



Coachella Valley  
Watercolor Society

# Brush Up

February 2023

## February 13, 2023 – Zoom Meeting

6:00 PM, Social. 6:30 General Meeting

**Zoom Step-by-Step Guide (page 9)**

### Demonstrator: Linda James

*"I am a Seattle based watercolor artist with a focus on abstraction, the power of intent, and the transcendent content of color."*

For over 40 years Linda James worked as a graphic designer, but her artistic expression began as a fiber artist, creating Ikat color field wall hangings with warp and weft hand dyed in primary colors. She operated a fiber arts studio with Joanne Mattera in Albany, NY in the late 70s. After raising a family with her husband in Massachusetts, Linda began searching for a more spontaneous form of expression and ultimately returned to watercolor painting in 2004 after moving to Seattle.

Linda grew up in Wisconsin and received a BFA in Painting from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1971. She has been an instructor at Gage Academy of Art since 2016 and also teaches watercolor classes in her studio in Seattle. In addition, she is trained as an herbalist and flower essence practitioner. Her art has always been influenced and inspired by the unseen vibrational aspects of all living things and the universe in general. Exploring the emotional and spiritual vibration of color is of particular interest. Her paintings continue to be exhibited regionally and are in private collections around the country.



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

[lindajamesart@gmail.com](mailto:lindajamesart@gmail.com)

[@lindajamesfineart](https://www.instagram.com/lindajamesfineart)



# President's Message



*Connie Zane, President*

## CVWS 2022 – 2023 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

## 2022-2023 Committee Chairs:

DVD Library: Vera Knowles

Equipment: John Ressler

Field Mice: Terry Simons

Grants: Janie Bolitho

Membership: Connie Collins

Painter of the Month: Charlie Lerner

Raffle: Tracy Hartman

Sunshine: Cindy Green

Website: Lance Brechbill

Workshops: Sue Ober

Who do you love?

When someone asks, “Who is your favorite artist”, what do you say? I usually stall, trying to pinpoint one, perfect icon. It’s a futile task: there are just too many choices.

So, I began listing some favorites with a short description of why I love them. The “why” helps me to see what I’m most drawn to in a painting and moves me closer to defining my own artistic tastes & style. My list below is short due to space here, but I could go on, and have done so in a notebook. Plus, I keep finding new idols to admire and add, so it’s an on-going project that I’m enjoying. This list is not ranked in any order, but simply as the artists came to mind as of this writing. My comments are not always about the art process. I also allow random thoughts to just pop up and surprise me, without censure, and I find these snippets help me more vividly recall my overall reaction to the art & the artists when I read them later.

1. Shirley Travena - watercolor - Stunning palette. Energetic melding of realistic/abstract. Great design. Floral still life comes alive. Novel techniques/tools. I’d invite her to tea if I could.
2. Michael Bernard - acrylic/collage & mixed media - Vibrant interpretations of familiar spots around the world. Interesting process. Makes me long for Europe.
3. Mary Todd Beam - acrylic/collage - On sight, you’d think she’d be home knitting, mais non, she thinks wonderfully outside the box! Her creativity, originality and use of symbols inspires me. You just want to hug her.
4. Frank Webb - watercolor - Crisp, graphic style. Master of negative space. He once chose my painting at POM. How could I not love him? Great videos & books.
5. Judith Bergerson - acrylic, gouache, mixed media. Fabulous color & style. Super designer. Nature subject matter. LUV her stuff. If she gave a class, I’d take it.
6. Richard Diebenkorn - acrylic/oil - Provocative color, shape & space division. Varied edges. An artist to study thoughtfully.

There’s little to link each artist above to the next. All have unique styles and strengths that appeal to me in a variety of ways. I study them, not to emulate them, but for inspiration. What captivating collection of muses do you turn to?

Start a list - it’s a great exercise...AND it may surprise you. As you make your choices, be sure to think through your “why” as that’s really the key.

Take Part. Make Art.

