



# GRAPEVINE

WINTER 2021  
AAPL Grapevine Newsletter

## ***From Your President:***

To all our members:

We are very happy to present the Winter 2021 edition of your Grapevine and offer belated wishes for a safe and peaceful New Year.

We are particularly pleased to report your Board of Directors has recently welcomed three new members, Jodie Kain, Gary Eckhart and Lee Gobbi. Each will contribute their particular areas of experience and skill sets to the future of the League. Later in this issue you will get to know them a bit better.

By now, you should have received the catalog commemorating the 92nd Grand National Exhibition, the first ever conducted online. If it has not arrived in your mailbox, please be patient. Board Member Aki Kano is to be congratulated for the fresh, new design.

Looking toward to the future the Board, under the leadership of Arlyne Berzak and Fran Wood, has undertaken the task of updating the League's bylaws. Upon its completion we are confident it will renew and maintain the AAPL's relevancy in a changing art world.

Talking about the future, the art world is currently experiencing a measurable reemergence and rediscovery of the Realism School of American Art. In theory, this should have significant and positive implications for the League. But we have to be prepared and ready with a contemporary branding and modern communications strategy to meet the challenge head on.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on everyone's life. We have all had to learn the new technologies of remote, digital and social media opportunities. It is through these portals that the League will gain new members, attract more participants to the GNE and reinforce the marketability of realism art.

Finally, "Come Blow your Horn" features "news" from more than twen-

ty-five of your fellow members, more than double from the last edition! Don't let them steal all your thunder. This is your chance to brag a little. We look forward to seeing *your "news"* in the next issue, so start sending them. It's never too early.

We very much appreciate your continued support of the AAPL.

***Shelly Marks, President***

## **2021 SPRING ONLINE MEMBERS' SHOW**

### ***THE THEME***

The theme for the first show of 2021 is: EXPLORE.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines "Explore" as "to examine a subject or a possibility completely or carefully in order to find out more about it".

It is the ultimate challenge for an artist, to take on a familiar subject or idea with an entirely fresh, new perspective

### ***THE FACTS***

All members are invited to enter one (1) work of art of their choice (oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, graphics, other media or sculpture).

All accepted works will be displayed on the AAPL website through August 30, 2021

Entry fee: \$25

Registration deadline is February 15, 2021

Awards Announcement: March 15, 2021

Show Dates: April 1, 2021 – August 30, 2021

### ***AWARDS***

Within each medium category: First place: \$200, Second place: \$100, Third place: \$50

## **WORKS ELIGIBLE**

Open to all members who have paid their 2021 dues. Only one (1) entry per artist may be accepted. Works only in Representational or Traditional Realism will be considered. All entries in oil, acrylic, water-color, mixed media, pastel, graphics and sculpture must be original and not previously exhibited with the American Artists Professional League.

## **APPROVED METHOD OF PAYMENT**

REMIT PAYMENT THROUGH JURIED ART SERVICES.

Note: Entries must be paid on or before February 15 or will be excluded from the competition.

## **PROCESS OF SUBMISSIONS**

All entries are to be submitted via Juried Art Services (JAS). Go to: [www.juriedartservices.com](http://www.juriedartservices.com) to start the entry process for submission.

*If you have any questions please email us at:*  
[americanartistsproleague@gmail.com](mailto:americanartistsproleague@gmail.com)

*Or go to our website:*

[www.americanartistsprofessionalleague.org](http://www.americanartistsprofessionalleague.org)

## **COME BLOW YOUR HORN!**

### ***Liron Sissman:***

Liron Sissman, AAPL Elected Fellow, just completed a private commission: Our Marsh, oil 36x48. Two of her works were also purchased by AtlantiCare Medical Center for their Orthopedic Surgery Center in Egg Harbor Township, NJ. Liron's website: [www.Liron.com](http://www.Liron.com)



