



CENTRAL MASS PASTEL SOCIETY

CMPS Newsletter September 2023

President's Message

Dear Artists and Friends:

Our 2023 Marks of Distinction National Exhibition has just opened at Fivesparks in Harvard, MA with 70 paintings from 70 artists from 18 states and Canada. It is a wonderful show with a wide range of styles and subjects.

Our Awards reception is Sunday, September 10, 2-4 pm.

And we have a special **Meet the Board and Gallery Tour event on Sunday, September 17**; it is free but do let us know if you are coming by registering [here](#). We hope to see you at one or both.

We will be sending out a member survey in mid September.

The survey provides important input for planning our activities for next year, so your response is important and much appreciated.

Speaking of activities, there are a number of offerings coming up as we enter the last quarter of the year. In particular, there is just one week left to register for Jeanne Tangney's portrait workshop (see the link below under CMPS Events), and we have demos with Mike Beeman and Javad Soleimanpour, and Artist Talks with Pirkko Makela Haapalinna and Loriann Signori, coming up between the end of September and mid-December.

We look forward to seeing you at the reception or another event!

All the best,

Jane

Jane Robbins, President

Upcoming CMPS Events

Here are the workshops, demos, and artist talks, with registration links, coming up over the next quarter.



Now open at Fivesparks, 7 Fairbank St., Harvard, MA

2023 Marks of Distinction National Pastel Exhibition

Reception and Awards Sunday, 9/10, 2-4 pm

Meet the Board and Gallery Tour

Sunday, 9/17, 1-3 pm

Free to the public. Register for tour at
cmpastels.org

MARKS OF DISTINCTION

National Juried Show



Jared Solesmanpour

An exciting exhibition and sale of work
from the best soft pastel artists in the country.

**August 29 - September 30
at Fivesparks**

Gallery hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10 am - 4 pm
Saturdays and Sundays 12 pm - 4 pm
Meet the Board for a Gallery Tour: Sept. 17 1-3 pm



Loriam Signori



Awards Judge Mim Brooks Fawcett
will award over \$6000
at our public Awards Reception
Sunday, September 10, 2-4 pm
7 Fairbanks St, Harvard, MA



Signature Membership Application

The CMPS Signature committee will accept applications for Signature membership between August 1, 2023 and November 1, 2023. Notification will be on December 1

Registration will be on December 1.

The following document specifies the application process: [Applying for CMPS Signature Membership.pdf](#) . Please read this document carefully before applying, and direct any questions to me at president@cmpastels.org.

[Workshop with Jeanne Tangney - Shape and Form in Painting the Portrait](#)

Sat, September 23, 2023
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

South Shore Art Center, 119 Ripley Street, Cohasset, MA

4 Spaces left
Members – \$175.00
Nonmembers – \$200.00
Workshop price includes model fee



Even the most accomplished artist can find painting a portrait from life overwhelming. This workshop will incorporate a simplified but solid approach to portraiture by combining what we see with what we know.

While we will cover proportion and common facial elements, our primary focus will be on rendering accurate abstract shapes and understanding the effects of light on the planes of the face in order to paint a portrait that is both convincing and compelling.

[CMPS Tangney Supply List Workshop.pdf](#)

[CMPS Workshop Cancellation Policy-rev.pdf](#)

[Demonstration with Javad Soleimanpour](#)

Marks of Distinction Selection Juror Javad Soleimanpour will give a live demo from Turkey.

Saturday, September 30, 2023
11:00 am



[Demonstration with Mike Beeman - Painting Birds](#)

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Zoom





[Artist Talk with Pirkko Makela-Haapalinna](#)

Saturday, November 04, 2023
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM



[Artist Talk with Loriann Signori](#)

One of our Marks of Distinction Selection Jurors, master pastelists Loriann Signori, will talk about her work and unique iterative process.

