

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR WATERCOLOR



BURCHFIELD PENNEY
ART CENTER

at SUNY Buffalo State

October 2015 Watercolor Newsletter

Exhibitions of Note



Danae Mattes (American, b. 1958), *Rain, A Hundred Roots Silently Drinking*, 2010, clay, paper, and pigment on canvas, 66 x 133 x 9 inches. Artist's Collection.

Transitory Waterscapes: Landscape Paintings and an Evaporation Pool by Danae Mattes

Snite Museum of Art

Notre Dame, IN

August 9 - December 6, 2015

The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, is featuring landscape paintings and an evaporation pool by American artist Danae Mattes. These beautiful landscapes are the artist's personal "maps" of time spent within nature, formal equivalents to the experience of moving through the landscape. She combines "materials and methods that are, in themselves, directly extracted from the earth and which interact in ways that are inherent to their physical properties." That is, the paintings are created from clay, fiber, and pigments, where shapes, patterns, and forms are revealed over time as pigments drain across sloped canvases and as pools of clay and pigment evaporate.

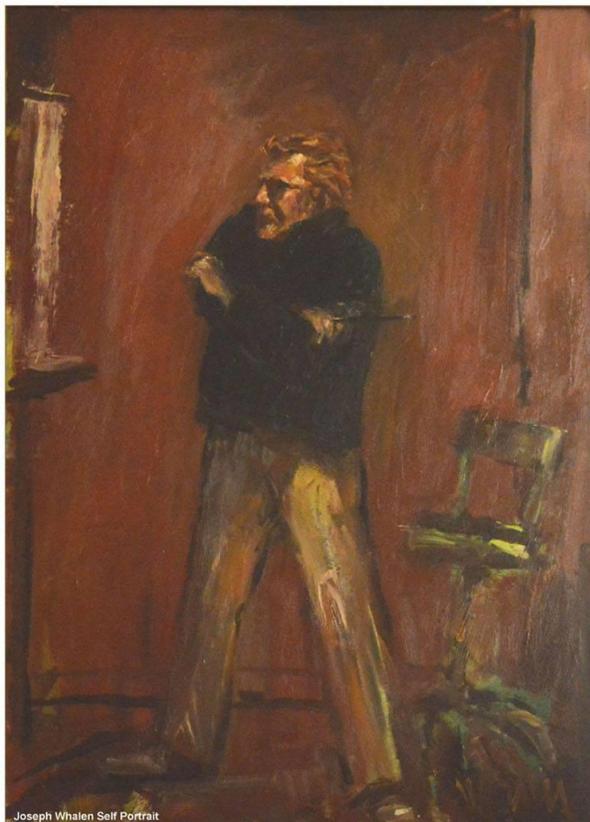
The week of September 7-11 Danae Mattes will also install an evaporation pool within the gallery with the assistance of Prof. Wm. Kremer and a few of his ND students. Liquid clay will be poured into a clay basin on the gallery floor. As the water evaporates from the clay over days and weeks, the various clays used will create distinct cracking and tonal patterns. More images and information are available at the artist's website: www.danaemattes.net

Pennsylvania Watercolor Society's 36th International Juried Exhibition

Carlisle Arts Learning Center

Carlisle, PA.

September 25 - November 13, 2015



Joseph Whalen Self Portrait

Whalen

A Legacy

Over 75 Years in the Making

October 4 - November 14, 2015

Market Street Art Studios

247 Market Street ♦ Lockport, NY 14094

Open Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sunday & Monday 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Closed Tuesdays - Free Admission

Opening Reception

Sunday, October 4th ♦ 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Light refreshments will be served

Wine Tasting by

Flight of Five Winery & Chateau Niagara Winery

Presented by

The Niagara Art Trail & The Market Street Art Studios

Special Thanks to

Joe Whalen & The Whalen Family

The Niagara County History Center

33rd Annual Juried Art Exhibition, Watermedia 2015

Montana Watercolor Society
Mountain Sage Gallery
Helena, MT.
October 1-31, 2015

47th Annual Watercolor West Juried Exhibition

City of Brea Art Gallery
Brea, CA
October 17 - December 13, 2015



Charles E. Burchfield (1893-1967), *In the Deep Woods*, 1918-56; watercolor on paper, 33 x 45 inches; Private Collection

