



# HIGHlight

November 2013



## From the President...

Hi Everyone!

Sitting here with a cup of coffee, letting the slightly cool breeze blow in from the open door, as my smallest, black, fireplug shaped, static-filled dog comes in after a roll in the straw and dirt, then flies back out the door to see what imaginary foe my ancient, anorexic, mostly blind, nine pound, Italian greyhound is barking at around the side of the house. They are doing their job, and doing it better and better every day. Protecting their home, and me, and keeping the dirt level in the house up to a respectable level. This is their life. They do it every day without fail, even when they are sick, or its too cold or too hot. Dedicated...

So I am feeling this moment at the computer as a break from the mind bending task I have manifested for myself in the studio. Fortunately for me, I work well under pressure. But through this particular push I am in the middle of, I have come to a solid conclusion. One

*continued on page 3*

## Monthly Meeting at the Albuquerque Museum

Saturday, November 9 • 10 - Noon

### Susan E. Roden Demo

From fleeting white clouds in blue skies to ships docked and afloat and minimalist studies of fruits and vegetables, the viewer experiences movement created in a unique method of extensive layering, a mass of individualized strokes varying in depth. Susan's pastels are diminutive, vibrant and impacted with mood and color.



Susan will also discuss her pastel painting collection of skateboarders placed within white backgrounds, with added touches of bright graphic lines to enhance their actions. There is also a subtle inclusion of gold leaf following the skater's trail. She will describe her technique of unblended, extensive layering and creating action with lines.

## INSIDE...

pg 2 - Officers and Chairs, Signature Member Show News, National Show News

pg 3 - Program Review

pg 5 - Member News, Call for Entries

pg 6 - Workshops

## YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

### 2014 PSNM Officers Ballot

Votes will be counted at the November Meeting!

- Natasha Isenhour, President
- Annie Roberts, Vice President
- Walt Viney, Treasurer
- Lee McVey, Secretary
- Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Print*

Signature

Date

#### To Vote for the 2014 PSNM Officers:

- 1) Print this page of HIGHlight;
- 2) Fill in the ballot above;
- 3) Sign and date ballot where indicated;
- 4) Cut it out;
- 5) Bring it to the November meeting.

#### OR

Mail the completed ballot to:

PSNM, PO Box 3571, Albuquerque, NM 87190

*(Must arrive before Nov. 6th)*

## PSNM Officers & Committee Chairs

President . . . . .	Natasha Isenhour
Vice President . . . . .	Wanda Portee
Treasurer . . . . .	Mack West
Secretary . . . . .	Lee McVey
Member-at-Large . . . . .	Sally Prince
Communications . . . . .	Nicholas Tesluk
Evaluation . . . . .	Ann Lewis, Margi Lucena, Linda West
50/50 . . . . .	Denali Brooke, Ann Gladstone
Librarian . . . . .	Panola Lisle
MasterWorks Rep . . . . .	Denali Brooke
Membership . . . . .	Gaye Garrison
National Show . . . . .	Nicholas Tesluk
Newsletter . . . . .	Marilyn Drake
Programs . . . . .	Julie Maas
Program Review . . . . .	Pat Oliver
Publicity . . . . .	VACANT
Refreshments . . . . .	Carol Lovelady
Signature Membership . . . . .	Katherine Irish
Website Manager . . . . .	Marilyn Drake

*To communicate with people on this list by email, go to [www.pastelsnm.org](http://www.pastelsnm.org) then click on Contacts.*

## MasterWorks of NM 2014

Now in its 16th year, MasterWorks began with a unique vision of combining the talents and experience of existing fine arts organizations, each representing artists throughout New Mexico, to sponsor a show of New Mexico's finest art. It is in fact four separately juried shows, hung together after judging and awarding of ribbons and prizes. Membership in any of the sponsoring organizations is not a requirement for entry in MasterWorks, but participating artists must be NM residents.