Connie Zane

# Painter of the Month

## January 2023 Winners:

Photos courtesy of Terry Simons

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mandy Main



*Mid-Town Roof Tops*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Connie Collins



*Untitled*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Sandy Kalas



*Ukraine Sympathy*

### 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Mike Pascavage



*Untitled*

### Demonstrator's Choice: Mandy Main



*Mandy Main & Demonstrator Diane Morgan*

**FEBRUARY PAINTER OF THE MONTH will be a ZOOM meeting February 13th** at 6: 30 pm, but you can log in at 6 pm. To enter, email Charlie Lerner at [cmlcolor@mac.com](mailto:cmlcolor@mac.com) that you want to enter a painting. She will email you the link. Once you get it, please click on it, fill out the form and upload the photo of your painting (no mat or frame showing). You will get an email that the form was received. Image upload starts today and ends on Wednesday 2/1. Voting starts Friday 2/3. Voting ends Friday 2/10. (For POM Zoom Rules, see the email from Connie Collins on 1/11/23.)

# Plein Air

Photos by Terry Simons



Terry Simons



Karin Felker Harris



Ellen Diederich

Hello Plein Air painters!

I'm happy to see so many members at our paint outs. We have been experiencing some rain (much needed) recently. This should make the desert come alive with color in a few weeks. I know everyone is busy preparing for our annual show in the meantime. We have many exciting places to paint at in the coming months, so keep checking the paint out schedules at [www.CVWS.org](http://www.CVWS.org) or [www.Desertpleinair.org](http://www.Desertpleinair.org)

I have another YouTube video that some may find very interesting: Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/@TimWilmot>.

He has several full-length watercolor tutorial videos. Check him out when you have a chance.

Terry Simons  
Field Mice Chair  
[CVWSFieldMice@gmail.com](mailto:CVWSFieldMice@gmail.com)

## February Paint-Out Schedule

Wednesday, February 15th., 2023

Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy  
35-450 B, Pegasus Ct,  
Palm Desert, CA 92211

Friday, February 24th., 2023

Thousand Palms Oasis Preserve  
29200 Thousand Palms Canyon Rd  
Thousand Palms, CA 92276

# Workshops

## [Stan Kurth - January 24 - 27, 2023](#)

**\*\*\* [We still have a few spaces left](#) and have decided to open this workshop to those who only have a couple of days to spare in their busy schedules. [Please contact Sue ASAP if you are interested, and she can arrange payment and registration details before the 23th of January.](#)**

Stan's workshop is designed to teach all levels and is based on the elements and principles of design. This is a watercolor workshop, but will introduce a mixture of inks, gouache and mark making. [CVWS.org](http://CVWS.org) for more details.

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## [Jean Pederson - March 27 - 30, 2023](#) **Limitless Layering with Water Media**

CSPWC, AWS, SFCA, NWS, TWSA, SCWA

Jean is a very sought after instructor and exhibition juror. We are very fortunate to be able to bring her enthusiasm and style to the Coachella Valley. Please do not miss this opportunity.



This course will open the door into the exploration of various combinations of mixed media with an emphasis on water soluble paints and mediums. You will be encouraged to take risks and work beyond your traditional practice in pursuit of your own personal language. We will be mixing it up by exploring how everything from gesso, acrylics, inks and mark-making tools, collage and much more can be used. These techniques can be applied to a variety of subject matter and styles and surfaces to create your own unique artistic statement. Emphasis will be placed on design, personal style, and class work that will be part of the course.



Here are a couple of YouTube video links for you to meet Jean and experience her style. Enjoy!

**Watercolor Techniques - Wet Glazing:**

<https://youtu.be/RsxdzHQWFcs>

**Mixed Media People:**

<https://youtu.be/i1s-7jtpJ8>

A big thank you to those who have taken part in past workshops. If there is an instructor that you would like to see and experience a workshop with, please let me know. Comments and questions too....

