



WaterMedia

March 2018



Lionfish Trio by Kris Occhino

AN ART EDUCATION

One of the wonderful things about watercolor painting is that there is always so much more we can learn from it than what we put on the paper. There may be a technique, a tool, or a subject we are most comfortable with, but there is always the opportunity to venture in a different direction if the mood strikes us. RIWS knows that our interests flow as freely as the paint. That's why we offer a variety of workshops to help our members and the public explore their curiosities in an informative, fun, and supportive setting. We also know that artists work in many different mediums, so we are constantly incorporating more diversity into our classes.

In this issue, you will find workshops that range from ongoing favorites like alcohol ink to new ones like paper collage. While our past workshops have generally catered to adult artists, we are happy to announce that we are also offering a class to children. We hope this will be the first of many. Remember to check our web site at www.riws.org to learn more about all of our workshops and to register. With Spring just around the corner, they're bound to fill up quickly, so don't miss out.

Also in this issue, we have added a new monthly feature called the *RIWS Member Interview*, which will allow us to get to know one of our members a little better. Featured members are selected at random, so don't be surprised if we call you next! Happy painting, everyone!

President's Corner

April 7th is the RIWS annual meeting. This is a the time for our members to see what we accomplished last year and what great things we have planned for 2018.

While most members are aware of shows, classes, and workshops; there may be other activities that the gallery staff and board handle. We are always looking for grant opportunities, fundraising ideas, membership engagement ideas, and more.

If you want to understand more of what we do, come to the annual meeting on April 7th. If you have ideas, please share them.

And don't forget, the artist member show will be on display and there is a great book talk scheduled for it.

Jackie Habig, President

Director's Corner

With each passing month, I try to build on what I believe the mission statement ought to be here at RIWS. We often have so much going on that it's extremely difficult to put a fine point on our mission as an organization. Recently, I've been thinking about how we have become so much more than just a watercolor society. I think this speaks to the magic of art making. I'm consistently surprised by how much we are able to accomplish together through our shared love for one simple medium. We all love watercolor, but think about all that we have accomplished beyond a single common interest. I think our programming reflects this passion we all share.

We have more classes and more workshops with each passing year. Jennifer Littleton is going to do a free presentation on her work on March 29th at 6:30pm for those who are interested. She paints highly realistic watercolors through the use of many transparent layers. The event is free and we'll have some tasty refreshments for anyone that wants to attend. Later this spring we're also going to run our first kids class. This is a big step for us and has enormous potential for growth. It also opens us up to a lot more grant opportunities, which, down the line, could really mean a lot for RIWS. It's imperative that our members help share our new kids class. There is no greater form of marketing than that of word-of-mouth, so I ask that you share this news with anyone you think may be interested.

Our annual member meeting is just around the corner on April 7th, so give some thought to what you would like to bring to that discussion. As always, let me remind you how important your voice is to us. Thank you.

Sam Green, Gallery Director

(New Feature) RIWS Member Interview

KRISTINA OCCHINO



How did you get started as an artist?

I was always interested in art from the time I was a child. I got serious about it when I attended Skidmore College. My professor, Arthur Anderson, made me believe I had "talent". I then went on to RISD to get my Masters in Art Education. Teaching has pushed and inspired me to become a more accomplished artist.

What got you interested in watercolor?

I was a printmaking major in college and didn't learn to paint in watercolor until I took an evening continuing education class at RISD in 1996. After completing two courses there, I was "hooked".

Who are your biggest artistic influences?

Artists from the 19th and 20th century who did landscapes and marine art like Winslow Homer, John Singer Sargent, and Edward Hopper. I admire the work of contemporary artists like Wolf Kahn, Carlton Plummer and Stephen Quiller, for their brilliant use of color.

How would you describe your style?

Representational and detailed with attention to light and color. My colors are slightly exaggerated to add to the mood of the work.

What is your favorite subject to paint?

I don't have just one favorite. At the moment: Landscapes, marine art and flowers.

Do you work in other mediums?

I paint in acrylic and oil, also. These mediums have influenced my watercolors and vice versa.

Where do you enjoy painting most?

I paint mainly in my studio but enjoy painting and sketching plein air when I can.

What role has RIWS played in your artistic career?

I took classes from Al Albrektsen and have taken several workshops. My work greatly benefitted from the critiques on Monday Open Paint nights thanks to Joan Croce and Bill Lane.

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

The first exhibition of my watercolors took place at RIWS. (Group show.) I have been in several group shows since then. Being involved as a volunteer, board member and eventually the director helped me get acquainted with the membership. I really value the friendships I have made over the years.

Are there other watercolor painting styles you're interested in experimenting with? I am currently working on a fairly large acrylic on paper that is in a more contemporary style. It's all about big shapes and color. Trying something new stretches your ability and sensibility.