MasterWorks is at EXPO New Mexico in the Hispanic Arts Center. Opening Ceremony and Preview: Friday, April 4, 5 - 8 pm. Show remains open to the public from April 5 - 26, 10 am - 5 pm, except Mondays and Easter Sunday. Numerous events are scheduled throughout the month, including Open House/ Artist Paint-in on April 13, workshops in most media, artist demonstrations, educational events and other presentations.

**Entry Deadlines: Standard Work - January 31**  
**Miniatures - March 15**

*Prospectus available at: [www.masterworksnm.org](http://www.masterworksnm.org)*

### PSNM Sponsored Pastel Workshop

**April 14, 15, 16 - Monday - Wednesday**

Elizabeth Sandia will be the instructor. Enrollment is now open for PSNM members only. Cost: \$250 PSNM members/ \$275 nonmembers. \$100 Deposit required.

Contact Donna Houston to reserve your spot: 505-293-9407 or [donna\\_houstonhouston@aol.com](mailto:donna_houstonhouston@aol.com)

## National Show News

from Nicholas Tesluk, Show Chair



The event we've all been waiting for is poised to happen very soon! Elizabeth Mowry, our esteemed Judge, will arrive in Albuquerque to make the award selections for both the National Show and the Small Works Show and to be the instructor of a three-day workshop. We look forward to working with her. The 22nd Annual National Pastel Painting Exhibition has its **Gala Opening is Friday, November 1 from 5-8 pm, with the Awards Presentation promptly at 6 pm!**

As in years past, a beautiful array of paintings were juried into the show and I look forward to seeing all of them as they arrive. Images of all the paintings in the show appear in the recently printed National Show catalog, which Marilyn Drake did a fine job designing. Once again, we will have demonstrations by some of our members on weekends. The schedule is below.

If you haven't yet signed up to help with Show-Sitting, please contact Enid Sorenson at: [enidls@comcast.net](mailto:enidls@comcast.net) or Annie Roberts at: [anniedear@hotmail.com](mailto:anniedear@hotmail.com). We have a great group of members who volunteer, but the Show-Sitting chart hasn't filled up very quickly this year.

Thank you all for helping to make this show possible.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Pastel Painting Exhibition

&

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Small Works Exhibit

**Nov. 1 - 24**

Hispanic Arts Center • EXPO New Mexico  
300 San Pedro NE, Albuquerque

## Pastel Demonstrations at Hispanic Art Center

Saturday, November 2	<b>Vasili Katakis</b>	11:00 - 1:00
	<b>Barbara Clark</b>	1:30 - 3:30
Sunday, November 3	<b>Gaye Garrison</b>	11:00 - 1:00
	<b>Mike Mahon</b>	1:30 - 3:30
Saturday, November 9	<b>Natasha Isenhour</b>	1:30 - 3:30
Sunday, November 10	<b>Marilyn Drake</b>	1:30 - 3:30
Sunday, November 17	<b>Nance McManus</b>	1:30 - 3:30
Saturday, November 23	<b>Lee McVey</b>	1:30 - 3:30

that should be a no-brainer, and I am sure it has crossed my mind before, but this time it has really hit home and heart. I can physically see my work getting better and better with each painting. I have panels galore primed and ready for action. No sooner do I finish one then I am starting another... every day. My breakfast and coffee go with me into the studio instead of in front of the television first thing in the morning. Dedicated...

When I don't have shows and gallery commitments breathing down my neck, the rationale for not being in the studio every day is endless. There are always a million things to do and I complain about not being able to be in the studio. Whose fault is that? If I were answering to a boss, I would be at work every day, punched in and working, dedicated to my job. I look at the successful artists I admire, the ones who share their daily activity on Facebook. Not only is there a steady stream of new work coming from the studio or the field each and every day, they are teaching, demonstrating, judging and they are also the ones you see in all the magazines with the big write-ups. They are... dedicated...

I know I have talked about this before, but my goal in these letters is to inspire you as I am inspired. And since dedication to my art should be front and center every day, it is only natural that this topic should surface with some frequency. So, you know how you can know something all along, maybe what is best for you but is easier said than done, then suddenly, one day the idea really gets hold of you and you follow through, and find it becomes a part of who you are? This is not to say I haven't been dedicated all along, it means that I have just evolved into a new understanding of what it means to be dedicated to my work. I post my new work every day, and I find that it is getting the attention of those artists who I admire.