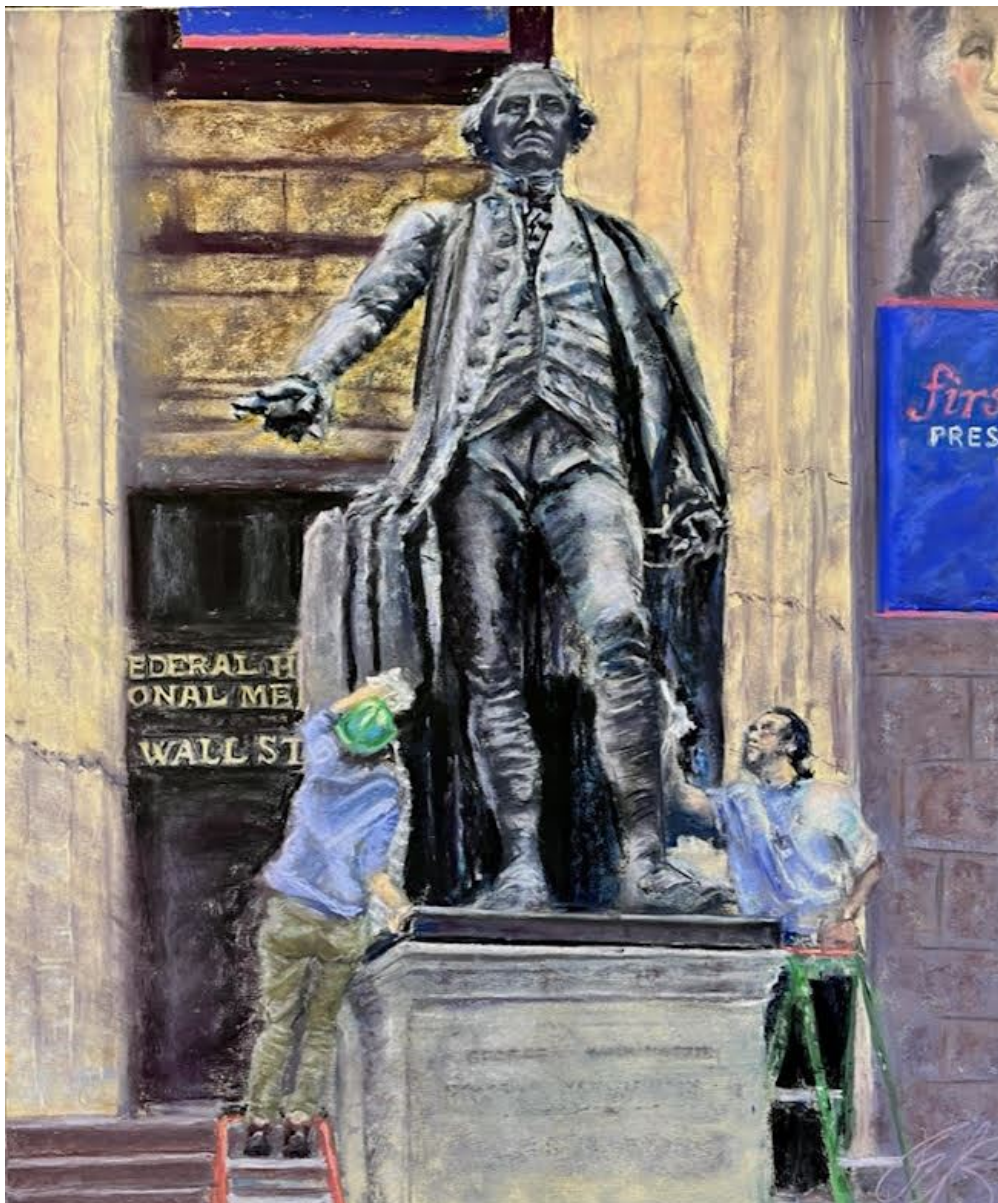
Sunday, December 10, 2023
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Zoom



