October 2014 Watercolor Newsletter

Exhibitions of Note

Alma Woodsey Thomas, Wind and Flowers, 1973, watercolor on paper, 14 ½ x 18 inches

Spiritual Strivings: A Celebration of African American Works on Paper
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
Philadelphia, PA
June 27-October 12, 2014

In 1903 W.E.B. Du Bois published the essay “Of Our Spiritual Strivings” in The Souls of Black Folk, and argued that to be equal American citizens, African Americans needed to strive to be in the pantheon of artistic culture and that “This, then, is the end of his striving: to be a co-worker in the kingdom of culture, to escape both death and isolation, to husband and use his best powers and his latent genius.” The Kelley Collection—which spans the entirety of 20th century
African American art—illustrates the fulfillment of Du Bois’ call for this spiritual striving at the beginning of the century.

**Watercolor Masters of New Jersey**
Karl and Helen Burger Gallery
Curated by W. Carl Burger
Union, New Jersey
September 10-November 3, 2014

**32nd Annual Juried Art Exhibition | Watermedia 2014**
Montana Watercolor Society
Juror Jean Pederson
Big Fork, MT
October 1 - 31, 2014

**Northeast Regional Watermedia Competition**
Rhode Island Watercolor Society
Juror: Stephen Quiller
Pawtucket RI
October 25-November 2, 2014

**14th Biennial North American Open**
New England Watercolor Society
Plymouth Center for the Arts
Plymouth, Massachusetts
October 15 - November 8, 2014
October 6 - 8 workshop with Alvaro Castagnet
October 18 reception and awards
[www.newenglandwatercolorsociety.org](http://www.newenglandwatercolorsociety.org)

**NAWS Experimental Water Media Exhibition Fall 2014**
North Arizona Watercolor Society
Sedona, AZ
September 24 - October 14, 2014

**Watercolor Ohio 2014 37th Annual Juried Exhibition**
Ohio Watercolor Society
Mansfield, Ohio
September 20 - October 25, 2014

**Exhibitions to Enter Artwork**
Splash 16: Inspiring Subjects
North Light Books’ hardbound showcase of the best in contemporary watercolors.
CALL FOR ENTRIES: December 1, 2014 (early-bird); December 31, 2014 (regular)
Enter now: https://app.wizehive.com/apps/login/Splash17
Entry Form: Enter online or use the downloadable entry form.

Demonstrations, workshops, and Lectures

Workshop with Jean Pederson
Montana Watercolor Society
Jean Pederson, instructor for the Watermedia 2014
Flathead Valley Community College
Kalispell, Montana
October 2-5, 2014.
Jean's traditional practice includes referential imagery of people, still life, landscapes, and abstraction.
For further information: mtwsvoermans2@yahoo.com, www.montanawatercolorsociety.org

Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society Workshop with Jeannie McGuire
Depicting figures and faces using watercolor in a non-traditional way.
Marienthal Country Inn
North Collins, NY
October 13 - 17 2014

Jeannie McGuire, a Pittsburgh-based watercolor artist, strives to invoke individual interpretation through her artwork, which impressively utilizes a free application of paint and stylistic forms of expression. Narratives are communicated in such works as “Kenneth,” the American Watercolor Society’s 144th Gold Medal of Honor selection. McGuire uses her own photography, acquired snapshots and life drawings to spark her creativity. Her work has been
described as a brilliant combination of emotion, movement, and artistry that has been expanded upon from her days as a commercial graphic designer and photographer. Impressionistic in nature with an identifiable subject, her strong, figurative approaches are unique in more ways than one. As is the case, her works have been displayed and awarded on an International level and represented in numerous art magazines.

**Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society**
Demonstration by Jeannie McGuire
Amherst Community Church
Snyder, NY
October 16, 2014
Further information contact Carol Siracuse: csir@me.com

