

COLLAGE

April 2011



THE JOURNEY TO ABSTRACTION: FROM PERCEPTION TO PERSONAL

BY PAUL FOSTER, VP OF PROGRAMS

"A painting with heart should come from the gut...expose a piece of the artist in a very raw way." On the first page of her web site, this is how Kathryn Hart introduces herself.

For our April program, Kathryn, one of our CWS members, will be the presenter and will offer a program that promises to be different, I believe very different and interesting, very interesting and very personal. Her title, *The Journey to Abstraction: From Perception to Personal*, just begins to tell the story. In her own words: "My work is now a journey of personal expression to discover how best to convey the feeling I'm intending for my idea. Paintings based upon emotion instead of perception are instantly imbued with your personality. I am guided by feeling, not a



Kathryn Hart, *Figure 1*, mixed media.

specific image in my head." She goes on: "By loosening the reins of realism, you are free to explore the limitless boundaries of your emotional expression. You have then created something which is honest, authentic and uniquely personal. I express myself through shape, color and texture." In her artist statement, Hart says: "My works are expressions of the human condition, all of its emotional crags and crevices, what we want others to see and what we hide...who we are when we are alone."

At her April presentation, she will discuss her journey and how we can make our work more personal.

After a successful fifteen-year career as a market researcher for major medical companies, Kathryn decided to take a summer drawing class and all of her "childhood creativity and passion came flooding back." She began studying with an artist she admired and "catching up on the art education" she never got. She became a painter. In 2006 she joined the Colorado Watercolor Society and quickly established a national reputation as an award-winning representational painter. But in these realistic paintings there was a void -- something was missing. About three and a half years ago she started a slow drift to more abstract expressions. A trip to Kenya served as a pathway and catalyst towards the abstract, and she created her African Series. 2010 would be a year both difficult and inspirational. Early in the year, her mother would be diagnosed with a form of Alzheimer's. Her decline was "quick and shocking." To get through it, Kathryn had to paint and she started her "Mind Mapping Series." Powerful black, white and grey abstractions, loaded with emotion. In March of 2010, Kathryn won Best of Show in the CWS State Exhibition. In October of 2010, with the passing of her mother the passion to paint emotionally became ever stronger. It was all on the line, revealing herself, her

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Colorado Watercolor Society is an organization dedicated to uphold the highest standards and principles of art and to promote, encourage, educate and foster an interest in fine art in all media, especially watermedia.

The Colorado Watercolor Society meets at the First Plymouth Congregational Church, 3501 South Colorado Blvd. in Englewood, (southwest corner of Hampden Avenue and Colorado Blvd.) in the Plymouth Hall. The Collage newsletter is published monthly (except July and December) to all CWS members.

TO SEND ARTICLES AND IDEAS OR TO SUBMIT ADS CONTACT:

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 303-521-8361

DATES FOR CWS MEETINGS, SHOWS & EVENTS



CWS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

- North Critique Group: 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 14th at Standley Lake Library (Chairperson: Lillian Montoya)
- CWS Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 19th, 4:30 p.m.
- General Meeting: Tuesday, April 19th, 7:00 p.m.
- South Critique Group: 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 22nd at Koelbel Library (Chairperson: Suzanne Bartlett)
- Friday, April 22nd: Submission deadline for the *May Collage* and for website updates

UPCOMING CWS EXHIBITS

CWS 2011 State Exhibition

Foothills Art Center - Golden, CO
Exhibit Dates: March 18 - April 18, 2011

Juror: Soon Warren

Co-Chairs: Carolyn Martyn and Nancy Priest

- Friday, March 18, 2011: Public Reception (6:30 - 8:30 p.m.)
- Monday, April 18, 2011: Pick Up Unsold Paintings

WFWS 36th Annual Exhibition

Expo New Mexico - Albuquerque, NM
Exhibit Dates: May 6 - June 5, 2011

Juror: Dale Laitinen

CWS Delegate: Gene Youngmann

- Friday, May 6, 2011: Opening Reception

CWS 2011 New Trends Exhibition

CoArt Gallery on Santa Fe - Denver, CO
Exhibit Dates: September 16 - 24, 2011

Juror: TBD

Co-Chairs: TBD

- Prospectus in the *May Collage*

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING PROGRAMS

April: Kathryn Hart Presentation

May: Brian Serff Presentation

June: Let's Talk Art

UPCOMING CWS WORKSHOPS

Birgit O'Conner

June 6 - 8, 2011 (Location TBD; \$300 members / \$350 non-members)

Frank Francese

June 21 - 23, 2011 (Colorado Mills in Lakewood; \$275 members / \$325 non-members)

Kath MacCaulay - Pocket Sketching

July 21 - 23, 2011 (\$150 members / \$200 non-members)

David Drummond

September 9 - 11, 2011 (\$300 members / \$350 non-members)

Peggy Stenmark

October 12 - 14, 2011 (\$150 members / \$200 non-members)

Going Greener and Saving CWS Some Cash!