Susan Ober - CVWS Workshop Volunteer

[watertonsue@gmail.com](mailto:watertonsue@gmail.com)

# News

## Coachella Valley Watercolor Society



*Looking Up* by Robin St. Louis

2023 Annual Members'

## ART SHOW AND SALE

### Gala Preview Reception and Sale

Thursday, February 9, 5-7PM

February 10 - 12 from 10AM - 4PM

**FREE ADMISSION**

Daily Artist Demos 11 and 1:30

**ARTISTS' CENTER AT THE GALEN**

72-567 Highway 111, Palm Desert, 92260

**WWW.CVWS.ORG**

Carol Cole has sent an email blast about our show to the nearly 500 names on our list from past shows! If you'd like some of these cards to spread the word about our show, contact Carol Cole at [carolcolepdg@gmail.com](mailto:carolcolepdg@gmail.com)

**Many thanks to Diane Morgan** for an informative and entertaining demo in January, especially since she is one of our own CVWS members and past president. Diane teaches many classes throughout the year and has an impressive list of credentials.



## From our Show Chairs Mary Anne Brower & Ian Cooke:

This is a show reminder folks! How could you forget - yes, I know you are all busy painting and hope you have all entered something!

The show opens with our reception and award ceremony on Thursday February 9th from 5 - 7pm, then continues Friday the 10th to Sunday the 12th from 10am to 4pm.

We have Joseph Stoddard as our judge and last time he left helpful little comments for all the winning entries.

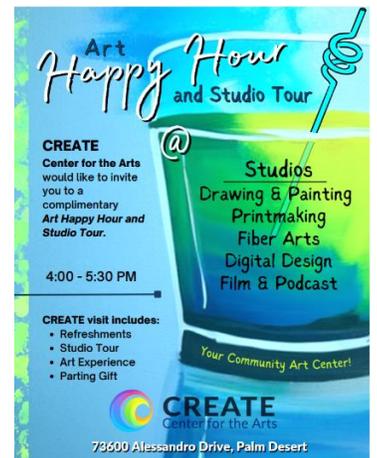
The Take In for the show is Wednesday February 8th from 10am to 12noon, and pick up is on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> between 4 – 5 pm.

As well as lots of lovely paintings we need hordes of customers so do tell all your friends, relatives, and neighbors about the show. Pass out those advertising cards and leave some in shops and hotels. The show is of course at the prestigious Galen Art Center and there are plenty of parking spaces.

*Create for the Arts  
has invited*

**CVWS members**  
*to a Happy Hour  
Tour of their  
Facility*

**February 1, 2023**  
*from 4 – 5 pm  
in the Lobby*



# Odds & Ends

We've had a request for a Member Spotlight section in our newsletter, & it might look something like this:

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Your Photo



A short bio of 200 words or less

A photo of your art

Your contact information (email, website, social media)

If you would like to participate, contact Jean at:

[cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com)

## TRIVIA QUIZ:

*Who was the first abstract artist in Western/European history?*

1. Vasily Kandinsky
2. Kazimir Malevich
3. Hilma Af Klint
4. Piet Mondrian

Find the answer on the bottom of page 8.

## ART TIPS & TRICKS

(In the past, we have periodically published short articles written by CVWS members about their favorite painting ideas, tips, or tricks. This artist-to-artist sharing benefits us all. We have had a request to make this a regular feature in the newsletter, so we welcome your participation! To submit an article, please contact Jean at: [cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com))

### Framing Advice

If you missed the last CVWS meeting at the Joslyn in January, you might like to know what Chip Tom, curator at Heather James Fine Art Gallery and last year's CVWS Annual Show judge shared with us about his take on good presentation. He has three words of advice: Keep. It. Simple.

If you want your painting to stand out, consider these guidelines:

1. Keep the frame narrow. He prefers plain tan wood or matte black frames.
2. Use wider mats to give the painting "breathing space". This helps viewers separate it from other nearby paintings.
3. Floated, deckled-edge paintings have a beauty of their own. You don't always have to mat.
4. Avoid complex or ornate frames that call attention away from your painting.
5. Colored liners or mats can be effective but are often distracting. Use discretion.
6. Never let a painting touch the glass.

(Thank you to Connie Zane for this summary.)

