



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society

Brush Up
June 2024

Have a good summer & we'll see you in October!

2024 Painter of the Year



Many thanks to Frank Eber for a terrific Painter of the Year critique and presentation. He treated us to his perspectives on critiques in general and the ways he approaches the evaluation of his own paintings. He joked that, “the problem with juried shows is that there is a juror” and advised that painters should paint for themselves, not an audience. He seeks to evaluate paintings that show a story, or the personal expression of the artist, rather than just technique. He shared some of his personal favorite artists (Li Yiu and Edward Seago) as a yardstick to measure his own paintings and recommends we find our own favorite painters and evaluate our work in relation to theirs as we grow in expertise and sensitivity. Be sure to take a second look at the POY recording on the CVWS.org website to enjoy Frank’s discussion again. There is much food for thought.

The Sun City Palm Desert art club had a novel approach to viewing Monday night’s POY event. They gathered for a potluck in their clubhouse and watched the Zoom presentation on their big screen TV. What a great idea! Might be something other groups of members could do next year.

Thank you to all the artists who entered, and congratulations to the winners. It was a year of beautiful entries.

1st Place - Jennifer Winn for “Last Light”



2024 Painter of the Year, continued

Runner Up - Ellen Diederich for "Shade & Shelter"



Honorable Mention - Buffy Kaufman for "Prickly Poppies"



Our next CVWS meeting will be in October 2024, so look for information about POM entries in our September newsletter.

President's Message



Connie Zane, President

CVWS 2023 – 2024 Officers

President: Connie Zane

Exec. VP: Robin St. Louis

1st VP- Programs:

Marilyn Blitz

2nd VP – Shows: Mary Anne

Brower/ Ian Cooke

3rd VP – Publicity: Carol

Cole

Treasurer: Cindy Mason

Recording Secretary:

Alicia Siegler

Corresponding Secretary -

Newsletter: Jean Grover

2023 - 2024 Committee

Chairs:

DVD Library: Vera Knowles

Equipment: John Ressler

Grants: Joyce Kingman

Membership: Connie Collins

Painter of the Month:

Joan Ryan

Raffle: Tracy Hartman

Sunshine: Cindy Green

Website: Lance Brechbill,

Workshops: Sue Ober/

Traci Davis

MOUSE POWER - Gray versus Pure Color.

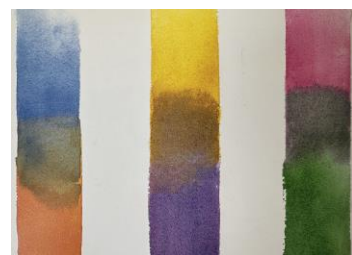
In Jeanne Dobie's classic book, *Making Color Sing*, she states:

"Colors are like jewels; each should be placed as carefully as a precious gem in a setting..... The proper setting makes the jewel glow and enhances its qualities."

And the "setting" she refers to (in choosing where to put pure color) is what she calls "quiet, mouse colors"; the subtle, bit players that support the star colors. Without them, the stars may compete with each other and it's confusing to know who we should look at. Thus, the mouse colors (i.e., some form of neutral gray) are key players, enabling "stars" to shine.

Be aware that gray is not just a boring neutral, but a whole spectrum of luminous warm and cool hues which are achieved thru mixing complements: (Blue/Orange, Yellow/Purple, or Red/Green.).

This example shows a single neutral that results from mixing each of the primary colors with their complements. Let's focus on the first mix of blue/orange. Mix the two colors equally to get a mousey grey. Now take that grey and add a bit more blue into it and you get a bluish-grey that gives a kick to pure orange when they are placed side by side. Likewise, If you push more orange into the initial grey, you get an orange-grey that enhances pure blue. Ditto with the yellow/purple, red/green mixtures.



Don't take my word for it; try it yourself with a series of color charts to see which primary/secondary mixtures work best. Try those greys next to pure hues to see how you can make colors sing. It will make a difference if the paints are opaque or transparent. Opaques will make a muddy grey, whereas transparent paints retain a luminosity. Practice with your own paints to see what happens. Transparents will likely glow. But a muddy, mousey grey can have its place, too; so don't rule it out. Just see what you like and remember that not all greys are created equal.

Using the "mouse powers" effectively alongside your jewel tones, can help paintings vibrate and come alive. It's a technique worth exploring and perfecting.

