibit is part of that celebration. All these paintings have been shown in past FWS exhibitions and many are award winners.

FWS' main events are an Annual Exhibition, Convention & Trade Show every fall in various locations throughout Florida. The 2022 Exhibition, Convention & Trade Show will be held in Punta Gorda in September. In 2024, FWS will return to west central Florida, with its exhibit at Creative Pinellas in Largo.

For more information, visit the website floridawatercolorssociety.org or contact Kathy Durdin at KathyDurdin@gmail.com.



Sue Downes Allen

Palimpsest

2010

Recipient: The Margaret Cornish Debarba Award

Sue Downes Allen is a Signature member and past-president of Florida Watercolor Society, and she holds Signature status in the National Watercolor Society and Southern Watercolor Society. Her painting, *Palimpsest*, was included in the 2013 International American Watercolor Society exhibition in New York City and it has since received several prestigious awards.



Pauline Boston

Seatcovers

2013

A family friend who was a clothing salesman always called his line of slacks and shorts, "seatcovers" ...thus, the title of my painting. I thought of him a lot and smiled while I was painting this, which is my own closet's collection of "seatcovers".



Helen Burkett
Crimson and Gold
2020

My work is transparent watercolor using line, mass, and contrasting values and colors to create abstract rhythmic patterns within a representational image.



Jerome Chesley

Bowled Over

2015

Jerome has art degrees from SUNY College at Buffalo and studied at the University of Art in Siena, Italy, Scottsdale Art School and with distinguished teachers throughout the U.S. In addition, he has created multiple art projects benefiting community organizations. He has taught in both public schools and college throughout his life and served on Boards of Art organizations. He is a signature member and 2018 President of the Florida Watercolor Society, and Master Signature Member and past president of the Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society. Jerry teaches painting throughout Florida and at the renowned Chautauqua Institution summer program. He has won numerous awards for his paintings, many of which are in private collections.



Tanya Davis

Koi: The Chase

2017

Recipient: Holbein Artist Award of Excellence and
Escoda Award of Excellence III

My work explores connections and disconnections, in subtle ways that are played out in my compositions. In my Koi Series, the water surface acts to both clarify and to obscure. The central koi in *The Chase* appears at first to be alone. You can just glimpse his companions entering and exiting the frame.



Kathy Durdin
Bright Sunny Day II
 2018

For Kathy Durdin, the key is creating an image that connects emotionally to the viewer. She has always loved watercolor as a medium while it is very unforgiving, its freshness cannot be replicated. Watercolor provides her with a medium that allows her to create with work quickly and create paintings with freshness and immediacy as she expresses herself. Her style is loose, to take advantage of the characteristics of the medium. Her work needs to be viewed from a distance – small and large areas of color make up her images.

Kathy focuses on what she connects with emotionally, particularly people. She is always looking for inspiration around her. She finds interesting people, situations and images all the time. She rarely works on posed situations, as she finds informal interaction much more interesting.



Therese Ferguson

Double Red with Stripes

2019

Recipient: Laverne Phillips Memorial Award

Art has always been a part of Therese Ferguson's life and has come naturally as a passion. She studied drawing, design and painting in oils and acrylics at Eastern Florida College. After seeing a demonstration by a local watercolorist, she started exploring this medium on her own and since has taken workshops with top national watercolor instructors. Theresa's style is bold and bright. It stands out when you enter the room because of her use of strong values and composition, drawing you in to come closer and take time to absorb all of the emotion and beauty of the painting. She believes that art is not about decorating because the painting has the right color in it, but needs to be something that evokes an emotion and a love of the painting. You want to be able to walk by it everyday and remember why you loved it in the first time you saw it.



Sandi Hanlon-Breuer

Come on in... The Water is Fine!

2016

Sandi Hanlon-Breuer is inspired by the natural world and places discovered through travel. Both compel her to try to capture with watercolor the wonder and inspiration of a moment in time. Rather than attempting a literal portrayal, she paints the energy and emotion that first drew her to the subject. She believes transparent watercolor displays a special luminosity that is unique among painting mediums.



Karen Heidler
Nautical Selfie
 2018

My highly realistic watercolor paintings involve strategic planning in their execution. It excites me to see a painting come to life as I patiently layer color over color, allowing for drying in between. I think of my paintings as illustrations of a story, one that invites the viewer to be a participant. Whether it is a painting of an aged tree or individuals traveling by boat, there are untold stories that lie between the lines.



Lori Jenkins
Cry Me a River
 2015

My watercolors have best been described as intense. Color and contrast play an integral part on my work. I over exaggerate the intensity but try to keep it real. I paint by layering, with each painting having as many as ten layers. With each added layer, the painting comes to life.



Patti Kiuber

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie

2018

Recipient: Jerry Summers Memorial Award

I love watercolor because of the many challenges it presents to the artist, the beautiful effects that can result and the versatility of the medium. Some of my favorite subjects are members of my family - pets included. This painting was inspired when I came home to find my husband Mike and my dog Keller enjoying an afternoon nap. Who could resist?