**"OUR MARSH," OIL**

### **Bruce Horn:**

Bruce published an art book this year titled, "The Art of Being an Artist." It is filled with 80 reproductions that illustrate the theory, techniques and history of being an artist. Many of the reproductions are examples of important artists throughout history. The writing includes accounts of creative challenges and teaching experiences that impart a personal dimension to the text. "The Art of Being an Artist" is available from both Amazon and Barnes and Noble. For an Amazon link go to:

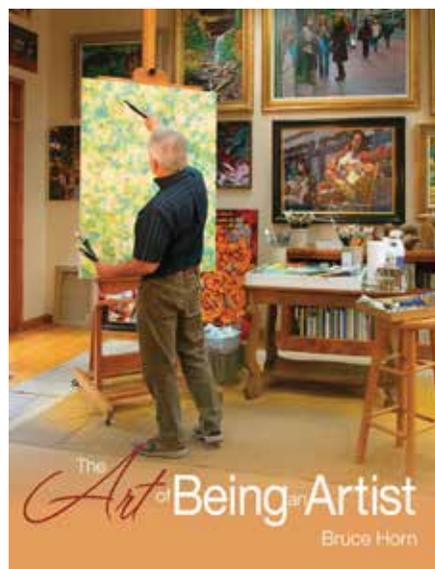
**[www.amazon.com/author/www.brucehornart.com](http://www.amazon.com/author/www.brucehornart.com)**

Bruce Horn is the 2nd Place Award winner for his painting "The Conversation" in the Oil and Acrylic category of the American Artists Professional League 2020 Members Show "Favorite Things."

Bruce has also received the Painting Award for his artwork "The Travelers" in the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts 2020 Exhibition.



**"THE TRAVELERS," OIL**



**COVER OF BRUCE HORN'S  
NEW BOOK**

### **Lee Alban:**

Lee's painting, "Stephanie-Lady of Steam" received an Award of Merit from AAPL this year and he became an Elected Artist member. The same painting also received the Gold Medal of Honor from the Allied Artists of America Annual Exhibition. The painting "Stephanie" is also a finalist in the Art Renewal Center Salon. Another painting, "Waiting on a Night Train," is a finalist in the ARC landscape category. His painting of "Nicole Unchained" received the Best Narrative award from the NOAPS Small Painting Exhibition. The International Guild of Realism accepted my painting, "Shelley, at Strasburg Railroad" for their live exhibition at the Principle Gallery in South Carolina. While Lee was in Charleston, he was offered representation by the Reinert Fine Art Gallery to paint lowcountry landscapes.



**"SHELLEY AT STRASBURG RAILROAD," OIL**



**"WAITING ON A NIGHT TRAIN," OIL**



**"CREEK'S EDGE," OIL**

### **John Guiseppe:**

John's latest piece, "65 Ford Mustang," 10x16" was drawn on Strathmore 400 with Prismacolor Colored Pencils.



**"65 FORD MUSTANG," COLORED PENCIL DRAWING**

### **Mike Mazer:**

Two recent paintings by Mike are "Passing By Brant Point Light, Nantucket," watercolor, 18x24 and "Sailing in Aruba," watercolor, 15x22.

Mike recently exhibited with the Rhode Island Watercolor Society in their Signature Members show where his painting "Kingston Marina" won an Honorable Mention. In October-November he exhibited 29 of his watercolor and oil paintings in an invitational show at the Marion Art Center in Marion, Mass.



**"SAILING IN ARUBA," WATERCOLOR**



**"PASSING BY BRANT POINT LIGHT, NANTUCKET," WATERCOLOR**

***Diane Stoltz:***

Diane Stoltz, APPL, KWS, DPS, MoWS, LWS, WCWS, won Best of Show at the Pikes Peak National Pastel Society's exhibition in October for her pastel "Coxcomb and Still Life." The judge was Lorenzo Chavez.