You may have noticed recently that, due to USPS restrictions for non-profit mailings, the *Collage* started first class postal mailing service. This has tripled our postage costs for mailing the *Collage*! So starting with the June, 2011 issue, we will mail the *Collage* to only those members *without* an email address. All other members will continue to receive an email notice when the *Collage* is published and enjoy it in full color on our website!

CWS MEMBER PROFILE: CHUCK DANFORD

By Marcio Correa, CWS Signature Member



Art has interesting ways to hold a mirror to life. In Chuck Danford's wildlife artwork, animals are depicted with tight detail, but outside the center of interest, the painting expands in a very loose, expressive style. This expansion echoes a similar transition in the artist's life.

The teenager who built his own hot rod later exercised his Type A personality in a successful career as a graphic designer. Chuck graduated from the Colorado Institute of Art and held positions as art director for Channel 9 and as design director for the Denver Research Institute. He later co-founded the graphic design firm UnitOne, Inc, responsible for corporate graphics for many of Colorado's largest corporations. He was, in his words, "a hard driving boss," in control of every aspect of the business. His drive and work quality won him professional recognition, including the honor of being the first inductee to the Colorado Institute of Art Hall of Fame, in 1988.

That was then. Today, Chuck is an artist with a relaxed attitude, who embraces unpredictability, and a patient instructor who encourages his students to have fun! The catalysts for change were his retirement in 1998 and the decision to become a fine artist. Fresh from retirement, he joined a photo safari tour to Africa. The trip not only established the subject matter for his art, but also placed him in a life-threatening situation, when his tour bus was attacked



Chuck Danford, *On the Edge*.

by armed bandits--the kind of incident that makes one reassess their priorities in life.

Free from business constraints, Chuck pursued art in his own terms. He is mostly self-taught, but has attended workshops from watercolor greats such as Tony Couch, Tom Lynch, Morton Solberg and Stephen Quiller. His paintings have won many awards and can be found in private and



Chuck Danford, *The Boss*.

public collections around the country. (See www.charlesdanford.com for a sample.)

Being both a landscape and a wildlife artist, Chuck likes to spend time in the great outdoors, in search of his often elusive subjects. He relies mostly on his excellent photography, but does extensive research, and also studies mounted animals for details: "Knowledge of wildlife is essential, as with any subject, if you are serious about painting." He wants his drawing to be precise and the habitat to be accurate, even when it is stylized. His experience in commercial art helps—the research skills, the organization of reference files and the ability to design compositions from multiple sources.

Although the artist is attuned to the environment and conservation, his paintings are neither idealized (no standing grizzlies) nor ideological (no preservation message). What comes through is aesthetic pleasure: The strong design of the composition, the varied texture and vibrant colors, the looseness of the backgrounds. Chuck loves "the effects, the spontaneity of watercolor... it is exciting, unpredictable, fresh..." Alternative techniques such as pouring and materials like Yupo further enhance the painterly aspect of his work.

Chuck is devoted to family and community. In May, he and his wife Barbara will celebrate their 49th anniversary with their three children, and with six grandchildren who are "budding artists (watercolorists of course)." In their Littleton home, Chuck balances family and art, like the paintings in his studio share wall space with his collectibles. His care will soon turn from the 450 Pez dispensers to an equivalent number of CWS members--the President-Elect has great ideas to elevate the profile of the society. To achieve this goal he can count on his experience as former president of the Art Directors Club of Denver and of the Mountainside Art Guild, and 23 years as trustee on the Porter Hospital Foundation Board, but also on a unique skill to keep tightly focused while promoting relaxed, creative surroundings, as in one of his paintings.



CWS STATE EXHIBITION: CONGRATS TO AWARD RECIPIENTS!

By Carolyn Martyn and Nancy Priest, State Exhibit Co-Chairs

As co-chairs of the 20th Annual Colorado Watercolor Society's 2011 State Watermedia Exhibition, Carolyn and I are both proud and grateful. The reception at Foothills Art Center hosted over 500 viewers, the daily walk-through traffic has numbered 50-75 people, and at the time of publication 14 of the 80 paintings in the exhibit have been sold. Obviously a show of this size requires many, many people donating hours of work; without the many wonderful volunteers the show would not have been a success and without the generous donations of our donors the honor and prestige of the show would have been diminished. Some of the people we wish to thank:

- Sydney Eitel and Mary Jo Ramsdale - negotiating of contract
- David Castle - receiving entries and generating the juror CD
- Micheon Oklar - publicity
- Cathy Pennak - generating labels and designing program
- Carla Rouse - generating labels
- Mame Cairns - garnering donations
- Carol and Jim Hunsaker - Entry Check-in

Terrey Harrod, Pam Kramer, Holly Beasley, Bob Sims

- Staff at Foothills Art Center - Exhibit Hanging
- Bob Sims, Carolyn Alexander, Camille Scott, Sharon Wink
- Jackie McFarland and Lori Williamson - Reception
- Carolyn Tegeder and Bob Sims - Entry Check-out
- Peggy Morgan Stenmark, Cathy Pennak, Lori Williamson and Pat Rucker-Art Demonstrators

and a particularly heartfelt thanks to The Painted Toes and the staff at Foothills Art Center - all of whom have been amazingly supportive.



Nancy Priest, Dianne Widom (2nd Place Award) and Carolyn Martyn



Pamela Gilmore Hake, *Warm Spot in the Cold*
Honorable Mention Award



Cindy Brabeck-King, *Aromatherapy*
Frank M. Thayer Memorial Award

MORE STATE EXHIBITION AWARDS



Don Van Horn, *Rondout Tower* - Best of Show Award



Johanna Cellucci, *Colorado Columbine*
Honorable Mention Award



Dale Russell Smith, *Quiet Passage* - Juror's Award



Joe Beckner, *Ward in Winter* - Honorable Mention Award



David Castle, *Elementals No. 8*
Leon T. Hake Memorial Award

Look for more award
winning paintings in the
May Collage!

THE JOURNEY...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

inner self, and very personal. She was painting from inside/out. This will be a journey worth listening to.

Other notable awards include, 1st prize from the American Juried Art Salon in 2006, Best of Show three years running from the Colorado Springs Art Guild and other top awards from coast to coast. Ms. Hart is a signature member of the prestigious National Watercolor Society and many other notable organizations of achievement.

Recent Prestigious Juried Exhibitions include:

- *Undeniable Tendencies* Invitational New Century Artists Gallery, NYC (2011)
- *Harmony for Peace*, International Juried Competition, NYC (2011)
- Ten Top Women in the Arts International, ARTCOM Gallery, Rome, Italy (2010)
- NWS 90th Annual International Exhibition (Juried), San Pedro, CA
- PWS 31st International Juried Exhibition, Warren (Philadelphia), PA

Her web site is www.kathryndhart.com. I encourage all of you to pay it a visit. And, please join us on April 19th. This is a presentation you don't want to miss.



Kathryn Hart, *Mind Mapping I.*

THE GREATEST ASSET

BY ARLEEN BROGAN-SMITH, TREASURER

What is the greatest asset of CWS?

Is the Society's greatest asset its strong financial position? There is money available to pay the rent, produce and distribute the monthly *Collage* newsletter, maintain the website, provide the wonderful monthly meeting programs, meet the many expenses for the shows, sponsor world class watercolor artist workshops, and pay the numerous other expenses that an organization incurs. This money comes from the membership dues, workshop fees, exhibit entry fees, miscellaneous other sources and is the financial basis of the Society.

Additionally, the Society is required and able to demonstrate its financial ability to host the Western Federation Watercolor Society's Show which is scheduled to be in Denver in 2016.

However, I believe the greatest asset of CWS is its members. The work that is done every month, every year, is the foundation of the Society. Many members work to organize and present the monthly programs, the exhibit shows and workshops, and complete the necessary day to day tasks of the Society.

The Society's strength develops when more members get involved, at whatever level, for whatever amount of time. People that volunteer their work and ideas add vigor and energy to this already thriving organization.

As the new treasurer of the Society I am honored to share that the financial health of the Society is strong and I recognize that the greatest asset of this organization is not on the Balance Sheet but is listed in the annual Membership Roster.

Thank you to all of the people listed in the Roster. With special thanks to the Board Members and Committee Chair Persons that work many hours for the Society. And to Janice Hanson who, over the past years, has diligently worked several hours every month on the accounting for the Society and for bearing with me as I learn the many details and information necessary for this job.



