



Brush & Palette



February 2022 • Celebrating Our 57th Year! • www.CampbellArtistsGuild.org



President's Message

*"Painting is easy when you don't know how,
but very difficult when you do."*

– Edgar Degas

Do I sense a feeling of spring in the air? We are having unusually warm weather along with the hope of shedding these masks like a butterfly climbs out of its chrysalis, spreads its wings, and eventually flies into the world. I picture us all getting out of the funk of this pandemic and creating amazing paintings.

If you belong to a small art group, it's a perfect time to get together again and create your masterpieces. If you don't belong to a group, why not join or organize one? Our small abstract group continued creating through the winter on Zoom and our next meeting will be at the beginning of March outdoors. Looking forward to playing with palette knives!

I had a great time last month painting abstract compositions with all of you. Still, I'm contemplating giving my workshops free to all members during 2022 via separate Zoom meetings. Drop me an email if you are interested.

Elton Glover will be providing us with another demo during our February meeting. You don't want to miss this one! Come and join in on the paint along.

Are you stuck with artist's block?

Can't seem to get started with that blank canvas or paper? Relax ... take some deep breaths. Paint a color background with no image in mind; blend the colors. Stop trying to be so perfect and create like a child – have fun! Paint or draw images to music. Try something new – a different subject, a new media; use paper instead of canvas; use a new kind of paint brush, pencil or pen. Just start doodling with pens and colors.



Keep the faith – we will get through this and eventually be meeting in person again. Looking forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

Diann Klink • President

Artist-of-the-Month

Thank you to our talented artists who participated in the January competitions for Artist of the Month and Artist of the Year. The first place ribbon recipient in Artist of the Month is now eligible to enter into the Blue Ribbon Gallery in February 2022.



First Place
Patricia Smith
"It'll Be a Great Day" • *Watercolor*



Second Place
Patti Pierce
"Winter Reflections" • *Watercolor*

2021 Artist of the Year



Barb Overholt
"Annie" • *Oil*



Third Place
Smruti Kurse
"Bald Eagle" • *White Charcoal*



Accessing Your Abstract Artist Soul

Part II • Abstract Composition

In Part II, Diann introduced us to the variety of composition formats that can be used in creating unique abstract works. Participants were provided a worksheet illustrating the various formats, a blank worksheet to work on, and a supply list outlining the materials and tools.

She explained Contrast (scale, hue, saturation, value, depth, transparency, distance, texture, and edges), Balance, Repetition, Movement, Focal Point, Breathing Room, Variety, Division of Space, and explained these through examples as shown below.

Participating artists were asked to create one or more abstract art pieces by selecting a format that spoke to them. Artists were invited to take photos of their finished pieces and send them to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in this month's newsletter. Below are just a few examples of the many compositions that were explained.



Asymmetrical



Two examples of Circle or Closed Compositions



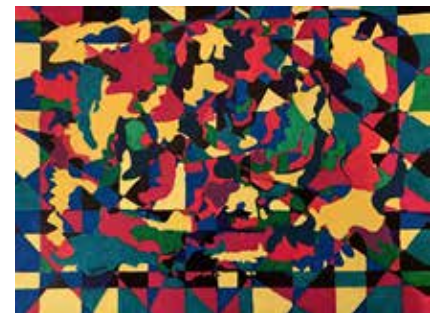
Triangle



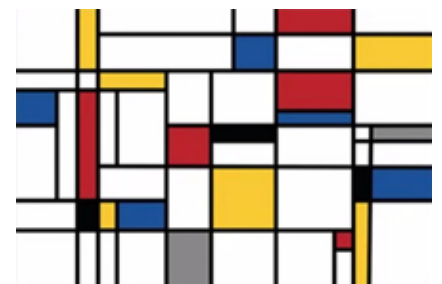
Cruciform



Diagonal



*Top/Bottom:
Examples of Grid Composition*



"The goal of abstract art is to communicate the intangible, that which eludes the photograph and normal seeing."

– Curtis Verdun

Accessing Your Abstract Artist Soul

Part II • Abstract Composition - Member Participation



*Lucy Letcher was inspired to create two abstracts.
"Boomerang" (left) and "Cocktail Hour"*



*Kris Rogers' two abstracts (above)
"Island Vibe" (top) and "Fish Tank"*



*Diann Klink was inspired to create two abstracts.
"Fault Line" (left) and "Spiritual Vortex"*



Dave Eisbach's untitled creation



Barb Overholt's palette knife creation "Circle of Friends"

And Speaking of Abstracts . . .