And when they take the time to leave a comment, or give it a "like," it really means something to me. It's another barometer of my progress.

I am seeing a clear pattern emerge. The harder I work and the more dedicated to it I am, the more attention and sales result. And, most importantly, it has done something to my idea of creating a body of work for a show. I have heard it before and it is sort of a residual idea that lives in my head, that I need a couple of real "show-stoppers," and hopefully I can get a couple of the works to live up to that. I have concluded a new philosophy with regard to that. They are ALL going to be show-stoppers, the very best I know how to paint. I am putting that kind of heart and energy into each and every one, and if they don't live up to the task, they won't be going. This isn't to be confused with an ego trip mind you. It's about representing myself the very best I know how. And it is also validation to the lesson that dedication breeds consistency and growth. Taking all the classes and workshops in the world won't make that happen. It is how dedicated you are to that knowledge and putting it to work every day.

I hear snoring coming from the big floor pillows behind me now. There is a fresh path of straw from the door leading to the scarecrow snoozing next to the twitching, sleeping old girl who is no doubt chasing away those dangerous rabbits in her sleep. A short break after hard work then they will no doubt be back at it shortly. How do I know? Because they are dedicated...

We must always be exploring a deeper sense of what it means to be dedicated...

It's how we grow into the infinite possibilities of what it means to be an artist.

Happy painting!

~ Natasha Isenhour

## October Program Review

~ by Maryann McGraw

**Cecilia McRoberts** has developed a love for the abstract. She is in the constant process of approaching her pieces to convey movement, contrasting color and value. Mixed media lets her explore various textures, while also creating wonderful color interactions. She wants her work to intrigue the viewer and bring forth a beauty through color and motion.



At the beginning of her presentation, Cecilia told us how she'd started drawing as a 5 years old and created her first self-portrait when she was 6. She was fascinated by ballerinas and started drawing them too. In high school Cecilia became interested in abstraction and modernism. One of her first works

was of a Big Eye with orange triangle tears. Over the course of several years, she took classes in photography and computer graphics, which helped her develop her abstract style. At the age of 50, she went back to school to get a degree, graduating in 2004 from California State University Northridge with a BA in Art.

Cecelia then read a quote from Robert Genn: " 'Abstract understanding' doesn't mean arbitrary sloshing and messing. Abstract art is controlled visual magic based on laws and methodology. Abstraction generally involves implication, suggestion and mystery rather than obvious description. Like a good poem, a good abstraction attacks your feelings before your understanding. Abstraction within realism adds zest and excitement to otherwise dull subject matter. Abstract understanding takes time and patience."

She continued by describing some of the innovative

*continued on page 4*

continued from page 3 - **October Program Review**

ideas and techniques she has employed that led to interesting designs and artwork, such as scanning a plastic bag with a broken egg in it. The result was very exciting design, as was the “colograph” made of Reeces Pieces cups, paper towels and other stuff to develop an image she was thinking about so she could then apply ink on top of the image and print it.

Another example of her creative process started with one image to which she applied layers of aluminum foil and ink and then tore off parts to let the original image show through. Monoprint was a really free medium that helped her develop her ability to create abstraction. She wants to be ambiguous so others can interpret her work.

Cecilia has a natural knack for color and design. She showed many of her recent works that drew “Ohs” and “Ahs” from the appreciative audience. Her biggest works are about 30” x 30” but the crowd thought she should go bigger in the future because the enlargement of her works on the screen were really amazing.

Cecilia currently creates her work primarily in pastel and acrylic. Her painting ideas come from something she has thought of. She often uses props such as a vase of flowers, does a painting from it, and then abstracts the painting using computer programs to incorporate motion, turbulence, lines, movement, color schemes. Or she may simply enlarge areas of the image in her painting or the original prop. Then she paints the abstraction. She will then go on to look for interesting features in that image so she can abstract and paints those into larger paintings, adding shapes to balance the composition and thereby creating a theme.