Mystic North: Burchfield, Sibelius, & Nature

Burchfield Penney Art Center
In collaboration with Finn Fest USA Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
September 11, 2015–January 31, 2016

Charles E. Burchfield's journals and record album collection reveal the monumental significance that music, as well as sounds from nature and industry, had on his aesthetic. Music often conjured fantastic visions and evocative memories. The audiophile was astutely attuned to his surroundings, which led him to draw and paint in visual patterns what he heard from cascading ravine waterfalls, fierce blizzard winds, insect cadences, bird songs, vibrating telegraph wires, and train whistles—to name just a few. Research has revealed the strong possibility that Burchfield was synesthetic; that is, he simultaneously saw visual patterns and colors when he

heard sounds. Burchfield's special ability to connect sight and sound imbues his art with surreal qualities that invite viewers to share his multi-sensory experiences.

As his career developed, Burchfield strove to achieve in his grand watercolor paintings the same heroic romanticism that he heard in music, particularly that of Ludwig von Beethoven and Jean Sibelius. As early as 1930, he wrote: "I have just received the Second Symphony of Sibelius — Its power & beauty overwhelms me — what a magnificent genius is Sibelius — All the torture of barrenness and indecision that this autumn assailed me are dissolved in this elemental music — pictures and ideas pour in upon me — my joy is almost too great to be borne." Burchfield's landscapes also reveal his fascination with a symbolic representation of a pure, hauntingly beautiful, and awe-inspiring North woods. "North is an arbitrary term," he wrote late in life, "It is the Pole that my imagination yearns for —" *Mystic North* includes artworks by Burchfield that illustrate his evolving concept of winter's power and beauty, an idealized northland, as well as audio-cryptograms—the motifs he devised to make sound visible. Works from the Burchfield Penney Art Center's collection and archives are featured, including *Snow Patterns*—on view for the first time since its acquisition this spring.

Because the concept of "North" as a mystical, metaphorical, and inspirational place has intrigued artists for centuries, the exhibition includes works by two other artists for comparison. They are Akseli Gallen-Kallela (1865-1931), who was Sibelius' friend, painted his portrait, and is considered by many to be Finland's most famous artist; and Eric Aho (born 1966), an American of Finnish descent and Burchfield admirer who traveled to his ancestral country to paint expressive landscapes.

Museums

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

Alice Walton, Founder and Board Chairwoman

Every art collector has a first love.

Did you know, for Crystal Bridges' founder and board chairwoman Alice Walton, it was watercolor painting that initially drew her attention. An exhibition in 2014, *At First Sight*, offered a glimpse into how her early interest in watercolor grew into a lifelong love of art.

Making watercolor paintings has brought Walton great joy over the years, and it also contributed to her deep appreciation for the work of professional artists. Her initial interest in collecting watercolors grew into a fascination with American art, which soon inspired her to collect works by American artists in many media. *At First Sight: Collecting the American Watercolor* offered the rare opportunity to view some of the paintings that sparked Walton's earliest collecting interests, including works by Thomas Hart Benton, John Singer Sargent, Winslow Homer, Andrew Wyeth, and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Demonstrations, Workshops and Lectures

The Splendors of Watercolor with Ben Macomber

Rhode Island Watercolor Society

JC Potter Casino Building

Slater Memorial Park

Pawtucket, RI

October 6- November 24, 2015

Has it been a few years since you picked up a paintbrush? Or maybe you have never painted at all, but have always wanted to... In this class, the Rhode Island Watercolor Society's Ben Macomber will demonstrate the various techniques of working in watercolor and introduce his students to the characteristics of watercolor, application of paint and drying times. There will be a focus on composition, value, style and focal point.