Guild member Jennifer Glover has been enjoying Jeff Braumschreiber's online Zoom workshop "Abstract Acrylic Painting" which started January 29. I think you'll agree that her first creation, "Figure in the Flames," is one stunningly bold creation. Her next creation, "Itla-Okla," reminded her of Spanish Moss, and, therefore, she aptly titled the work.

A brief about Spanish Moss you might not know ...

The original native name for Spanish Moss is "Itla-okla" or "tree hair" possibly originating from the Choctaw area of Southern Louisiana. French colonists called it "Spanish Beard" in mocking reference to the long and bushy beards of the Spanish men. The Spanish called it "French Hair" mocking the French in turn. Eventually "Spanish Beard" won out in common usage and later became Spanish Moss.

The plant is not Spanish and it's not moss. It is native to high humidity areas of the Southeastern United States, Caribbean, Central and South America. It is a rootless "epiphytic" plant that uses its scaly leaves and curved structure to hold onto the branches of the trees it lives with. It is a "bromeliad" and related to the pineapple.

For those of you who have not taken the opportunity to participate in Jeff Braumschreiber's workshops, you might want to subscribe to Triton's online newsletter to receive up-to-date information on workshops and exhibits – www.TritonMuseum.org.



Photo of Spanish Moss



"Figure in the Flames"



"Itla-Okla (Spanish Moss)"



Monthly Meeting Events via Zoom @ 1:00 p.m.

February 26, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

- Artist of the Month Competition
- Blue Ribbon Gallery Competition
- **Demonstrator: Awards Co-Chair Elton Glover • Paint Along Liquid Pour**

March 26, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

- Artist of the Month Competition
- Blue Ribbon Gallery Competition
- **Demonstrator: Judy Gittlesohn • Paint Along Using Acrylics**



Using Acrylics Like Oils

The key is to keep the paint on your canvas wet. Here's how to do that.

1. **Plan your approach.** It's often easier to paint from back to front – the sky, the distant landscape, the middle, and then the foreground.
2. **Larger Tools.** Planning your approach helps you paint fast. When the paint is drying too quickly, you need to paint fast in order to achieve wet-in-wet effects. Try using larger brushes and load them with more paint.
3. **Use lots of paint.** If you need to stop and re-mix your colors constantly or put more paint out on the palette, the paint on your canvas will dry. Lay out more paint and make your mixes larger than you think you'll need.
4. **Keep it wet.** Every five minutes, mist your palette and your painting with a fine mist water sprayer filled with *distilled water*. Distilled water is best as it contains no chemicals like tap water.
5. **Retarder medium.** Mix in a bit of retarder medium to your paints to keep it workable. Careful – too much and your paint will be too thin.
6. **Extended acrylics.** These paints allow you more time to create; they are especially made for longer working times. Golden® *Open Acrylics* or Atelier® *Interactive Acrylics*. Atelier® offers a fine mist water sprayer that works beautifully!

Golden® Open Acrylics:
www.goldenpaints.com

Atelier® Interactive Acrylics:
www.chromaonline.com

Special Announcements



The “Whoo-Hoo!” Awards

Congratulations to Diann Klink as her art “Red Skies” was accepted into the Gallerium Exhibitions’ “EXTINCTION: Save the Planet 2021” that was on exhibit December 31 – February 10, 2022.

This exhibit highlighted artists as ambassadors of Earth to widen people’s perceptions about global warming, climate change, pollution, vanishing species, drought crisis, clean water scarcity, green-house gas emissions, et al.

Her work is included in “The Book of Art Extinction” series published by Discover the Artist media holding and Art Publications Network. www.Gallerium.art Well done Diann!



“Red Skies”

Congratulations to Patti Pierce and Linda Curtis

Patti’s watercolor “Curiosity” and Linda Curtis’ “Buckets of Red” were selected into the “52nd National Exhibition” of the California Watercolor Association. The exhibit runs from January 8–March 12, 2022 at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Art Center in Pleasanton, CA Well done Patti and Linda!