**"COXCOMB AND STILL LIFE,"  
PASTEL**

***Tom Hedderich:***

Tom recently received the John N. Lewis Memorial Award for his watercolor "Playing the Palace" in the Salmagundi Club's Annual Members show.



**"PLAYING THE PALACE,"  
WATERCOLOR**

***Tina Garrett:***

Tina Garrett took First Place in Women Artists of the West's 50th Jubilee National Exhibition, and an Award of Excellence in the National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society's Spring Online International.

Her work was accepted into numerous other shows in 2020, among them the Art Renewal Center's 15th International ARC Salon (two categories, for "Bravado" and "Melancholy"); the Portrait Society of America's Members Only Competition (two categories); Allied Artists of America's 107th Annual Exhibition; the National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society's Fall Online International; the American Miniatures Annual Exhibition (two categories, "Cinnamon Summer" and "Rustle in the Leaves"); the American Artists Professional League's 92nd Grand National Exhibition; and American Women Artists Making Their Mark exhibit at the Booth

Eastern Art Museum.

Tina was a pre-selected finalist in The Royal Society of Portrait Painters' 2020 Exhibition in London, and was included in the Portrait Society of America International's Art of the Portrait competition "Select 50."



**"BRAVADO," OIL**



**"CINNAMON SUMMER," OIL**



**"MELANCHOLY," OIL**

***Livia Ayal:***

Livia Ayal's painting "The Garden of Flowers" has been accepted to both the ISAP and NOAPS Fall Shows. She also attained the SIGNATURE MASTER title at ISAP.



**"THE GARDEN OF FLOWERS,"  
ACRYLIC**

***Deborah Tilby:***

Oil Painters of America has awarded Deborah the status of Master.

"Sunlit," oil on canvas, 24x30 won the Alden Bryan Award for Traditional Landscape in AAPL's 92nd Grand National, First Place in the AmerArt Awards Best Landscape in Plein Air Magazine Salon, Third Place in the Bold Brush competition and the Merit Award in NOAPS Fall Exhibition



**"SUNLIT," OIL**

***Kendra Ferreira:***

Kendra Ferreira's colored pencil drawing "Hot Spots" was one of 25 entries accepted and won the Best of Still Life Award in the UArt Paper On-Line 2020 Colored Pencil Competition.



**"HOT SPOTS,"  
COLORED PENCIL DRAWING**

***Judy Gilden:***

Judy's watercolor, "First Blush" was exhibited at The National Association of Women Artists 131st Annual Exhibition, online at [www.thenawa.org](http://www.thenawa.org), Her casein painting "Jennie's Path" was juried into the National Association of Women Artists Open Online Exhibition at the NAWA Online Gallery, [www.thenawa.org](http://www.thenawa.org), January 4 - March 31, 2021.



**"FIRST BLUSH,"  
WATERCOLOR**



**"JENNIE'S PATH,"  
CASEIN**

### ***Cher Pruys:***

Two of Cher's pieces were juried as finalists in the 15th International ARC Salon Competition. They are "Beech Patrol" and "Entranced". She just learned that her painting 'Innocence' has been awarded the Silver Medal in the Portrait category of the 2020 International Art Professional World Art Academia Competition. "Innocence" was also featured on the cover of Observica Fall 2020 Magazine. Her piece "Girlfriends" graced the cover of the December Hyperrealism magazine, as well as an interview and spread of a number of her works. Another of her works, "Wonderland," received the Bronze Award in the CamelBack Galleries, My Best work of 2020 International Competition.



