



WaterMedia

July 2018



Menemsha Hideaway by Susan Stranz

“GREAT THINGS ARE DONE BY A SERIES OF SMALL THINGS BROUGHT TOGETHER.” – VINCENT VAN GOGH

Exciting things are happening at RIWS! We're thrilled to announce that we recently received two more grants in the amount of \$10,000 and \$3,000 from the Champlin Foundation and the City of Pawtucket, respectively. These funds will assist us in making some much needed renovations to our gallery space. Those of you who have come in recently will have noticed that we've already begun the process by creating a more airy and elegant greeting area as you walk in. However, our efforts will truly begin in earnest some time in mid-July when we'll be putting in laminate flooring. The new flooring will brighten up the space by reflecting the natural light as well as provide a more durable and hygienic alternative to carpeting. Other changes that will be taking place include creating dedicated areas for our card and bin work in order to maximize sales, and removing a lot of the general clutter that has collected over the years.

Cosmetic improvements are just one part of our greater vision going forward. The ultimate goal is to continue to honor our history as a watercolor society while establishing a dynamic gallery that will ensure we can serve our members and the art community for many years to come. We want to invite everyone to participate in this process and to thank you for your patience as we begin to execute it. Please be sure to check our web site for gallery hours which might be affected by it. Onward and upward!

President's Corner

Moments at the *Light & Shadow* opening last Saturday:

- The laughs and appreciation of a crowd enjoying the artist demonstration
- Artists celebrating their achievement with their family
- A portrait and its captivating subject being celebrated
- A new member getting into their first show
- A member of the original Providence Watercolor Club over 42 years ago getting an award for the first time
- Artists viewing, commenting and appreciating all the wonderful art displayed

I am always impressed by the community and the talent at RIWS. It's exciting and it's fun. There is something for every member to be a part of. A good place to start... Enter the RIWS 23rd National Show by August 3rd!

Jackie Habig, President

Director's Corner

The *Light & Shadow* open juried show is up and has some really stunning work in it. The opening that we held on June 23rd was one of the best attended openings I have seen here at RIWS. Part of that is in thanks to our friend Bill Lane who gave an incredible demonstration. It was so wonderful to have such a full and lively community here in our space.

As we look forward, I urge you submit to our 23rd National Watermedia Competition. The deadline for that is August 3rd, which will be here before you know it. If you are a member, be sure to use the "riwsmember" coupon code to receive \$5 off your submission. We're giving away \$5,000 in cash prizes, so play the odds and submit more than one! We also have our small works fundraiser coming up, so keep an eye on your inbox for more information on that.

We are incredibly grateful for the participation of all our members. Thanks to you, we are having another great year! For many of you, the next time you come into the gallery you'll experience new floors and a new front desk layout in our main gallery space. Thanks goes out to the generous folks at the Champlin Foundation for the grant money to allow us to do this. In addition, we also need to thank the City of Pawtucket for the \$3,000 they gave us for the Arts Organization Grant. We're proud to continue to build on our society with the help of these grants and with yours.

Finally, it is with sadness that we share the news of the passing of our friend Roberta Remieres. Roberta was the RIWS gallery secretary for many years. Our thoughts are with her friends and family at this time.

Sam Green, Gallery Director

RIWS Member Interview

WILLIAM HEYDT

How did you get started as an artist?

At a very young age, I realized that I didn't like to play sports or study much. I was kind of a loner and painting and drawing gave me a lot of satisfaction. Instead of following the lessons in class, I would draw the teacher's portrait on my desk. Consequently, my SAT's were pretty miserable and the prospects of Community College were quickly becoming a reality. After one semester of that, I decided to try to transfer to a real art school and my parents agreed that it was probably my best option. I applied and was accepted at RISD. I felt I was at home among people like me that just enjoyed making art.

Who are your biggest artist influences?

I love so many artists that it would be difficult to narrow it down. From Andy Warhol to Egon Schiele, there is so much to learn from looking at someone's work. When I travel, I love to find new artists and new works. You could give me a couple bags of M&M's and drop me off at any museum, and I would be happy.

What is your favorite subject to paint?

I have always painted the people and places in my life.

Where do you enjoy painting most?

I love painting and drawing with friends outdoors or in a figure drawing session but I get most of my serious work done in a studio setting. It takes me a long time to fight through a number of visual problems and sometimes the painting will be in my studio for months before I resolve it.

How do you determine if a piece is finished or successful?

Good question. Something I wrestle with always. Sometimes 80% of the painting is resolved and 20% bugs the hell out of me. In a portrait, I look for the life or energy of the subject to come off the page and have a presence. It ain't easy but I enjoy the struggle.