**Museums**

**Curtains of the Tabernacle, 1360–80**
From the *Postilla litteralis* of Nicholas of Lyra
France (Paris)
Opaque watercolor, iron gall ink, and gold on vellum
16 1/2 x 9 3/4 in. (41.9 x 24.8 cm)
The Cloisters Collection, 2011 (2011.20.1)
One of the most influential university texts of the Middle Ages, the *Postilla litteralis* (Literal Commentary) provided a systematic and detailed analysis of the entire Christian Bible. Its author, Nicholas of Lyra (ca. 1270–1349), taught theology at the University of Paris. No doubt impressed by the magnificent cathedrals in and around the city, Nicholas possessed a particular interest in divinely inspired architecture. His extensive commentary includes numerous diagrams meant to clarify the Bible's sometimes confusing textual descriptions of monuments. This leaf and five others acquired by the Museum in 2011 come from a deluxe edition of the *Postilla* that was probably handcrafted in Paris by the scribes and illustrators who catered to a university clientele. The text discusses God's directives in the book of Exodus for the building of the Tabernacle and the creation of its curtain: ten panels of "fine, twisted linen, and violet and purple, and scarlet twice-dyed." Without precisely rendering them, the artist evoked the sumptuous hues with concision and graphic boldness. The small circles of gold leaf glistening across the top and down the center suggest the rings of gold God prescribed to join the panels together.

*Tibetan religious painting (tsakli) depicting deity of the Bon religion* from the *Bon tsakli set* (15th century). Tibetan, 10 x 8.7 cm (image) 12.4 x 10.0 cm (sheet), Que Watercolour on paper, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Purchased, 2004

**National Gallery of Victoria**

Australia

The EY Exhibition: Late Turner – Painting Set Free
Tate Museum
London

Books, Catalogues and Publications

*Watercolour Secrets* showcases the work of the members of the prestigious Royal Watercolour Society, including Ken Howard, Sonia Lawson and many other fine and well-known contemporary watercolour painters. Each artist discusses their inspiration and gives their best practical advice for working in this medium, offering a fascinating insight into the methods and techniques of the professional artists. Have you ever wondered how an artist starts a piece, what keeps them working at it, how they make marks and mix colour or when they know a painting is finished? This intimate exploration of the daily creative striving of the artist and their patient technical procedures will fascinate professional and aspiring artists, collectors and anyone with a general interest in painting.

*Splash 15 - Creative Solutions: The Best of Watercolor Hardcover*
In this 15th volume of the highly celebrated *Splash* series, 100+ of today's most accomplished watercolor artists share some of their favorite paintings and the "a-ha!" moments behind them. Congratulations to the 99 artists chosen for North Light Books’ *Splash 15: Creative Solutions*! A heartfelt thank you from Rachel Wolf and everyone at North Light to those of you who shared your beautiful art with us in this year’s contest.
In the News

Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Amalia Pica
Some of that Colour #4, 2011
Paper flags, drained paper flag dye on watercolor paper, chair
Unique
Dimensions variable; paper size: 47-1/2 x 95 in. (120.7 x 241.3 cm); installation: 78 x 155 x 60-1/2 in. (198 x 394 x 154 cm)
Photo: Robert Wedemeyer, courtesy of the artist and Marc Foxx Gallery, Los Angeles
LQM Gallery's Contemporary Ink Trio Art Exhibition
Yue Xiaofei works in both watercolor and ink, and creates stunning realistic works of art with a skilled touch of expression and contemporary subject matter. Figures, geometric shapes and symbols of our modern world come together to tell stories in a way which caters to one's undying curiosity about the world. The artists draw on the past while incorporating current techniques and concepts to achieve a remarkable visual balance.

**Congratulations**

**Theodora T. Tilton** of Alexandria, Virginia was accepted this year in the Montana National Watercolor Exhibition; the San Diego Watercolor Society Exhibition, where she earned Signature Status; and the Watercolor Society of Alabama and Georgia Watercolor Exhibitions. In addition, she was honored with an article in the Washington DC’s *Metro Weekly* magazine.
Grants and Awards

Frederic Whitaker - Sky Over Fall Landscape

The Whitaker Foundation Art Scholarship Program
has been established to help art students meet the diverse educational needs of today's professional art and museum world. The Whitaker Foundation will be supporting art students with a special emphasis on watercolor and museum studies. Through the application process, students are required to gain knowledge of the Whitakers' works through their submitted essays or watercolor paintings. After evaluation, the scholarships will be awarded for Spring semester of 2015.

Three Scholarships are being offered:
Two (2) $2,000 Bachelor of Fine Art scholarships (or BA majoring in Art/Art History)
One (1) $2,000 Bachelor of Museum Studies scholarships (of BA with Museum Major)

Applications can be found here
http://bit.ly/1pRHmrQ or visit www.whitakerwatercolors.org
Deadline for entries is November 30th, 2014
For more information please visit www.whitakerwatercolors.org
or visit our facebook page http://on.fb.me/1kF00hQ

On-line Newsletter Editor
Kathy Gaye Shiroki, Curator of Museum Learning and Community Engagement
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