**"ENTRANCED," ACRYLIC**



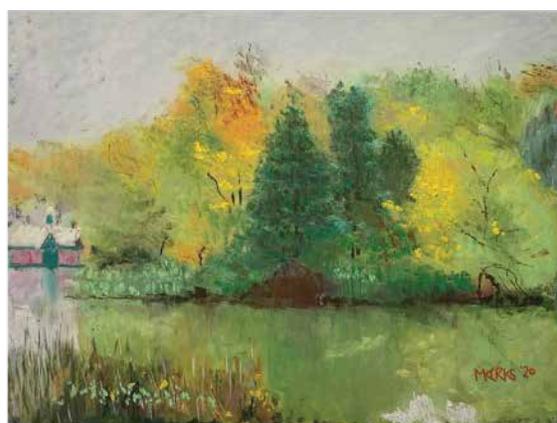
**"BEECH PATROL," ACRYLIC**

### ***Shelly Marks:***

Shelly frequently found himself wondering why his painting production has been so anemic considering the many restrictions upon traveling and living a normal busy city life. Nevertheless, he managed to squeeze out a few pastels from photos during brisk morning walks in Central Park.



**"WINTER MORNING ON THE RESERVOIR," PASTEL**



**"CENTRAL PARK WEIR," PASTEL**

### ***Joy Beckner:***

Joy's bronze, "A Good Life," is a finalist in the 15th Annual ARC Salon Exhibition. Nearly 5000 artists entered this international exhibition. As a finalist in the Animal category, Joy's work is among 1100+/- works that have been accepted for inclusion in the 2021 printed catalog and

online. Only two-dimensional works managed to earn awards, although there were quite a few entries by other members of National Sculpture Society and Society of Animal Artists.



**"A GOOD LIFE," BRONZE**

**Shuk Susan Lee:**

"Contemplating" (the same piece that was juried into AAPL's Grandtional Exhibition in 2020) won the Great American Pastel Artwork Award from the 18th Biennial National Juried Exhibition with the Degas Pastel Society in Louisiana.

"Flamenco Passion" won Honorable Mention (Top 12 out of 1000 international entries) in the emerging artist category of the Dakota Pastel Summer online contest.

Shuk earned Signature Member status with the Pastel Society of New Hampshire.



**"FLAMENCO PASSION,"  
PASTEL**



**"CONTEMPLATING,"  
PASTEL**

**Victor Mordasov:**

Victor had paintings juried and accepted into the American Artists Professional League Grand National Exhibition; American Artists Professional League Online Members Show; XXIX invitational exhibition of fine art miniatures at the Snow Goose gallery, Bethlehem, PA; 47th Annual Art Show at the Academy of Notre Dame De Namur; The Annual Yellow Springs Art Shows; 25th Annual Art Ability Exhibition, Malvern PA.

Last September Victor opened his studio for visitors as part of the 10th Chester County Studio tour.

Two of Victor's painting have been chosen to represent American art at the US Embassy in Côte d'Ivoire.

He won the Leila Gardin Sawyer Memorial Award at the 2020 Grand National Exhibition and Second Prize at the 25th Annual Art Ability Exhibition.



**"EARLY MORNING," OIL**



**"FIRST FLOWERS" OIL**

### ***Laurie Harden:***

Laurie recently won "Best In Show" at the West Essex Art Association Juried Exhibition for her oil painting "Mean Mr. Mustard". She has been experimenting with different techniques and styles, while continuing to teach drawing and painting classes.



**"MEAN MR. MUSTARD," OIL**

### ***Suzanne Johnson:***

Suzanne submitted to 15 juried national and international exhibitions by museums, art organizations and galleries. She was accepted into 14 Juried Exhibitions and garnered a few awards in the process. Suzanne's sculpture "A Veteran" won First Place Award in Honoring The Heroes, Estrada Garcia Gallery, TX. and also won Blick Art Materials Award in Sculpture in AAPL's 92nd Grand National Exhibition. Her sculpture "Wisdom's Promise" received a Medal of Honor at the 6th Salon International, Art Resilience, Prix de Sculpture, France. Suzanne also

received an Honorable Mention Award for her painting "Are You Blue Too?" from Colors of Humanity Gallery, PA.

Suzanne spent the year painting portraits and figures, in substitution of live visits with friends and acquaintances.