America's Cup, Newport



Bart Dunbar, Visionary Leader for the SSV Oliver Hazard Perry



Rita Rogers, Painter and Poet




CURRENT EXHIBITION
Light & Shadow
 June 23 - August 2



ART STUDIO FOR KIDS
 5 DAY CAMP WITH ELIZABETH O'CONNELL

Mon-Fri, August 6-10, 1:00 - 3:00pm
 Class size limited to 10
 RIWS members' children \$90 / Non-member \$100
 All materials included



REALISTIC WATERCOLORS VIA TRANSPARENT WASHES
 INSTRUCTOR: J.M. LITTLETON
 JULY 14 - 15, 2018
 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM



Mary Wojciechowski:
Alcohol Ink Workshop
 1-Day Workshop
 (Beginners Welcome!)
 August 11, 2018
 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Members \$90
 Non-members \$110



Marketing with Instagram for Artists
 (For current Instagram users)
 with Cynthia DiDonato
 Date and Time: July 25, 2018, 10am-12pm
 \$45 for Members
 \$55 for Non-Members



Nadislav Zeliseyev
3-Day Watercolor Workshop
 September 12-14
 9am-4pm each day
 Members \$475 / Non-members \$475



Evelyn Bernal: Wet on Wet Techniques in Watercolor
 1-Day Workshop
 July 28, 2018 / 10:00am - 4:00pm
 Members \$90 / Non-members \$110



3-DAY WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP WITH MARLA GREENFIELD
 NOVEMBER 7-9 10AM-4PM EACH DAY

Dates to Remember

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|---------------------------|--|
| June 22 - July 7 | East Side Arts Center Invitational Pick Up |
| June 23 - August 2 | Light & Shadow Open Juried Show Exhibition |
| July 4 - 5 | GALLERY CLOSED in observance of Independence Day |
| July 14 - 15 | J.M. Littleton: Realistic Watercolor via Transparent Washes Workshop |
| July 25 | Marketing with Instagram for Artists with Cynthia DiDonato |
| July 28 | Evelyn Bernal: Wet on Wet Techniques in Watercolor Workshop |
| August 3 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Submission Deadline |
| August 4 | Rhode Island Small Works Fundraiser Opening Reception, 2-4pm |
| August 4 - September 13 | Rhode Island Small Works Fundraiser Exhibition |
| August 6 - 10 | Elizabeth O'Connell: Art Studio for Kids Workshop |
| August 11 | Mary Wojciechowski: Alcohol Ink Workshop |
| August 15 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Notification of Acceptance |
| August 17 - September 8 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Drop Off/Delivery |
| September 12 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Jurying of Awards |
| September 13 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Winners Notification |
| September 15 | Demo by Vladislav Yeliseyev |
| September 15 - November 8 | 23rd National Watermedia Competition Exhibition Dates |

DATES ARE
SUBJECT TO
CHANGE. PLEASE
VISIT OUR WEB
SITE AT
WWW.RIWS.ORG
FOR THE MOST
UP TO DATE
INFORMATION.

RIWS 23rd National Watermedia Competition

RIWS NATIONAL SHOW 2018

JUROR:

Vladislav Yeliseyev

EXHIBITION DATES:

September 15 - November 8

OPENING RECEPTION:

September 15, 2-4pm

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

August 3

NOTIFICATION OF

ACCEPTANCE:

August 15

DROP OFF / DELIVERY:

August 17 - September 8

WINNERS NOTIFICATION:

September 13

PICK UP / SHIPPING:

November 9 - 24

Dear RIWS members, artists, patrons, and visitors,

We're proud to have restructured our schedule and to now be hosting a National Show every year. This gives members more of an opportunity to become a Signature member and it also allows for us to expand our community as we advertise across the country.

Your participation in our National Watermedia Competition is hugely important to us. In fact, we rely on your participation as our measure of success. Which is why we hope you will submit to this call.

RIWS is giving away over \$5,000 in cash awards for the National Show, making it a wonderful opportunity to earn some prize money. We do this because we believe it's important to reward and honor the hard work you all put into your paintings.

One stigma that we hear too often from our members is that some feel like they are not "good enough" to apply. While it's true that the caliber of the works submitted to our National Show is quite high, that never means that one should not apply. The fact is, it's all up to one juror with one opinion. Yes, RIWS prides itself on finding incredibly qualified and talented artists to jury all our shows, but remember they are just one person. Every juror looks for something different and they almost never choose the most technically skilled painting. This is why it's important that you simply be yourself, try your best and apply.

Also, remember, you can submit up to 3 paintings into this show. We find that members are often surprised by which of the 3 the jurors choose to be accept, so do yourself a favor and play the odds - submit more than one!

Thanks so much and we look forward to seeing many wonderful entries!

RIWS Newsletter Information

Officers: President: Jackie Habig, Vice President: Leslie Godfrey, Treasurer: Dennis Finlay, Corresponding Secretary: Elinor Thompson

Directors: Evelyn Bernal, Paula Correia, Bernadette Pace, Liz Palter, Denise Petrin, Frank Robertson, Dyan Rook, Mary Wojciechowski

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Email to: riwsgallery@gmail.com including "Newsletter Submission" in subject title