Take part. Make art.

Connie Zane

2024 SUMMER CHALLENGE



Who are you?



(Listen to the music and dive right in!)



https://www.youtube.com/clip/UgkxJzm_JCiAOUgFdDur1oOigZLeBkehtG-o (A promo film for The Who's 1978 single 'Who Are You' from the album of the same name. Filmed at The Who's Ramport Studios in Battersea, London on 4 May 1978 by Jeff Stein.)

This year's Summer Challenge is to make a portrait of yourself with whatever image that you imagine, done in whatever media or manner suits your inspiration. *

Some tools for your "painting" might be:

- Watercolor, pencil or pen
- Colored pencil
- Pastel
- Mixed media
- Acrylics
- Right-handed or left-handed drawing
- Blind contour drawing
- Tracing a photo
- Using a mirror
- Shadows for your image
- Partially hidden face behind object
- Different body parts

Most of all have fun and be wild!

* Non- water based media is limited to 20% of your painting

Workshops

Greetings from your Workshop Volunteers!

Our past couple of workshops were extremely well attended and a great source of information for all who went.

We have another wonderful watercolor workshop planned for November of this year with *David Lobenberg* (See flyer below). David is packed full of energy and ready to share with us his "California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture" techniques. Then he will switch gears slightly and introduce his "sketching on the go". This is perfect for those who are interested in doing any kind of journaling or on-the-go sketching. Visit his website lobenbergart.com. This will give you a better visual of what you can expect for David's class.

Our website www.cvws.org is ready and waiting to accept your registration for this event. Don't delay, last time David was here it was a sell out! (there is also a registration form available if you would like to process your registration and payment through the mail. October 1st is the deadline for mail in applications).

Thanks again,

Susan Ober

watertonsue@gmail.com

**November 12-
15, 2024**

David Lobenberg joins us here in the desert for four days of exciting learning! The first two days will be "California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture" ...and the final two days we will get the brushes wet with "On the go Ink and Splash".

This four-day workshop will be held in Palm Desert, California at the Best Western Hotel.

\$550.00 for members
\$600.00 for non-members

David Lobenberg - Watercolor Portraiture

In this new California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture™ workshop style, David teaches the art of integrating energetic, gestural line work with energized hues of color (including the use of colored chalk markers). And like in past workshops, absolutely no drawing experience is necessary. Both beginner and more advanced artists can attend the workshop.



See his art on Pinterest, Instagram, & Facebook

Workshops, continued



On-the-go Ink and Splash

David Lobenberg first introduced his technique to the art world in a 2006 issue of American Artist Magazine and has been teaching it around the country ever since. With a few inexpensive and highly portable art tools, you can sketch with ease around the house, around the town, or around the world! In David's workshop you will not only master the On-The-Go Sketching technique, but also critical compositional, color, and value strategies. And since your sketches will always start out with a pencil drawing, he will be adding the six universal skill sets of drawing into the workshop!



CVWS Workshop Mail-in Registration

Workshop Dates: _____

Workshop Instructor _____

CVWS WORKSHOP CANCELLATION POLICY

Please check the box to indicate you are aware of the CVWS Cancellation Policy)

All cancellations will be subject to a \$30 administration fee.

A full refund (less \$30 administration fee) will apply to cancellations before the 30-day cut-off.

Less than 30-day cancellation:

If a cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to the workshop, and the space CAN be refilled, a full refund less the \$30 administration fee will be refunded. (Possible wait list for workshop or workshop attendee can find replacement)

If a cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to the workshop, and the space CANNOT be filled, 50% of the workshop fee will be refunded. All students please note: There will be no partial refunds given and there will be no shared registration without the instructor's consent.

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Member \$ _____

Non-Member \$ _____

Membership

Our 2023/24 year/season concludes at the end of June, and in October, the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society will begin its 35th year providing opportunity, education, and social interaction to watercolor/water media artists of all levels.

At the present time we have 156 active members. Eleven of those are Life Members. In recognition of their “above and beyond” volunteer services in their various board and chair positions over many years, these life members are exempt from paying annual dues.

We have had 35 new members join us this past year, many through recommendations from friends or teachers, some new to the Coachella Valley and finding us when searching the internet for art groups, and some as a result of attending our beautiful Annual Show.

