



Newsletter

November 2017

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224
verdugoarts.org Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, VHArt_News@yahoo.com

Nan Rae to present Chinese Brush Techniques, Nov. 3

7:00pm at the La Canada Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr.



We are very excited to offer a presentation by world renowned, local artist, Nan Rae on her Chinese brush techniques. Asian in technique, her work is profoundly impressionistic. Her deft, rapid brush strokes capture the viewer in a wondrous sweep of pure, free and energized freedom yet clearly contemporary, clean in form and candidly robust, often exhilarating. Exhibited at the Grand Palais in Paris, Japan and China, this best selling artist's paintings and prints hang not only in the most prestigious homes in Southern California but also in private and corporate collections across the country, in Canada and Europe.



Nan Rae brings to brush painting strong training and experience in Western Art and an early love of French Impressionists. It was Monet's home in Giverny that led to her study of Asian art. Her paintings sing with the joyous themes and harmonics of both forms so effectively that the fusion of East and West is visible even to the eye of the casual art lover.



Nan Rae has illustrated several books for various authors and the book "Suma the Elephant" won the prestigious Benjamin Franklin award in New York for the artwork. The New York Philharmonic chose Nan Rae's art for their important trip to North Korea and China. She has also provided the artwork for the San Francisco Symphony's yearly celebration of the Chinese New Year, as well as designing artwork for the Golden Globe invitations. You won't want to miss this demo of the "fusion of the art of East and West" by this very gifted artist!



A Note from the Editor

No "president's message" this month as treatment is keeping our fearless leader Bob Thomas away from his computer keyboard. But here are a few items to keep in mind.

Mark your calendars for our next meeting and Nan Rae's demo (remember to bring Artist of the Month entries!), our first member exhibition, and our first workshop of the year (dates noted on page 2).

We are still looking for someone to take over the camera operations for our meetings. Contact Linda Tindell or other board members if you'd like to volunteer or need more details about this very important task for our meetings.

If you have an upcoming exhibition of your work in a gallery or show, let me (Jeanne Windoffer) know. We like to let other members know.

And lastly, remember to check out our website www.verdugoarts.org. Dave, our webmaster, is able to include more info and photos than fit in our newsletter, and he often adds other interesting items. It's worth a visit!

Keep Calm and Paint (Draw, Sketch, Sculpt, Photograph) On!

Upcoming VHAA Member Exhibitions

November Members Exhibition: Take-in will be Monday, November 6 from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Take-down will be Monday November 27 from 5:00 to 6:00pm. PLEASE NOTE THE DATES AND TIMES! If you can't make the scheduled take-in time, please ask a board member about transporting your artwork. Members may enter up to 3 pieces, they must be prepared with wire hangers, and if appropriate, framed behind plexiglass (preferred) rather than glass. The juror for the show will be Rich Gallego (see below). We hope to have a great representation for this first show!

Miniature Show: at Pasadena Library in February. Watch for specific dates. Categories for this show are abstract, photography, representational, and small sculpture (check with the exhibit chair) that will fit in the allotted cabinet spaces. No framed piece may be bigger than 15 inches on any side, measured on the outside edges of the frame.

Current Local Exhibitions of Interest

Watercolor West opened at the Brea Gallery on October 14. Show runs through December 17.

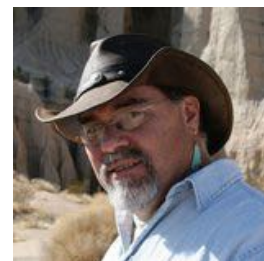
National Watercolor Society Gallery in San Pedro presents 97th International Open Exhibition, on now through December 17.

Brand Library: Brand 45 "Works on Paper" on now through December 17.

Plein Air Workshop with Rich Gallego, November 18



We have been looking forward to a workshop with oil painter Richard Gallego since his demonstration for us last February. For this workshop, Rich will demonstrate each step, having students then try it. He'll talk about value, shapes, and shadow patterns to develop the composition. This plein air experience is open to artists of any medium and will take place at Eagle Rock Recreation Center, 1100 Eagle Vista Dr in Eagle Rock, 90041. The workshop will run from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Flyers/registration are available on the website or contact aderian5@yahoo.com to reserve one of the limited spaces for this event.



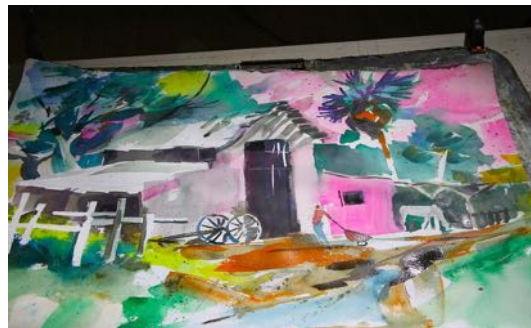
October Demo — Richard Martinez *by Jeanne Windoffer*

We had a fast-paced information-packed demonstration of watercolor by Richard Martinez. It's a sign of a good teacher when you get a review of the basics—stuff we all need to remember—the importance of line, direction, contrast, repeating color or shapes, focal points, values. Richard showed these, with plenty of commentary, as his brush danced around the paper creating the background and focal areas of his painting of a barn. As he dropped in a warm pink sky, he remarked he would come back with a cool blue. Later as he brought in greens for the trees, he was sure to carry some of the dark all the way to the top of the painting, in more than one spot.



