



Torrance Artists' Guild

P.O. Box 1494, Torrance, CA 90505

February 2018

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7 P.M.



Demonstrator: Otto Sturcke

Please join us for lively and unique evening of pastel painting by Otto Sturcke. Primarily self-taught, Otto became appreciative of the world of art working on his high school yearbooks. He drew inspiration from Disney artists and the Renaissance masters, especially the still life paintings of the Dutch masters and their concept of "Chiaroscuro". creating a level of realism in his work not usually found in contemporary pastel paintings.

At 17 Otto joined the Marine Corp in the hopes of attaining financial aid for art school, but was soon named "artist private". Upon returning home after being deployed in Desert Storm, Otto enrolled in art workshops and courses at several local art associations and colleges while launching his illustrative career for toy, television and film studio projects.

www.torranceartistsguild.org

Webmaster: Jeannine Madden

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Statement of Purpose

The Torrance Artist's Guild is a non-profit corporation organized to cultivate art skills, promote awareness and encourage appreciation of art in our community. It is chartered by the City of Torrance in cooperation with the Cultural Services Division of the Community Services Department. Meetings are held regularly on the second Tuesday of the month.

**General TAG Meeting: Tuesday,
February 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ken
Miller Recreation Center Auditorium,
3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance**

Board Meeting: TBA 6:30 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline: Friday, March 2

Editor: Mercedes Guzman 310 327-1423

merart@sbcglobal.net

TAG Officers

President: David Wolfram

(310) 721-0670 david.wolfram@yahoo.com

Vice-Pres: Suzanne Kuuskmæe

(310) 546-7872 kuuskmæe@verizon.net

Treasurer: Richard Whitehorse

(310) 542-9428 rwhitehorse@earthlink.net

Recording Secretary: Al Hagan

(310)540-0125 ahagan@pepperdine.edu

Publicity Chair: Hope Witkowsky

(310) 791-5766 hopewitkowsky@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Anita Johnson

(310) 325-5499 anitajohnson0487@att.net

Program Chair: Maria Crean

(310)292-1262 mtcrean2012@gmail.com

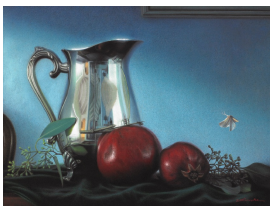
Corresp Secretary: Sylvia Smullen

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Though Otto works in both oil and pastel, it was after an introductory workshop on pastels by noted artist Dianna Ponting, that Otto found his medium of choice. For Otto, pastel is the purest method of painting, since pure color is used without fluid medium, and the pastel is applied directly to the ground. He finds repose as an artist, becoming lost in the intricacies of textures and fine detail, imparting life and vibrancy into each individual subject. As a representational artist, he seeks to find common ground between the contemporary and the classical. He engages the viewer by depicting the personal and emotional, and a quiet elegance can be found in his paintings through his manipulation of light, shadow and texture. He strives to tell a story of reflection, infusing symbols of time, age, beauty, the in-between and the power of Zen into his works.

In recent years, Otto has garnered several awards, including the Art Spirit Foundation Dianne B. Bernhard Gold Medal Award by the Pastel Society of America, the Best of 2012 by Los Angeles Magazine, and has been chosen to be part of the American Latino Collective at the Smithsonian Museum. Southwest Art Magazine describes his paintings as “Classically Contemporary”.

We hope to see you all on Tuesday, February 13th for an energetic and fun evening with pastel artist Otto Sturcke.



President's Report

If you are like me, and I'm willing to bet that many of you are, the Holidays can take a terrible toll regarding your art productivity. This is the time of year I feel I need to create a lot of new work to get ready for my different group shows, outdoor shows and to have something new to put up on the walls in my studio and gallery space. Sometimes, this is easier said than done!

Part of the solution is to kick start your inspiration.

In January, I went to the Contemporary Art Show at the L. A. Convention Center with a couple of other TAG members. Although they, and I (mostly), don't generally work in what you would call a contemporary style, it is interesting and thought provoking to see and discuss much of the huge variety of artistic expressions, as well as speculating in many cases just how they were created. I left there inspired to try out some new processes for 2018.