Gwen Kodad
Woodstork II

2020

Recipient: Laverne Phillips Award

Gwen Kodad lives in the Bradenton/Sarasota area, where she enjoys painting nature, whether plants, animals or landscapes. She especially enjoys the Gulf coast and its beautiful scenery. Although she grew up in Florida, she spent most of her adult life in Charlotte, North Carolina. She is very happy to be back home and painting in this lovely area. Gwen has won several recent awards with her work featuring Florida's flora and fauna. Her work is currently displayed at the Artist's Guild on Anna Maria Island in Holmes Beach, Florida.



Diane Lary
That Knot's Yours
 2012

I strive to create a unique and interesting vision, using transparent watercolors on Arches paper. My inspiration comes from various places, such as nature, architecture, music, or a combination of images that convey a feeling or mood. That inspiration begins the process in my mind as I transform the initial spark that caught my eye into a thoughtful composition of color, complexity and feeling. I strive to create paintings that reflect my Tag Line "Fun Art for Life".



Jane McIntyre

Old Salt

2015

I like to explore the figure in a particular space or atmosphere that captures the energy of the sitter. The media, the imagery, the colors and values all support a mood. Juxtaposing areas of definition and diffusion where form and space interact augments these concepts. I prefer utilizing the figure in a portrayal of mood and attitude. The color and movement expose what lies beneath the surface of the likeness. My still life and landscape forms are approached in a similar manner, continually searching for movement, a mood and an energetic visual statement.



Robin Lee Makowski

Dragon Fire

2020

Robin Lee Makowski is a professional artist, illustrator, author, and instructor specializing in watercolor. *Dragon Fire* is one in a series of dragon fruit paintings. The artist focuses on color and dramatic lighting in her work, setting up her own still lifes in natural light and working from her own original concepts. Robin lives in north central Florida near Gainesville.



Ron Malone

To Go Order from Aunt Bee's

2019

I am a portrait artist who paints with watercolors. I find the variety in the human face, with so many expressions, varying emotions, offers great challenges. These challenges have given me a continual thirst for learning how to master them and teach other artists in my watercolor classes and workshops.



Vicki Morley
Toppled Table
 2019

When arriving at our summer home in Northern Wisconsin in the Spring, we discovered that the deep snow had slid off our metal roof and crushed our wrought iron patio table. After documenting the “toppled table” with a photograph, I discovered that it had a very fun abstract design which was the inspiration for this painting.



Donna Morrison
Cypress Base
 2018

Being a native Floridian, Donna Morrison's artistic concentration is on old world Florida. Her work brings attention to the need for conservation of virgin lands, creatures and cultures. She combines her passion for color and detail to produce works of art with a flair for the dramatic. She is widely recognized for her realistic representations that include such subject matter as water birds, landscapes, flowering plants, various creatures, and human portrayals. Donna enjoys painting with various mediums and surfaces and specializes in watercolor. She has been recognized in Artists Magazine as a "Top 10 Artist to Watch" and holds signature statuses in the National Watercolor Society, Southern Watercolor Society, and the Florida Watercolor Society.

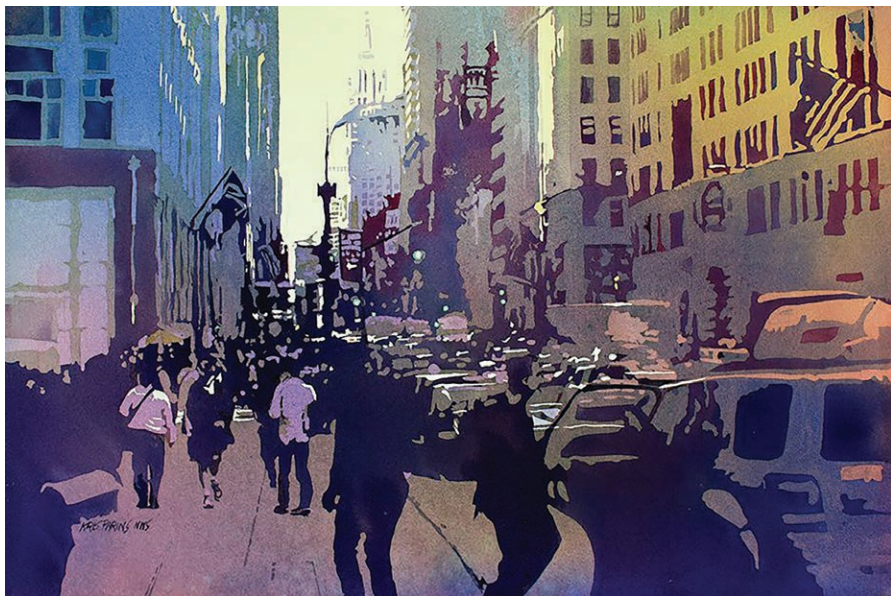


Suzanne Natzke

Safe!

2015

Things can happen quickly in life – blink, and you might miss it! Capturing that sense of motion, together with the anticipation and excitement of the moment, are my inspirations.