He tried a new technique to him, using strips of masking tape to preserve whites for the fence posts, and light glints in the barn. When he removed them he mixed some gray to "knock them down", and bring areas forward or push them back, as well as indicating the shadows. He used negative painting to move the horse forward, while creating depth in the middle ground.

His barn was not red, nor white, but a pink/lavendar, with gray. It didn't have to be the "right" color to be an interpretation of the subject. The values worked. Wonderful shadows lined the front face of the barn, alternating with lines of light streaming through the broken eaves. As he painted he remarked on checking the shapes, creating direction to move your eyes through the painting, the importance of light against dark and dark against light, and how complementary colors really seem to work to make a painting pop. Thanks Rich for this dynamic demo!



Artist of the Month *by Judie Apablaza*

Our blue ribbon winner in the “Open” category was **David Crandon** for his oil pastel inspired by a photo in the LA Times. While he very much liked the composition, he found the muted colors in the newsprint to be uninspiring. Multiple experiments later David came up with a final version. The mood he portrays places the artist and observer in the coolness of the shade, dark trees that frame a warm, intensely colored background. David worked and reworked his design elements to create a balance of “interesting shapes.” For non oil pastel artists, David explained that creating with this medium requires that the artist build up layers on a surface. Cross-hatching and “scrumbling” with a “light touch” can create various textures over previous layers. David said blending colors with oil pastels is very difficult, for him at least, and is quite different from the process of using watercolors. He also noted that oil pastel was created by Sennelier, a French company, for Pablo Picasso.



David recently retired from a successful career in computer software in which he created, installed and trained staff in a financial institutional setting. He states that he is a “dabbler” in the fine arts, but I would rather imagine that he is using the same “attention to detail” that he applied in his professional career.



Dilmit Singh, a new member, won second place. Her watercolor titled, “Oh Jerusalem” resulted from a trip she took to Israel with a fact-finding group of educators. Dilmit found time to snap a few photos of the Dome of the Rock, with the golden dome illuminated in the setting sun. Surrounding the dome was a huge cemetery in contrasting grays with the city far below, as she observed the setting from the Mount of Olives. Dilmit stated that it was “visually the center of everything and so beautiful.”

Dilmit says that she is also a “dabbler” in the arts, finding time to sketch and paint as well as managing a home and family. She enjoys painting in oil and watercolor as well as keeping an illustrative journal. She feels that there is an intuitive connection with the beauty of the written language and fine art. We are so pleased that Dilmit happened to find our Verdugo Hills Art Association when she moved here a year ago. She was walking in the neighborhood and noticed our Friday meeting was just beginning. We are so pleased she took the unique opportunity to join us that evening and has become a member.

First place in the “Premier” category went to **Jay Ewing** for his painting “Bad Swalbach” in Germany. Jay is able to travel to exotic places for business and have time to do a bit of artwork while there. On this trip he found this town of narrow cobblestone streets and half-beam shops and residences—a quaint setting for a sketch. Jay is a master at architectural drawing and can complete the drawing with precision and realism. As he was catching the light and the shadows, school let out and some middle school boys surrounded him as he added final details. Deep into his subject, he didn’t notice the boys quietly helped themselves to his camera, took shots of him, the buildings and their fellow students, and then put the camera back. When Jay returned home, he was surprised to find many pictures that he had not taken on his digital camera!



Jay is an active, enthusiastic member. With a formal art background from Art Center College of Design and 20 plus years of commercial art experience, he loves to share his techniques and encouragement with others and often teaches classes and workshops (which have included several VHAA members!).

We want to welcome new (and returning) members to VHAA

Marcia Gaylor, La Canada
oil, charcoal, specializing in faces and pets

Dora Giordano, Glendale
oil

Kerry Kingsley, Pasadena
watercolor, photography, gouache, pen & ink

Mariana Rodrigues, Los Angeles
oil, watercolor, silver and gold.

REMINDERS and NOTES

DONT FORGET! Richard Gallegos plein air workshop on Nov. 18. Contact Arda at aderian5@yahoo.com, or get registration sheet on our website. Space is limited. You won't want to miss this!

Members with current exhibitions:

Cherrie O'Hagen at La Canada Library through October.

Kimberly-Ann Talbert Buenaventura Art Assoc Member show through Nov 11, and at the Ventura Community Memorial Hospital through January.

Board members please note: meeting Nov 6 will follow the exhibition take-in/set up at the library. It will be held at Magpie's Grill, 1438 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada Flintridge.



Make a Note:

Upcoming Events

- Nov 3 **Nan Rae Demo**
- Nov 6 **Exhibition Take-In 1:00-3:00pm**
La Canada Library
- Nov 18 **Workshop with Rich Gallego**

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Verdugo Hills Art Association

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Next Meeting
November 3

Next Board Meeting
November 6