ARTIST CLASSES & CALLS

Calls, Opps & Classes

- The **California Watercolor Association** announces their 42nd National Exhibition "Water+Color" to be held from September 8 through October 9, 2011, at the Marin Art and Garden Center. The Awards Ceremony and Artists' Reception will be held on Sunday, September 18, 2011, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. More than \$15,000 in cash and merchandise awards. All artists are invited to enter the competition by using the on-line entry form on the California Watercolor Association's website, www.californiawatercolor.org. Online entries only, the deadline is April 23, 2011.
- **Gerald J. Fritzler Plein Air Watercolor Workshop**. May 16 - 20, 2011 in the Grand Junction area. Contact Gerald directly at fritzleraws@aol.com. Class will be Monday through Friday from 9a.m. - 4p.m. daily. There will be only eight students and the cost is \$435. Entry deadline is April 20th.
- **Land and Locations of Georgia O'Keeffe Watercolor Workshop with Pat Clarke and Debby McAllister**, June 13 - 16, 2011. \$250 tuition, plus accommodations at the San Geronimo Lodge. \$240 Early registration by April 15, 2011. Maximum class size 12. The workshop is based out of the San Geronimo Lodge in Taos, NM. Contact them directly for reservations. Tell Charles that you are calling about the Debby McAllister and Pat Clarke workshop (575-751-3776). We will be painting outdoors, on location 2 to 4 sessions daily. Contact Debby at 720-299-1916 or debbymcallister@hotmail.com to register or for more information.

MEMBER KUDOS

- Signature member **Marcio Correa** won the Board of Directors Award at the Watercolor Art Society - Houston 34th International Exhibit, juried by John Salminen.
- Signature member **Pat Dall's** "More Observations of a Flaneur", a solo show of her work, will be at the Highlands Ranch Library, 9292 Ridgeline Boulevard, Highlands Ranch, from April 5 to April 30. Pat also recently won Best of Show for her ink resist "Pantry at the 1890's House" at the "Our Town" show at The Depot in Littleton.
- Kudos to member **Cheryl Annett** who sold a painting at the CWS Member Show in Greeley, titled *Three Masai Women*.
- Member **Lynn Burnes** had two paintings accepted to the Colorado Visions Art Exhibit sponsored by the North Metro Arts Alliance in Westminster from April 11 through May 31. The opening reception is April 14, 5-7 pm at Westminster City Hall
- Signature member **Janice Hanson** was selected as "Artist of the Month" for March on the DenverArtist.com website.
- Signature member **Ann Kurz Chambers** had her painting *Mayan Plazas* juried into the Rockies West National Show in Grand Junction. Her painting was selected for the Golden Artist Colors, Inc. Merchandise Award.

THE BOARD IN BRIEF

By Camille Scott,
Corresponding Secretary



- Sydney Eitel called the meeting to order. Minutes from February were read and approved.
- Chuck Danford, President-elect, gave an update on the nominating committee. All positions have been filled except President-elect. A motion was presented and passed to make the new Volunteer Coordinator a board position. Other committees are taking shape thanks to the willingness of our members to volunteer. A meeting of the Goals and Planning committee and the Education Committee are planned for May. A board retreat and planning meeting will take place in June.
- Mary Jo Ramsdale reported that the State Show at Foothills Art Center is right on track. If you haven't seen it -- be sure and stop in soon. April 17, 2011 is the last day. Kudos to Carolyn Martyn and Nancy Priest for a job well done!
- The New Trends show is well under way. It will be at CoArt on Santa Fe Drive September 16-25, 2011. The Prospectus will be in the May *Collage*. If you are interested in co-chairing this event contact Mary Jo at 303-690-1947.
- CWS 2011 Member Show will be at the Brighton Amory in October. Watch the *Collage* for further details.
- Terrey Harrod reminded us that the next workshop will be Birgit O'Conner, June 6-8, followed by Frank Francese, June 21-23. They are filling up fast so call Terrey at 303-981-6004 today to reserve your spot.
- Micheon Oklar, Public Relations Representative, gave a brief report on the items she implemented to aid the participants in the current State Show. Great ideas, Micheon, thanks for all your hard work!
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.



COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

P.O. Box 100003
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Submission deadline for the
May COLLAGE is
Friday, April 22, 2011

"Watercolor Fun & Free" with *Karlyn Holman*

August 29 - September 2, 2011

9 am - 4 pm each day in breathtaking Ouray County, Colorado

Watercolor Fun and Free is a motivational workshop for beginning, as well as experienced painters. Karlyn Holman offers enthusiastic, informational demonstrations, individual help and critiques, enriched by sharing her original finished artwork. The class will explore the creation of paintings with a loose, free style. She teaches with tireless energy and her high-spirited humorous teaching style makes beginners feel comfortable and challenges the advanced student. Besides being fun, this comprehensive workshop nurtures individual success and sends everyone home with new ideas. Karlyn's greatest hope is that this hands-on instruction will inspire everyone to paint with more confidence and to find their own artistic vision.

******NOTE EARLY ENROLLMENT DISCOUNTS: Register by April 30 & Save!***



WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Pricing, More Information and Online Registration at: ***www.weehawkenarts.org or 970.318.0150***



www.ColoradoWatercolorSociety.org