**"A VETERAN," BRONZE**



**"ARE YOU BLUE TOO," OIL**

### ***Helen K. Beacham:***

"Briskly and with Purpose" has been chosen for Splash 22, coming out this June. It also won an award in the American Art Awards competition and was accepted into both the Mid-Southern Watercolorists exhibition and the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society show. "Mother Mary Comes to Me" has been accepted to the South Carolina Watermedia Society show as well as the Fallbrook 11th Signature American International Watermedia Exhibition in California. "Trash Talk" was juried into the National Watercolor Society member exhibition as well as the Watercolor West exhibition. "Charleston Welcome" was juried into the Southwest Artists competition and "Attitude" won an award in the American Art Awards, along with being part of the Figures/Portraits show through Richeson 75 Gallery. Helen was chosen as one of 10 winners in the Artist's Magazine's "Over 60" competition and her painting "The Guardians" along with her commentary, will appear as a two-page spread in their March/April issue.



**"ATTITUDE,"  
WATERCOLOR**



**"BRISKLY AND WITH  
PURPOSE," WATERCOLOR**



**"THE GUARDIAN,"  
WATERCOLOR**

**Kelly Bourgeois:**

Kelly's painting "Don't Slip" is headed to the All Membership Exhibition at the Art Center of Corpus Christi, Jan. 22 - March 6. The juror for the show is Meg Aubrey, MFA. Kelly has begun her "Deep in the Heart" series of plein air and studio oil paintings chronicling the vast variety of Texas Landscapes for a solo exhibition in November 2021.



**"DON'T SLIP," OIL**

**Amy Carter Ishmael:**

Amy Carter Ishmael, has attained Lifetime Member status with the American Artists Professional League. Accomplishments for 2020 year, include election to the Board of Directors of the "Artists Round Texas" as Second VP of Programs. She taught her first design workshop for adult artists at the Artist Co-Op Classroom of Ellis County Art Association, in Waxahachie, Texas, before Covid shutdowns.

She had her first trip to New York and painted in Central Park during a week of Covid shutdowns.

Amy participated in the 15th Annual En Plein Air Pre-paint Ellis County, Texas. Sadly the paintout was cancelled the next month, along with four small group shows she was to be included in for the spring.

She participated in her first Master artist workshop given by Roger Dale Brown.

Amy was also accepted as a new Associate Member into the Oil Painters of America. She participated in OPA's Wet Paint Competition, as well as their Fall On-Line Showcase.

She joined the American Society of Marine Artists.

She participated in her first Outdoor Painter's Society Associate Show, from July 22nd until the extension date of October 24th 2020, at The Living Warehouse Center, in Corsicana, Texas.

She joined the American Artists Professional League and was accepted into The American Pastel Society.

Amy participated in En Plein Air Paintouts in Fort Worth, and exhibited in Fort Worth for the first time with her paintings, instead of printmaking. Her events can be viewed at: [www.amycarterishmael.com](http://www.amycarterishmael.com)

### **Sally Painter:**

Two of Sally's paintings were accepted to the 40th Annual Western Spirit Juried Art Show and Sale in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The show is considered the premier annual juried art show in the Rocky Mountain area. The exhibit runs from March 6th - April 18th, 2021, at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum.