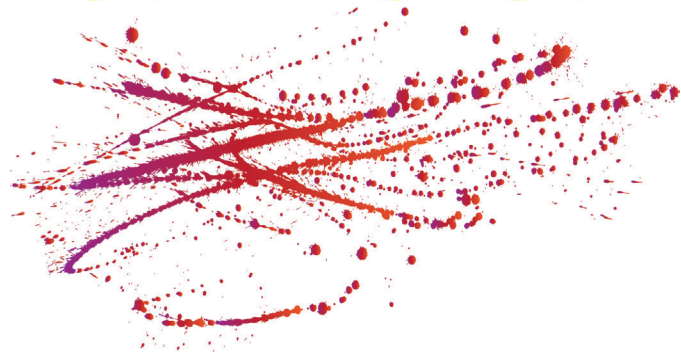


Galloways at Sunrise

The Brilliance of Color

CURRENT EXHIBITION

Exhibition dates:
February 24 - April 5
Opening reception:
February 24, 2-4pm



Monday Watercolor Sessions

Start your week off with a pop of color!

Join us at the RIWS gallery for weekly Monday watercoloring sessions. Paint with peers in a relaxed setting with the option to participate in an informal critique.

Every Monday / 12:30PM - 3:00PM / \$5 members / \$8 non-members

Drops-ins welcome. Please bring your own supplies.

SUNDAY GALLERY SITTERS NEEDED



RHODE ISLAND WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

RIWS is looking for volunteers to sit for our gallery on Sundays from 12:00PM - 4:00PM. All backgrounds are welcome, but an interest in art helps. Volunteer artists working with any media are welcome during this time to display their original creations for purchase.

831 ARMISTICE BLVD
SLATER MEMORIAL PARK
PAWTUCKET, RI 02861

WWW.RIWS.ORG
RIWSGALLERY@GMAIL.COM
401.726.1876

RIWS is a non-profit organization.

122nd Annual Members Show

- OPEN TO -
ARTIST, SIGNATURE, & LIFETIME MEMBERS

Juror: Andrew Kusmin
Opening Reception: Apr 7, 2-4pm
(with book talk by Andrew Kusmin)
Drop off: Mar 28 - Apr 5
Pick up: May 11 - 26

www.riws.org/122-members-show

Free Artist Presentation By Jennifer Littleton

Thursday March 29
from 6:30pm- 7:30pm

Free & Open to the public
Light refreshments will be provided

Rhode Island Watercolor Society
Slater Memorial Park
831 Armistice Blvd. Pawtucket, RI 02861



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROMOTE YOUR EVENT IN OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 401.726.1876
RIWSGALLERY@GMAIL.COM.

Dates to Remember

January 12 - March 2	Evelyn Bernal: Wet on Wet Techniques in Watercolor Workshop (Intermediate-Advanced)
February 23 - March 10	Get Acquainted Members Show Pick Up
February 24 - April 5	The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show Exhibition
March 7 - 8	Collage Course: Painting with Paper
March 28	Promote Your Art On Instagram
March 28 - May 2	Sue Klas-Wright: Watercolor Workshop (no class April 11)
March 28 - April 5	122nd Annual Artist Members Show Drop Off
March 29	Jennifer Littleton: Free Artist Presentation
March 30 - May 18	Evelyn Bernal: Wet on Wet Techniques in Watercolor Workshop (Intermediate-Advanced)
March 31	Mary Wojciechowski: Alcohol Ink Workshop
April 6 - 21	The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show Pick Up
April 7	122nd Annual Artist Members Show Opening Reception / Annual Members Meeting
April 7 - May 10	122nd Annual Artist Members Show Exhibition
May 5 - May 26	Elizabeth O'Connell: Art Studio for Kids (Ages 5-9)
May 10 - 12	Andrew Kusmin: Watercolor Workshop
May 11 - 26	122nd Annual Artist Members Show Pick Up

Upcoming Workshops

Starting in March



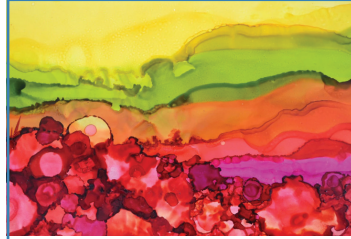
**PAINTING WITH PAPER
COLLAGE COURSE**
MARCH 7 - 8
10AM - 12:30PM



**Promote Your Art on
Instagram**
**PROMOTE YOUR ART
ON INSTAGRAM**
MARCH 28
10AM - 12PM




**EVELYN BERNAL
WET ON WET TECHNIQUES**
MARCH 30 - MAY 18
10AM - 1PM EACH DAY



**MARY WOJCIECHOWSKI
ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP**
MARCH 31
10AM - 3PM

Future Workshops



**SUSAN KLAS-WRIGHT
TASTE FOR POSSIBILITIES**
MARCH 28 - MAY 9
(NO CLASS APRIL 11)
12PM - 3PM EACH DAY



**ELIZABETH O'CONNELL
ART STUDIO FOR KIDS**
(AGES 5-9)
MAY 5 - 26
1PM - 3PM EACH DAY



**ANDREW KUSMIN
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP**
MAY 10 - 12
9AM - 4PM EACH DAY



**JACK HARAN
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP**
JUNE 20 - 22
9AM - 4PM EACH DAY

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
Editor: Sam Green, Gallery Director
Design & Layout: Andrea Braga, Gallery Assistant
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Email to: riwsgallery@gmail.com including "Newsletter Submission" in subject title