Linda Curtis’ “Buckets of Red”



Patti Pierce’s “Curiosity”

Board's Business Meeting • Thursday, February 10 @ 3:00 p.m.



An Opportunity to Serve Fellow Guild Members

In order to provide more exposure for the Campbell Artists' Guild, and bring in new members, the Board is looking to create a new Officer position entitled "Publicity and Social Media." The tasks associated with this position would include creating and managing news articles and announcements, announcing monthly competition winners with images, and creating other advertisements of the Guild's activities to appear in as many news media as possible. This would entail creating a personal account on Facebook using the Guild's Gmail address, website address, and linking that account to an Instagram account so that both platforms mirror one another in content. Once the social media sites have been created, monthly updates would be required to keep the news current and attendance in monthly Business Meetings for reporting desired.

The Board hopes that our members would thoughtfully and generously consider providing this much-needed service to fellow members. Please contact President Diann Klink for more information at diannklink@gmail.com.



Executive Board Meeting Minutes February 10

February's Business Meeting was held on Zoom and was called to order at 3:00 p.m. In attendance were President Diann Klink, Vice President Marlene Bird, Treasurer Sharon La Bouff, Secretary Kris Rogers, Programs Co-Chair Jennifer Glover, and Newsletter Editor/Membership Barb Overholt.

Website:

Sharon met with Guild member Lynna Jirpongopas who has had experience with Wordpress® (a free and open-source content management system used for our website) to go over our website needs. Lynna has volunteered to perform the minor housekeeping and updates that are needed. She is not experienced with website redesign however. Looking at our site, Lynna mentioned that it needs to be updated as well as backed up. Once that is done, the Board will prioritize the changes that need to occur. Among the top priorities are uploading current newsletters, Bylaws, and removal of artwork from nonmembers. Barb has the information organized and will provide files to Lynna.

Publicity and Social Media:

Diann researched how to set up a Facebook and Instagram accounts for the Guild. First an personal account must be set up specifically for the Guild using the Guild's gmail. After setting up the site, a Group site can be created. Once this has been done on both Facebook and Instagram, the accounts can be linked. Kris suggested creating a new Officer position called, "Publicity and Social Media." The Board unanimously agreed and Diann stated that the position would be responsible for creating and posting updates for all activities. The topic will be brought up at the next Membership Meeting.



Treasurer's Report:

Current balance: \$2,063. The bank signature card has not been updated. Sharon will inquire whether an appointment is needed.

Demonstrators:

Jennifer secured Elton for a February demonstration. He will demonstrate liquid pour techniques not shown before. For our March 26 demonstrator, Judy Gittelsohn has been confirmed to present a paint along via Zoom. Demonstrator inquiries were sent out February 3 to artists Sue Kemnitz and Jane Ferguson. Jeff Braumschreiber continues to teach classes through the Triton Museum of Art. Jennifer is currently taking an abstract acrylics with him that she is enjoying. She will inquire as to his interest in presenting another demonstration for us.

Cathy Down is temporarily unavailable to assist with obtaining demonstrators. Jennifer is currently taking the lead.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kris Rogers • Secretary*

Need to Contact a Board Member or Officer?

Look to the last page of every newsletter for phone or email information.

Online Instruction • Workshops • Competitions

Competitions

- www.LightSpaceTime.art – monthly online competitions.
- CaFÉ • <https://www.calforentry.org> – Signing up required to enter and participate in a variety of “Call to Artists.”
- <https://www.internationalartist.com> – bi-monthly magazine showcasing artists from around the world in digital or print formats; competitions, workshops, podcasts.

Workshops • Courses • Instruction • Tutorials

- **Scottsdale Artists’ School** – <https://scotsdaleartschool.org>
- **www.OnlineArtLessons.com** – sign up for free art lessons in your email each week, free tutorials
- **The Virtual Instructor** – www.thevirtualinstructor.com
- **The Best Online Courses for 2022** – www.creativeblog.com
- **www.JerrysArtarama.com** – Free art instruction for a variety of mediums
- **<https://www.ArtistsNetwork.com>** – Free tutorials and lessons. Become a member and receive access to a variety of content – videos, newsletter, discounts, magazines, ebooks.
- **YouTube.com** – has a wealth of how-to videos.