**"LET'S RIDE," OIL**



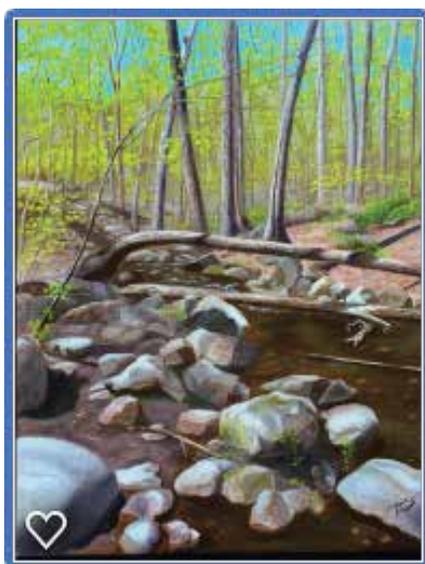
**"LEANING INTO THE SUN," OIL**

### **Arlyne Berzak:**

Arlyne's oil painting "Spring in the New Jersey Highlands" is a finalist in the 7th Annual Juried New Jersey Highlands Art Show. Three of her mixed media pieces were accepted to the Tompson Park Creative Arts Center Alternative Mediums Exhibit.



**"RED MENACE,"  
MIXED MEDIA**



**"SPRING IN THE NEW  
JERSEY HIGHLANDS,"  
OIL**



**"GOLDEN CIMEX,"  
MIXED MEDIA**

### **Aki Kano:**

Aki's watercolor portrait "Caroline," 16x12 received the Honorary John Angelini Memorial Award at the Audubon Artists 78th Annual Online Exhibition. Her watercolor painting "Starling" was juried into the Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club's 2020 1st Associates and Non-Members

Online Show. You can see more of Aki's work on her website:

[www.akikano.com](http://www.akikano.com)



**"CAROLINE,"  
WATERCOLOR**



**"STARLING," WATERCOLOR**

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

The new year ushers in three new members of the AAPL Board of Directors.

### **Gary Eckhart :**

Gary is a Professor Emeritus at SUNY/Fredonia (NY) for 28 years and developed the BFA in Production Design.

He is a previous Board Member of the Vermont Watercolor Society and the past President of Valley Arts (VT). He has designed over 200 theater and opera productions. He founded and served as curator of the Green Mountain Watercolor Exhibition, attracting paintings from across the US, Canada and Mexico for the 10th annual Exhibition in 2021. His email address is:

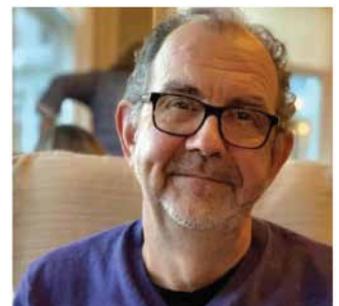
[fineart@moosewalkstudios.com](mailto:fineart@moosewalkstudios.com)



### **Lee Gobbi :**

A BFA graduate of the Philadelphia College of Art in Philadelphia, Lee embarked on a career as a graphic designer working on major corporation's marketing and branding campaigns. He joined Creative Marketing Corp. in 1994 working on Pepsi International along with Unilever brands for Suave, Dove and Thermasilk.

In 2003 he joined Daymon Worldwide as Assistant Creative Director and was promoted to Creative Director in 2005, where he ran the cre-



ative services team for 14 years, developing brands both domestically and Internationally (Whole Foods Markets, Fresh Direct, Office Depot, Wegmans, Aeon (Japan), Globas (Germany)). His email address is:  
***Leegobbi1@gmail.com***

***Jodie Kain :***

A native New Yorker, she is now living in Boston. At 16 Jodie attended the Art Students League of New York for three semesters. This experience set the foundation of her artistic approach: an emphasis on strict anatomical modeling of the classical method. Following her BFA at Penn State, she studied with photorealist Bob Neffson who reinforced her classical academic base. Jodie's furthered her figure study education at London's Heatherley School of Fine Art. The next 20+ years were spent at a career in technology, especially large graphics systems. To get back into the groove of creating fine art Jodie completed the Bague & Cast curriculum at the Academy of Realist Art in Boston. She is now working full-time creating pastel paintings which has been paying off.



She received the 1st Place Pastel Award in the American Artists Professional League's GNE, as well as an award in June 2020 from the Pastel Society of America, and was a finalist in the 14th International ARC Salon Art Renewal Center. Her email address is:

***jodiekain@gmail.com***