Her mark-making comes from spontaneity. She sees things shape-based. She senses color and composition and has a sense of romance. Cecilia is certainly not afraid to try, or create, new techniques, and thinks “let’s try this!”

Cecilia showed the audience a number of future ideas for abstract paintings and how she created them. We cannot wait to see the results! To see examples of Cecilia’s work, go to her website: [cecilia.fineartstudionline.com](http://cecilia.fineartstudionline.com)

## Signature Member News

With acceptance into the 2013 PSNM National Show, five PSNM members have now earned signature status: **Judy Felsen, Mike Mahon, Richard Orbon, Enid Sorenson, and Enid Wood.**

*\* To learn more about attaining Signature Member status, please refer to Signature Members section of our website, or contact Katherine Irish, Signature Membership Chair.*

Shown at right are some photos from the 2013 PSNM Signature Membership Exhibition held at Matrix Fine Art in Albuquerque. Many thanks to Regina Held, Director and Tanya Landin, Gallery Assistant, our hosts at Matrix.

The show featured paintings by 6 Distinguished PSNM Pastelists - Maggie Price, Terri Ford, Margi Lucena, Paul Murray, Susan E. Roden, and Colette Ody Smith as well as 37 Signature Members - Donna Aldrich, Jeanine Allen, Janet Amtmann, Diane Arenberg, Lyle Brown, Sheridan Brown, Bill Canright, Sara Chambers, Barbara Clark, John Philbin Dolan, Marilyn Drake, Terry Lawson Dunn, Gaye Garrison, Elizabeth Greenlee, Leila Hall, Katherine Irish, Kathleen Jackson, Vasili Katakis, JoAnne Kennedy, Susu Knight, Elaine Koehler, Rebecca Koeppen, Jane McGovern, Nance McManus, Cecilia McRoberts, Lee McVey, Fred Miller, Hazel Monzingo, Janice Muir, Fran Odum, Peggy Orbon, Jeff Potter, Nancy Silvia, Lorraine Trenholm, Donna Van Leer, Sergio Viscoli, and Fred Yost.

See all the paintings at: [www.matrixfineart.com/artists/](http://www.matrixfineart.com/artists/) by clicking on the PSNM logo.

The exhibit was dedicated to Maggie Price (1947-2013), an outstanding leader whose tireless efforts helped promote pastels as an important media in today’s art world.



# Member News

*(upcoming receptions & demos highlighted in red)*

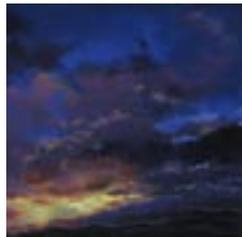
**Susan E. Roden** just completed a solo show at Ray Street Custom Framing and Gallery in San Diego, CA where she lives, called "Air + Wood." **Her solo show, called "Cocktails", opens November 10 at Patrician Design on Gold St. in Albuquerque.** For more information about Susan and her art, visit [www.susaneroden.com](http://www.susaneroden.com)

**Denali Brooke, Ann Gladstone, Panola Lisle, and Ann Schultz** of Flowering Sage Artist Studios invite you to their third annual **Fall Open Studios, Sunday, November 17 from 2 - 5 pm.** Come visit with the artists and see their newest artwork. The studios are located at 2800 Eubank NE, one block south of Candelaria on the east side of the street. For further information contact Panola at 505-299-9137 or [plisle@lislecc.com](mailto:plisle@lislecc.com)

**Janet Shaw Amtmann** won the *Award of Excellence-Pastel*, **Nancy Silvia** received *Best of Signature Members*, **Maryann McGraw** and **Betty Tichich** (shown below with Nancy Silvia and Chuck Stup, PAPNM President) both received *Honorable Mention-Pastel* in the Plein Air Painters of New Mexico Annual Members Juried Exhibition at the Millicent Rogers Museum in Taos. Of the 66 members of PAPNM exhibiting, 16 are pastel artists, 15 are members of Pastel Society of New Mexico, and one is a member of Pastel Society of the Southwest. Of the 10 Award winners, 5 were to works in pastel! It is gratifying to see a "crossover" between pastel artists and plein air painters.