Kris Parins
Empire State
 2014

The subject is late afternoon hustle-bustle of Fifth Avenue NYC, captured in the compressed color range and atmosphere of that time of day. The constant flow of people, traffic, and sound that is New York City; the painting is a stop-action slice of time as the observer examines the view down Fifth Avenue toward the Empire State Building. Created using a watercolor mask-and-pour technique, *Empire State* is part of the artist's New York series.



Heather Rippert
Fabulous Flamingos
 2014

Heather Rippert is a fine artist living in Clearwater, Florida. She has been painting and drawing from the time she could hold a pencil. Her masterful and sensitive watercolors explore the vast beauty of the natural world emphasizing light and mood. Walking through life, perpetually seeking the 'lighted path' is a theme that can be felt in her paintings. Her work dances between representational and atmospheric abstraction.



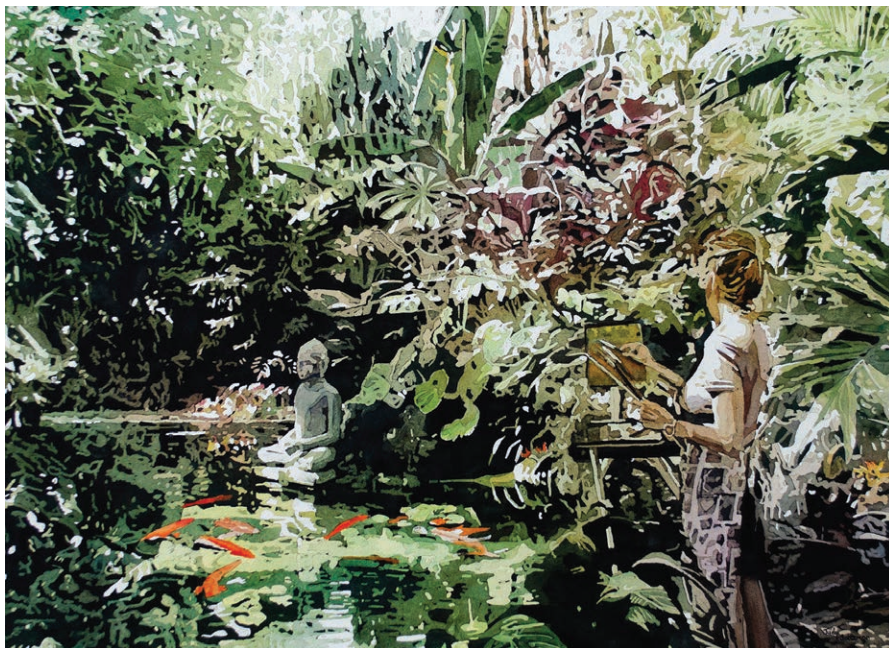
Roberta Romeo

Papaya Snack

2020

Recipient: Online Exhibit, First Place

I have a story, a moment, a feeling I want to share with my viewer and hope they dive into my art to linger and see, hear, and feel a shared moment. I love color so don't be surprised if the color pops off the paper. I love to see things as if from a magnifying glass and will often zoom in on my subject. I hope you enjoy for a fleeting moment my works.



Judy Saltzman
Secret Buddha Garden
 2021

Artist Judy Saltzman, leaves water marks with watercolor media. The award-winning artist creates expressive paintings with an impressionistic style to create visual intricacy while adding layers of color for harmony. Judy is a Signature Member of the National Watercolor Society (NWS), Transparent Watercolor Society (TSWA), Florida Watercolor Society (FWS) and the American Society of Marine Artists (ASMA).



Don Taylor
Peace at 811
 2014

Don is a signature/elected member of 17 major watercolor/art societies including TWSA, WW, FWS, WFWS, and SW. He served two terms and five years as President of the Southern Watercolor Society. His painting, *Peace at 811*, is a result of a visit to the French Quarter in New Orleans. It depicts the decay of many of the storefronts in the area, locked up, worn out, and weathered. The peace symbol was actually on the glass.



Rebecca Wilkerson
Kauai Water Garden

2016

Recipient: Margaret Cornish Debarba Award II,
 Savoir-Faire/Sennelier, Fabriano, Raphael Award

Crimson water lilies emerge within a pool hidden away on the island of Kauai. Sky and lilies reflect upon the surface of the water while still revealing what lies beneath. I was enthralled with the dichotomy of being able to see beneath the surface of the pool at the same time I was seeing the reflections from above. It seemed a perfect a visual koan for pondering and painting.



Jean Grastorf

Grecian Loom

2010

Recipient: Rhodes-Waller Award

Painting in the Greek Islands, I came across a weaver's small shop. The sun shone on her loom and blankets-a rainbow of color. This was a gift for my craftswoman daughter.



Roberta Oliver

School's Out

2012

The anticipation builds in our family as we look forward to heading down to Florida for the summer. School's Out captures a time of great joy for all of us as I photograph my nephew and son riding the wake of our boat. In this watercolor painting, I layered blues, greens and red for the water gliding over the jet ski leaving the white of the paper for all the splashes and waves. The expressions on their faces inspired me to paint this fond memory.



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