Member News

Jane Robbins is pleased to have been part of the following juried national or international shows and competitions since our last newsletter:

- [27th Annual 2023 For Pastels Only](#) sponsored by Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, with her painting, "*Cleaning Up Wall Street*";
- [9th Annual Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition](#) with "*Seamoss Shallows*";
- [Cape Cod Art Center's The National](#), with her painting "*Biscuits Today*";
- [Richeson 75 Landscape, Seascape, and Architecture](#) Finalist with "*The Approach*" (and Meritorious Selection for "*Serenity*");
- [2023 UART Pastel Competition](#) with "*The Glint*," which received an Honorable Mention.



"Cleaning Up Wall Street", Jane Robbins

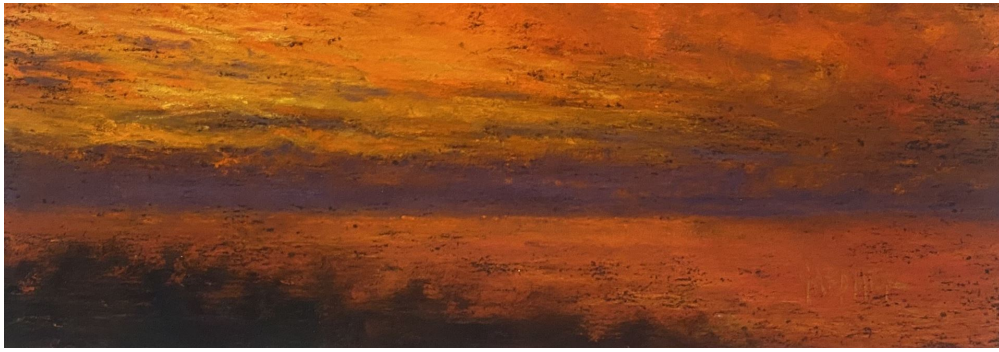




"Seamoss Shallows", Jane Robbins

Dina Gardner had two paintings selected for the [Pastel Society of Southern California's "5th Annual Make Your Mark"](#) International Show, the "*Evening Show*" and "*Emerald Seas*".





"The Evening Show", Dina Gardner



"Emerald Seas", Dina Gardner

Mena Levit had a Solo Show of 30 paintings entitled "My Pastels" at Wellesley Library in July, 2023. Mena is pleased to have been part of the following juried national or international shows:

- [27th Annual 2023 For Pastels Only](#) sponsored by Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, with her painting, "*Elegantly Wrapped*".
- [Cape Cod Art Center's The National](#) won 2nd place with her painting "*Vitamin C...Anyone*";
- [2023 18th Annual Member's Exhibit](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of New Hampshire won the Still Life Award with "*Too Pretty To Cook*";
- [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society, with her painting "*Pick One*";
- [Make Your Mark! 2023 International Juried Show](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of Southern California with her painting, "*Beyond Time*";
- ["Pairings" Exhibition at Twist Gallery, Lexington, MA](#) with her painting "*Blue & Yellow*";
- ["Summertime!" National Juried Show](#) sponsored by Pastel Society Alaska with four of her paintings "*White Profusion*", "*Summer On My Balcony*", "*Busy Crosswalk*", "*Listening to Seashells*".

- Seashells ,
- [7th Annual PURE COLOR: Online International Juried Exhibition of Pastel Paintings 2023](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of North Carolina with her painting, "*Pick One*";

Mena is also pleased to show her painting, "*Listening to Seashells*" at the [Sidoti Gallery, Rockport, MA](#).