**Nancy Silvia** will have her pastel "Almost Night" included in "BLUE", an exhibit curated by Jennifer Joseph at Offroad Productions, 2891-B Trades West Rd, Santa Fe. The opening reception was Saturday, Oct. 19 and runs through Oct. 26.



Nancy will also have three pastels on view in the "Miniatures and More" Invitational at the Albuquerque Museum which has its gala opening on Saturday, October 26.

**Depy Adams, Denali Brooke, Nancy Davis, Marilyn Drake** (her "Tutu Bleu" is shown at right), **Susan Earl, Gaye Garrison, Ann Lewis, Cecelia McRoberts, Carolyn Poole, Anne Schultz, Carmen Sharpe, Mary Stovall, and Fred Yost** are among the 36 artists participating in "Paint



the Ballet", a cooperative arts fundraising project benefitting the New Mexico Ballet Company. **An exhibit of "Paint the Ballet" paintings opens Friday, Nov. 8 and hangs until Sunday, Dec. 15 in the main gallery at the New Mexico Art League (NMAL), located at 3407 Juan Tabo Blvd NE in Albuquerque.** Additional paintings will be displayed at Popejoy during NMBC performances of "The Nutcracker". More information about "Paint the Ballet" can be found on the continually updated website: [www.painttheballet.com](http://www.painttheballet.com)

In addition, there is now a "Paint the Ballet" Kickstarter campaign. It may take a little time for it to show up in Albuquerque projects section but it is searchable as Paint the Ballet on Kickstarter now. All donations are done securely through Amazon Payments with a credit card. See the project and video at the following link: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/327632493/paint-the-ballet-a-cooperative-arts-exhibition>

## Call for Entries

*Tips for photographing artwork can be found on PSNM website: [www.pastelsnm.org](http://www.pastelsnm.org) — look for links to pdf documents and "Photographing Artwork and Preparing a Digital Entry" video at bottom of Home page.*

### Small Works Holiday Show

**Delivery/Entry Deadline: Friday, November 1, from 10am - 3pm**

Show runs November 5 - December 23, 2013 at New Mexico Art League, 3409 Juan Tabo NE, Albuquerque  
Reception: November 15, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Accepting works in painting, drawing, printmaking, photography or mixed media. All works must be original and framed with hanging wire (no hooks). Framed works must not be larger than 16" on any side. Drop off work with completed, signed form which can be downloaded from NMAL website:

<https://newmexicoartleague.wildapricot.org/>

\$15 hanging fee (for up to 3 pieces) due at delivery. Attach label to back of each piece, including artist's name, title of piece, medium, dimensions and retail price. All works will be for sale and will be tax-free. Artists will receive 70% of the retail price and NMAL will retain a 30% commission if the work is sold.

### MasterWorks of New Mexico

**First Deadline - January 31, 2014!**

***Go to page 2 for details about entering and how to register for Elizabeth Sandia pastel workshop.***

April 5 - 26, 2014 at EXPO New Mexico in Hispanic Arts Center. Exclusively for NM artists!

Downloaded prospectus from: [www.masterworksnm.org](http://www.masterworksnm.org)

# Workshops & Classes

**LISTING POLICY:** All new announcements will be published with as much detail as space will allow. Repeat listings may be shortened. Deadline for submissions is 15th of month preceding next issue. Please send your listings for classes, workshops, events, or news via email to: [psnm.news@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.news@gmail.com)

Workshops and classes held in **Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and other NM locales are indicated in Red.**

## TAUGHT BY PSNM MEMBERS

### Vasili Katakis Workshops • Albuquerque Drawing From Nature - Saturdays & Sundays at the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden

**November 9 - 10** "Shakkei - Borrowed Landscape"

For more information, contact Vasili at [vasilikatakis@gmail.com](mailto:vasilikatakis@gmail.com) or 505-255-0313

For course descriptions or to register, go to: [vasilart.com](http://vasilart.com)

### Lee McVey, PSA, PSNM Classes

**November 15 - 17 Workshop** • Littleton, CO

Held at Terry Ludwig Studio (a candy store of pastels!)