We look forward to a banner 35th season in 2024/25.

		
<p>Gallery Shows</p>	<p>Demos and workshops</p>	<p>Peer recognition</p>

The Coachella Valley Watercolor Society is a volunteer-run organization. As our 2023 – 2024 season ends, we are grateful those who have served on our board this year:

<p><u>2023 – 2024 Officers</u></p>	<p><u>2023 - 2024 Committee Chairs:</u></p>
<p>President: Connie Zane Exec. VP: Robin St. Louis 1st VP- Programs: Marilyn Blitz 2nd VP – Shows: Mary Anne Brower & Ian Cooke 3rd VP – Publicity: Carol Cole Treasurer: Cindy Mason Recording Secretary: Alicia Siegler Corresponding Secretary - Newsletter: Jean Grover</p>	<p>DVD Library: Vera Knowles Equipment: John Ressler Grants: Joyce Kingman Membership: Connie Collins Painter of the Month: Joan Ryan Raffle: Tracy Hartman Sunshine: Cindy Green Website: Lance Brechbill, Workshops: Sue Ober & Traci Davis</p>

News

In Memoriam

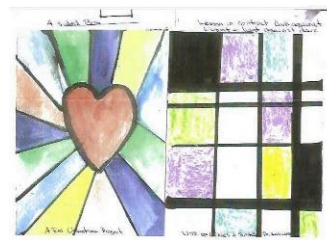
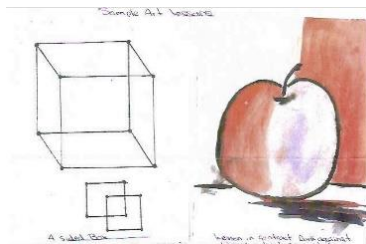
Sadly, Carol Cole, long-time CVWS member, passed suddenly in April. Ever-cheerful and willing to help in any way she could, her absence is felt in many spheres where she offered her knowledge and service to others. A Celebration of Life will be held in Palm Desert Greens June 15th, 2-4pm.



CVWS GRANT PROGRAM

Funds generated by our Annual Show raffle baskets and the monthly meeting raffles go to providing grants to art programs serving children in the Coachella Valley. This year we were able to provide grants to three local programs: **Saul Martinez Elementary School** - Annette Fragasso, **Young at Art** - Maggie Hamilton, and **Tools for Tomorrow** - Andrea Hecht

CVWS grant recipient Annette Fragasso shared some sample art lessons for her program at **Saul Martinez Elementary School**:



Andrea Hecht, Executive Director of **Tools for Tomorrow** shared these photos of some of the program's students:



Kudos to Robin Staton, who won first place in mixed media at the Yucaipa Vally Art Association Annual Show. It was held May 4th at the Yucaipa Performing Arts Center during the Art Gone Wild Music and Jazz Festival. Her painting, titled "The Bouquet", was done with watercolor and charcoal pencil.

Odds & Ends

Annual Show: SAVE THE DATES!

March 13, 14, 15, 16, 2025

Next year's Show and Sale will be at the Galen

We hope everyone will participate.



Connie Zane

As Connie Zane concludes her time as President of the CVWS, we wish to express our gratitude for her hard work and dedication to our organization. She will remain on the board as Executive Vice President and plans to spearhead our Publicity program next season. Thank you, Connie, for a job well done!



If you hear of someone who needs a bit of cheer or support, please contact our Sunshine Chairman, Cindy Green at (425) 765-9509 or cindynwrs@seanet.com



EDITOR'S NOTE:

- I would like to express my gratitude to Kat Weyer, for her wonderful "Getting to Know You" articles about new CVWS members this season.
- And as always, I am so grateful to Robin St. Louis for proof reading our newsletter each month. I couldn't do this without you, Robin!

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES

Submissions to the newsletter are due on or before the 15th of the month. We are always interested in hearing about any good news you have about your creative life (awards, show acceptances, etc.).
cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes.

Call for information:

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Ellen Jean Diederich	701-799-9505
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Dave Howell	425-319-5858
Moira Johannessen	760-322-2523
Diane Morgan	760-902-8855
Kathleen Scoggin	503-515-9633
Alicia Siegler	650-207-0585
Kristen Olson Stone	808 469-2092
Connie Zane	775-846-9719