"Listening to Seashells", Mena Levit



"Pick One", Mena Levit

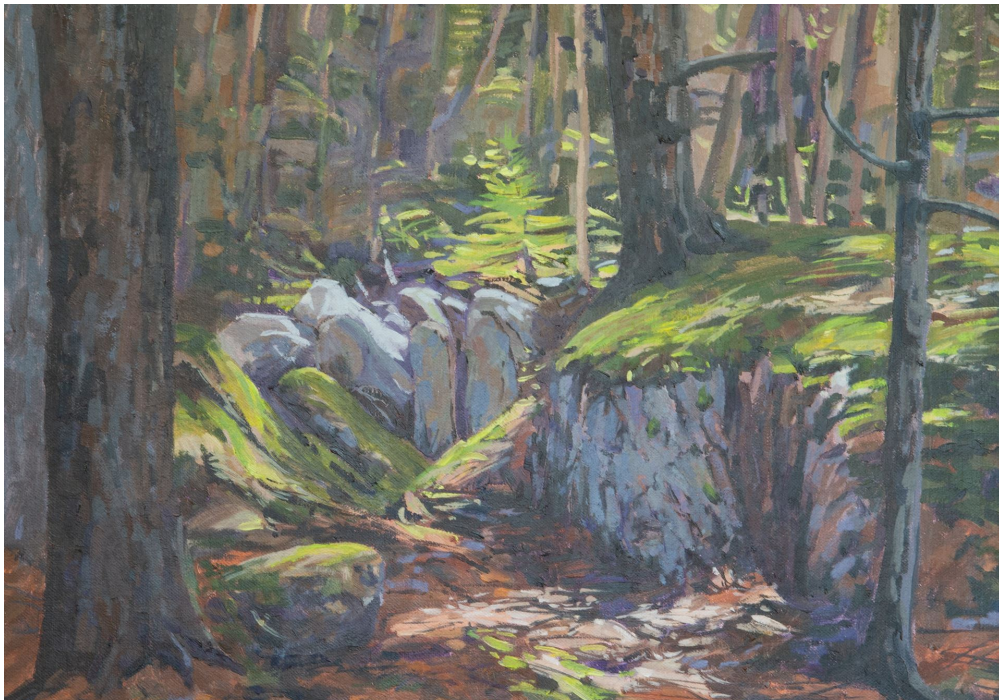




"Vitamin C...Anyone", Mena Levit

Susan Aitcheson has been juried into the following shows/exhibits:

- [American Impressionist Society Associate Member On Line Show](#) with her painting, "*Prickly Pear Morning*";
- [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society, with her painting "*Woodland 23*";
- [Fall Members' Exhibition 2023](#) at the Providence Art Club with her painting, "*Morning Forest Bathing*";
- [East Greenwich Art Club](#) is displaying her painting, "*Wave 300*" with other East Greenwich Art Club Members until the end of September.