Improve your ability to see and extract the information from landscape reference photos needed to create a successful painting. Explore compositional design, color, value and aerial perspective. \$325 tuition.

For more info or to register for either classes or workshop, contact Lee at [lee@leemcvey.com](mailto:lee@leemcvey.com) or 505-417-3516.

To see Lee's paintings and learn more about her, go to: [www.leemcvey.com](http://www.leemcvey.com) to

### Michael Chesley Johnson, PSA, PSNM, MPAC Workshops

**Late October - Mid-April** • Sedona, AZ

Looking for a winter painting getaway? This winter, get exactly the workshop you need! Register for a Customized *Plein Air* Workshop for you and three friends. It can be a pastel-only workshop, a workshop on advanced design or color, a workshop in painting large format pastels, or any other topic you wish. Michael teaches intermediate/advanced plein air workshops in all media and is happy to dedicate some of these workshops to your specific needs. (He often gets pastel painters who wish he'd do a pastel-only workshop.) Of course, if you prefer just to stick with his regular program, you are welcome to do that, too! You and your friends could rent a house or condo for the week. Workshops run Tuesday - Friday from 9 am - 1pm. Price: \$300.

For details, contact Michael at: [mcj.painter@gmail.com](mailto:mcj.painter@gmail.com) or visit [www.PaintSedona.com](http://www.PaintSedona.com).

### Mike Mahon Workshops

**Nov. 16 - 17** • **Artesia, NM**

Learn about Mike's *DiVine Setup*<sup>TM</sup>, a 7-step systematic approach to painting based on classic principles of art which are logical, memorable, and freeing. You can be more in control of your painting while you are developing genuine spontaneity. See how it feels to be confident in each painting from beginning to end!

To register or ask questions, contact Mike at:

505-795-4639 or by email at: [art@mmahon.com](mailto:art@mmahon.com)

### Christine Debrosky Workshop

**September 20 - 27, 2014** • Chainti region, Tuscany, Italy

Start planning now for "Tuscan Impressions"! Visit [www.ilchiostro.com](http://www.ilchiostro.com) to read more about the program, see photos of the accommodations and the surrounding area, as well as very useful information about traveling to Italy, particularly if you have not been there. Browsing through the site is a nice taste of what you may expect. The direct link to workshop info can be found at: [www.ilchiostro.com/index.php?action+workshop-details&item=252](http://www.ilchiostro.com/index.php?action+workshop-details&item=252)

## WORKSHOPS TAUGHT BY OTHERS

### Sally Strand Workshops

**November 8-10, 2013** • Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook School of the Arts

Contact: Mary Perhacs, 760-728-6383 or 310-728-1414  
[mperhacs@fallbrookartcenter.org](mailto:mperhacs@fallbrookartcenter.org)

**March 20 - 23, 2014** • San Clemente, CA

Contact: Patti Herdel, 949-369-6603  
[pherdell@scartsupply.com](mailto:pherdell@scartsupply.com)

**October 8 - 17, 2014** • Domaine du Haut Baran, France

Contact: William or Rosalie Haas: 513-533-0511 in US or call 011 33 565 246324 in France  
Email at: [hautbaranfrance@gmail.com](mailto:hautbaranfrance@gmail.com)

### Christine Swann Workshop

**March 14, 15, 16, 2014** • **Albuquerque**

ONE SPOT LEFT! Learn portrait/figure painting from winner of 2 awards at 2013 IAPS Exhibition: "Cold" Gold Medal Award and "Strands". Begin by taking reference photos of live model as resource for painting. Same model returns on last day so you can complete your painting from life and see differences between the photo and the actual person. Christine guides students through every stage while emphasizing design and color principles.

13 students maximum. Tuition: \$295, includes model fee. \$100 deposit due by Nov. 15. Contact Marilyn Drake to register: 505-400-2571 or [psnm.news@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.news@gmail.com)