Further information: RIWSGallery@gmail.com, 401-726-1876

<http://www.rhodeislandwatercolorssociety.wildapricot.org/page-1681668>

Painting Elements of the Landscape with Jerry Aissis

Rhode Island Watercolor Society

JC Potter Casino Building

Slater Memorial Park

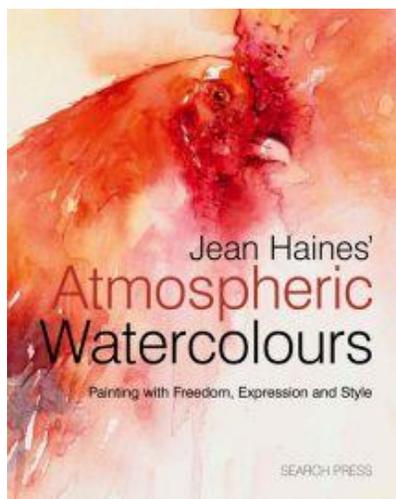
Pawtucket, RI

October 7- November 11, 2015

Rhode Island Watercolor Society's Jerry Aissis class will emphasize painting rocks, trees, water and buildings that can be used to create a landscape. Emphasis will be in mixing colors directly on the paper, learning to use controlled washes and creating textures that simulate actual objects used to paint a landscape. This six week class will have students using photos of their own to learn the basics of watercolor and how to push it to more than just copying the photo.

Further information: RIWSGallery@gmail.com, 401-726-1876

<http://www.rhodeislandwatercolorssociety.wildapricot.org/page-1681668>



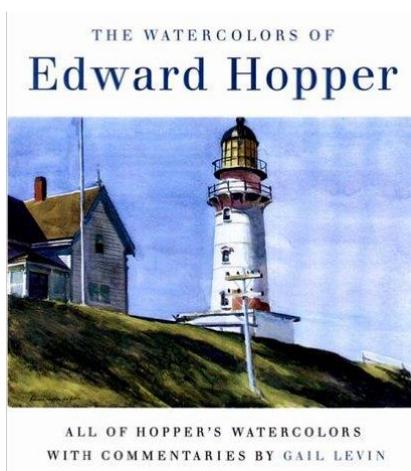
Jean Haines
Saint Louis Watercolor Society
Clayton, MO
October 24-25 or October 27-28, 2015

Jean Haines, SWA. is a member of the Society for Women Artists, and won the Anthony J Lester Award in 2009 during the SWA Annual Exhibition where her work was likened to Joseph Crawhalls from the famous Glasgow Boys. She regularly writes for art magazines and exhibits in a number of galleries.

Having lived and travelled in many countries this popular artist has had the opportunity to develop her skills creating incredible paintings whilst under the influence of masters from many countries including Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The combination of East meets West in her style is unavoidable and to be enjoyed. Free flow of water along with no fear of working directly minus the use of a preliminary sketch leads Jean to amazing results that often leave viewers of her working in awe. Light and the use of beautiful colour along with the ability to take any ordinary subject and turn it into an extraordinary painting with consistently unique results is what many artists aspire to achieve. Furthermore Jean has the ability to install enthusiasm and inspirational motivation in all around her.

Paintings by Jean can be found in homes all over the world. Favorite subjects are highly sought after from galleries as are places on her ever growingly popular workshops. These are always restricted in number of places to ensure the value for those attending.

Books, Catalogues and Publications



The Complete Watercolors of Edward Hopper

The complete watercolors of arguably America's best and probably America's most "American" artist. This magnificent volume reproduces all of Hopper's 357 watercolor paintings. They were

first published in the four-volume catalogue raisonné of the artist's works. Now they are offered at a price that will make them attractive to anyone seriously interested in art. Hopper was comfortable in both oil and watercolor, although his technique with each medium varied considerably. While oils were done in the studio, often from detailed sketches with notations on colors, the watercolors were painted on location and seem far more spontaneous. In the years since Hopper's death in 1967, many of his paintings have achieved iconographic status as statements about this country. His empty cityscapes and countrysides speak of our sense of loneliness and alienation, while his fascination with the light on Cape Cod and the buildings in Gloucester result in the evocation of feelings that can only be described as uniquely American. Publisher: Whitney Museum of American Art / W. W. Norton & Co.; Reprint edition (1/2001)

In the News

Nicholas Simmons



Nicholas Simmon , Darker Than Amber, 86x112 cm watercolor

Honoring Nicholas Simmons who passed away September 21, 2015

Nicholas Simmons was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and began painting in Sarasota, Florida. He studied under many well-known watercolorists, most notably Valfred Thëlin and Barbara Nechis. At the same time, Mr. Simmons pursued a music career as a professional guitarist. He did not return to visual art until 2004, when he began painting watercolor again and launched his website.