Fortunately, we live in a great metropolitan area with lots of great opportunities to see all kinds of art for inspiration. For most of us that work in a more traditional style, one of the big annual 'can't miss!' shows is the Masters of the American West show at the Autry Museum in Griffith Park. This show features many of the top realist painters in the country, and is a great way to get up close and personal with a lot of great art. The show runs from February 10th to March 25th, and is definitely worth negotiating the

multiple freeways and the drive through downtown it takes to get there.

Still need inspiration? Go visit one of the other of the many great museums in the L.A. area. To name just a few, the Irvine Museum, LACMA, Norton Simon, MOCA, and the Getty, all have great permanent collections, as well as constantly changing special exhibitions.

If you are still not inspired, take a class or attend a workshop.

Or you might consider a trip to a good art supply store, and treat yourself to a new medium, or at least new paints and brushes.

If all else fails, mark your calendars, and resolve to come to our monthly TAG meetings, where you can see old friends, make new ones, and see the art that they have brought in, as well as seeing a great demonstration. This month our Program Chair has booked Otto Sturcke, who in addition to being a great artist, gives one of the most entertaining (and inspiring) presentations around.

Hope to see you there on February 13th!

David Wolfram

Mercedes Guzman is displaying her artwork at the Torrance City Clerk's office during the month of February.

TAG Monthly
Competition Winners
January 2018

Silver



First Place: Ann Rode, “Autumn on the Merced”, Oil

Second Place: Suzanne Johnson, “Going Home”, Oil

Third Place: Mercedes Guzman, “October in Maine”, Oil

Honorable Mention: Barry Gordon, “Barbizon Fantasy”, Bronze

Honorable Mention: Leslie Chavez, “Flowers”, Oil

Gold



First Place: David Wolfam, “Light Around the Bend”, gouache

Second Place: Al Hagan, “Evening Close”, Oil

Third Place: Maria Crean, “Ocean Dunes”, Oil

Honorable Mention: Doug Castleman, “Airshow Mustang”, watercolor

Honorable Mention: Kathie Reis, “Buffalo Chief”, Oil

Popular Choice: Suzanne Johnson, "Going Home", Oil



Parrish Hirasaki presents **David Wolfram** the "Artist of the Year Award for 2017". Congratulations, David!! ★

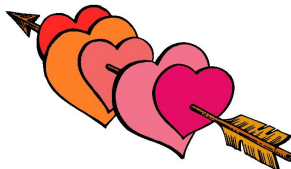
Elected Board members were sworn in at the January meeting:



From Left: David Wolfram, Suzanne Kuusmae, Al Hagan, Maria Crean, Anita Johnson, Richard Whitehorse and Sylvia Smullen. Thank you for your dedication and service on behalf of TAG!

★ Thank you Leslie Chavez for taking great pictures at our monthly meetings.

A housekeeping note to TAG members who attended TAG's Holiday Party: if you left a shallow aluminum baking pan at the party and would like to get it back, you may contact David Wolfram.



Destination: Art

February and March 2018 Classes

February 9th - 16th Fridays - Buena Johnson, Textures and Techniques with Colored Pencils, \$125

February 14th Wednesday, Fran Nichols, Pastel Landscapes Workshop, \$75

February 13th Tuesday, Vickie Sekits, Valentines Day Art Party, \$35, 7 to 9 p.m.

February 17, Saturday, Otto Sturcke, 9:30 to 3:30 p.m. Painting Realism in Pastel - Wait list.

March 3, Saturday, 10 to 2 - Secrets of Gold Leafing, \$70

March 12 - April 9, David Wolfram, 9:30 to 12:30 Underpainting Techniques for Pastels, \$180.

March 15 - April 12, 9:30 to 12:30, Lerrri Peterson, Animal Paintings, \$175.

Paint-Ins every Tuesday, 9:30 to 2:30, Fran Nichols will critique on Feb. 20 and March 20. \$10 for associates, \$15 others. Reservations needed for critique days.

Visit www.destination-art-net for more information.

1815 W. 213th Street, #135, Torrance, 90501 (310) 742-3192

Office Hours: Tues. - Friday 12:15 TO 2:15

Gallery Hours: Th, Fri, Sat 11 to 5 p.m.

Sunday Noon till 5 p.m.