# More Odds & Ends



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](mailto:cindynwrs@seanet.com)

## Welcome New CVWS Members!

- Marlyn Kramer
- Alleyn Yasskin
- Lindy Gaylord
- Arlene Hirsch
- Greg Hicks
- Ward Stroud



**Editor's Note:**  
If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, or on the CVWS.org website, please send an email to: [cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com)

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes. Call for information:

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Ian Cooke         | 760 408 3313 |
| Bob Hannah        | 206-409-9786 |
| Karin Harris      | 808-268-0847 |
| Moira Johannessen | 760-322-2523 |
| Pat Kodet         | 530-388-8241 |
| Mandy Main        | 760-508-1382 |
| Diane Morgan      | 760-902-8855 |
| Kathleen Scoggin  | 503-515-9633 |
| Connie Zane       | 775-846-9719 |



<b>ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUIZ</b>	<b>NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES</b>
<p style="text-align: center;">on Page 7</p> <p>The first abstract artist in Wester/European history was a Swedish woman named Hilma Af Klint . To find out more go to: <a href="https://www.guggenheim.org/exhibition/hilma-af-klint">https://www.guggenheim.org/exhibition/hilma-af-klint</a> <a href="https://www.tate.org.uk/tate-etc/issue-27-spring-2013/first-abstract-artist-and-its-not-kandinsky">https://www.tate.org.uk/tate-etc/issue-27-spring-2013/first-abstract-artist-and-its-not-kandinsky</a></p>	<p><b>Submissions to the newsletter are due <u>on or before the 15th of the month.</u></b></p> <p>We are always interested in hearing about any good news you have about your creative life (awards, show acceptances, etc.). <a href="mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com">cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com</a></p>

**DID YOU KNOW?** The CVWS has a \$10 Guest Fee for non-members attending the monthly demonstrations, in person or on zoom. If you know someone who would like to watch our February demonstration as a guest, let them know to send in a check to the P.O. Box and Cindy Mason will send them the Zoom link for the meeting.

# Instructions for Joining the CVWS Zoom Meeting

**6:00 Social Time, 6:30 Meeting Begins**

*We recommend you log in 10 minutes before the meeting to get yourself set up.*

**[ALSO Watch the YouTube Videos at the end of this page.](#)**

1. Zoom works best: a. Desktop Computer or b. Ipad or Tablet or c. IOS/Android Phone.
2. Get on your device, open your CVWS email and look for “Meeting ID#...write this number down. Then click on the link in the email that says “Join Zoom Meeting”. This will take you to Zoom. If you want to listen via regular telephone (not smartphone), use any of the teleconferencing phone numbers at the bottom of the email invitation.
3. When Zoom opens, click Join a Meeting.
4. It will ask for the Meeting ID Number and Password, which will be in your email invitation. Enter your name. This identifies you to others in the meeting.
5. Click Join. Then Click Join With Video or Join Without Video, if you don’t want others to see you.
6. Click Join with Computer Audio. If you don’t have a microphone enabled on your device, you can type in your questions during the Q&A using the Chat feature at the bottom of your screen. If using an Android or IOS phone, tap the screen and the controls will appear. **YOU’RE IN!!**
7. When you enter the meeting, you will see the person that is talking on your full screen (“Speaker View”). If you would also like to see the other participants in the meeting in a grid layout, switch to “Gallery View”. The controls for these are: a. Desktop Windows or Mac: On the top right of your screen. b. Ipad: On the top left. c. Android/IOS phone: Swipe left to switch from Active Speaker view to Gallery View. Keep swiping left to see more of the gallery.
8. Your microphone and video on/off are on the bottom left of a desktop. Tap the screen for smartphones and Ipads and the toolbar will come up. You will see icons for the microphone and video with a bar through them if they are not on. During the meeting presentations, your mic will be off unless you’re called on to ask a question, and then the meeting manager will turn on your mic.
9. If you want to leave the meeting, click End, then Leave Meeting. **There are a number of good videos that you can watch to help you use Zoom for the first time. Here are a couple:**

Joining a Zoom Call for the 1st Time – A Fun and Easy Connection: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>

Joining a Zoom Call for the 1st Time – A Cozy Step by Step Guide: <https://youtu.be/6fIYWnfTc5o>