Mr. Simmons' paintings have been featured in a variety of publications such as *L'Art de l'Aquarelle*, *Watercolor Artist*, *Watercolor*, and a number of books. He has been featured on Maryland Public Television, and in 2008 his acclaimed DVD *Innovative Watermedia* was released by Creative Catalyst Productions. His work has graced the covers of classical music recordings, including those of world renowned guitar virtuoso, Manuel Barrueco. He is sponsored by Da Vinci Paintst, and Escoda Artist Brushes. His Signature Series of Escoda brushes were introduced in 2012.

Awards include top prize at the 2007 National Watercolor Society for his painting *Fresh Sushi*, consecutive gold medals at the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, 2008-2009, and the gold medal at the Texas Watercolor Society in 2010. In 2012 he was the first recipient of the National Watercolor Society's special Masters Award.

A 14-page feature in the Winter 2009 issue of *Watercolor* magazine included this summary of the artist's work, written by John Parks:

Nicholas Simmons paints in watermedia on a scale that rivals oil painting. The subject matter is a dazzling mix of figures juxtaposed with printed lettering, graffiti, Japanese block prints, neon lights, reflections, and lavish corners of nature. The effect can be disorienting, as though a camera has taken a picture by accident, revealing an image that is both exciting and mysterious. The paint itself swirls, floods, drips, and spatters, driven on by the general excitement of the imagery and giving the work a sense that it was done in a rush in a matter of minutes.

Mr. Simmons exhibits internationally as a solo artist and with major watermedia stars in group and invitational exhibitions, as well as one of six members of North American Watercolor Artists (NAWA), representing the United States. He was the sole judge representing the United States at the Shanghai Zhujiajiao International Watercolour Biennial, the world's largest watercolor exhibition, in 2010 and 2012. He has judged numerous other major exhibitions. His work is held in public and private collection in the United States, Europe, and China.

Nicholas Simmons' work has earned him a worldwide reputation as one of the most exciting artists in contemporary watercolor.



Paul Klee (German, 1879-1940), Black Columns in a Landscape, 1919, Watercolor, Pen, and ink on paper; 8x10 3/8 inches, The Berggruen Klee Collection, 1987

In the spring of 1919, Klee rented a large studio in the Schloss Suresnes, a neglected eighteenth-century palace in Schwabing, Munich's artists' quarter. According to Klee's son Felix, Suresnes, its park, and the nearby Englischer Garten served as inspiration for this watercolor. It depicts Ionic columns, a large chestnut leaf, a thin black cross, a small red pavilion, and a boat on the River Isar, which flows through Munich.

Metropolitan Museum of Art, <https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/works-of-art/1987.455.1>



Stuart Davis, New York Waterfront 1938, Gouache on paper



Louise Bourgeois, *Triptych for the red room*, Etching and Watercolor, Collection Xavier Tricot, Ostend. 1/3 PMMK, Ostend. Museum voor Moderne Kunst.

Louise Bourgeois was born in Paris in 1911 on Christmas day. After graduating from the Sorbonne in 1935, where she concentrated on math and philosophy, Bourgeois studied at art schools such as the École du Louvre, Atelier Bissière, and the École des Beaux-Arts. Three years later she enrolled in classes taught by the Modernist artist Fernand Léger. In 1938, she married American art historian Rover Goldwater and moved to New York. There, she began her artistic career as a painter and printmaker but eventually turned to sculpture in the late 1940's. Her abstract work incorporates the use of bronze, plaster, marble and latex. In 1933, Bourgeois represented the United States at the Venice Biennale.

The career of Louise Bourgeois has spanned almost seventy years. "My early work is the fear of falling. Later on it became the art of falling. How to fall without hurting yourself. Later on it is the art of hanging in there" (*Destruction of the Father*).

<http://masterwatercolors.blogspot.com/2010/08/louise-bourgeois.html>

On-line Newsletter Editor

Kathy Gaye Shiroki, Curator of Museum Learning and Community Engagement