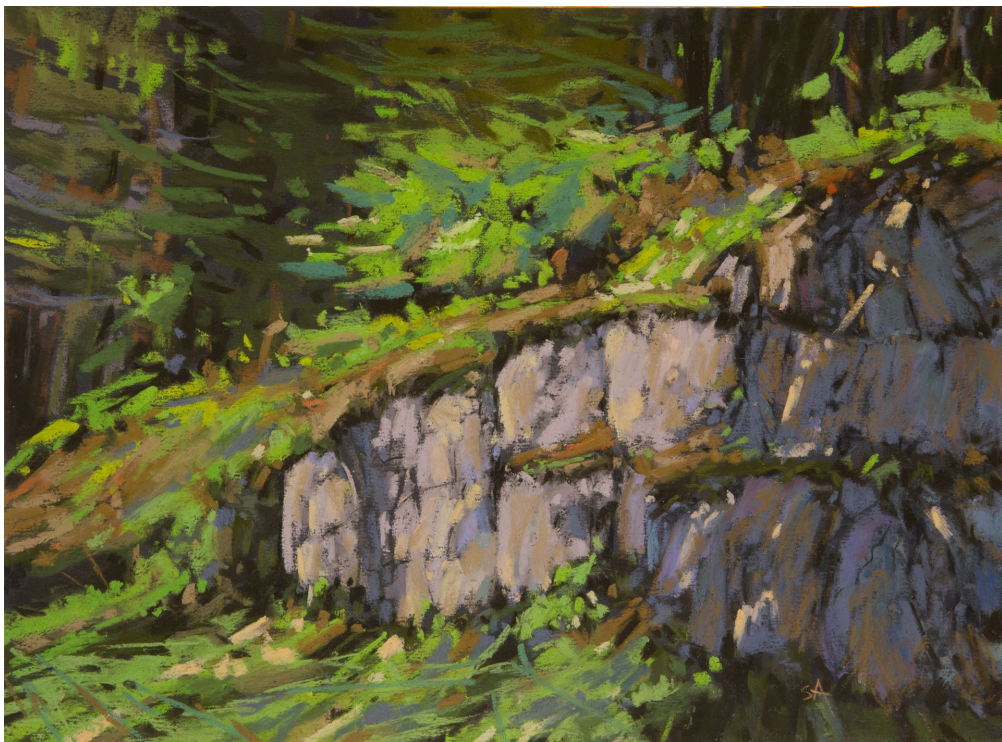




"Morning Forest Bathing", Susan Aitcheson



"Prickly Pear Morning", Susan Aitcheson



"Woodland 23 Pastel", Susan Aitcheson

Keith Demanche got his IAPS Master Circle designation in March. Keith was also accepted into the following shows this summer:

- [Pastels USA: 99 Voices in Pastel](#) sponsored by The Pastel Society of the West Coast at the Haggin Museum with his painting, *"Reaching for the Sea"*;
- [Pastels Only 23rd Annual Open Juried Exhibition](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of Maine in Kennebunk accepted *"Just Around the Corner"*;
- [Pastels Chicago 2023 9th Biennial National Juried Exhibition](#) with his two paintings, *"My Afternoon View"* and *"March into Spring"*;
- [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society, with *"The Beaver Dam"*;
- [Regional Juried Exhibition at The Barn Gallery](#) in Ogunquit, ME marked his first acceptance with his piece, *"Morning at Lily Lake"*.



"Just Around the Corner", Keith Demanche





"Beaver Dam", Keith Demanche

Laurinda Phakos O'Connor will be one of over 20 Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod Signature members participating in the [2023 Signature Strokes Exhibit](#) at the South Shore Art Center, 119 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA. Free opening reception will be held on Thursday September 14th from 6-8pm.



"At the Edge of the Meadow", Laurinda O'Connor

Allison Krajcik is pleased to have been part of the following juried national or international shows and competitions since our last newsletter:

- [9th Annual National Pastel Exhibition](#) sponsored by the Adirondack Pastel Society with her painting, "*Tabletop Sunshine*" and was awarded the Vermont Pastel Society Award. The show was held at the LARAC Mountain Gallery in Glen Falls

NY in July and the opening was well attended. It was a complete surprise to also learn that it sold!!

- [Pastels USA: 99 Voices in Pastel](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of the West Coast with her painting "*Spring Rush*". It was entered into the Contemporary Impressionism category with Tony Allain as the juror of selection. The show will open August 31st at the Haggin Museum in Stockton, California and runs through October 29th.
- [Philadelphia Pastel Society's 2nd National Open Juried Exhibition](#) with her painting "*Chorus in Pink*" at the Wayne Art Center in Wayne Pennsylvania. The show opens September 10th and runs through October 7th.



"Tabletop Sunshine", Allison Krajcik





"Spring Rush", Allison Krajcik



"Chorus in Pink", Allison Krajcik

Karen Israel was awarded the Panpastel Award in the [Adirondack Pastel Society's 9th Annual National Pastel Exhibition](#) with her painting "*The Finalists*".

Karen's painting "*Same Time Tomorrow*" was awarded the Yonker's Historical Society Elizabeth C Morgan Award at the [Hudson Valley Art Association's 90th National Juried Exhibition](#).





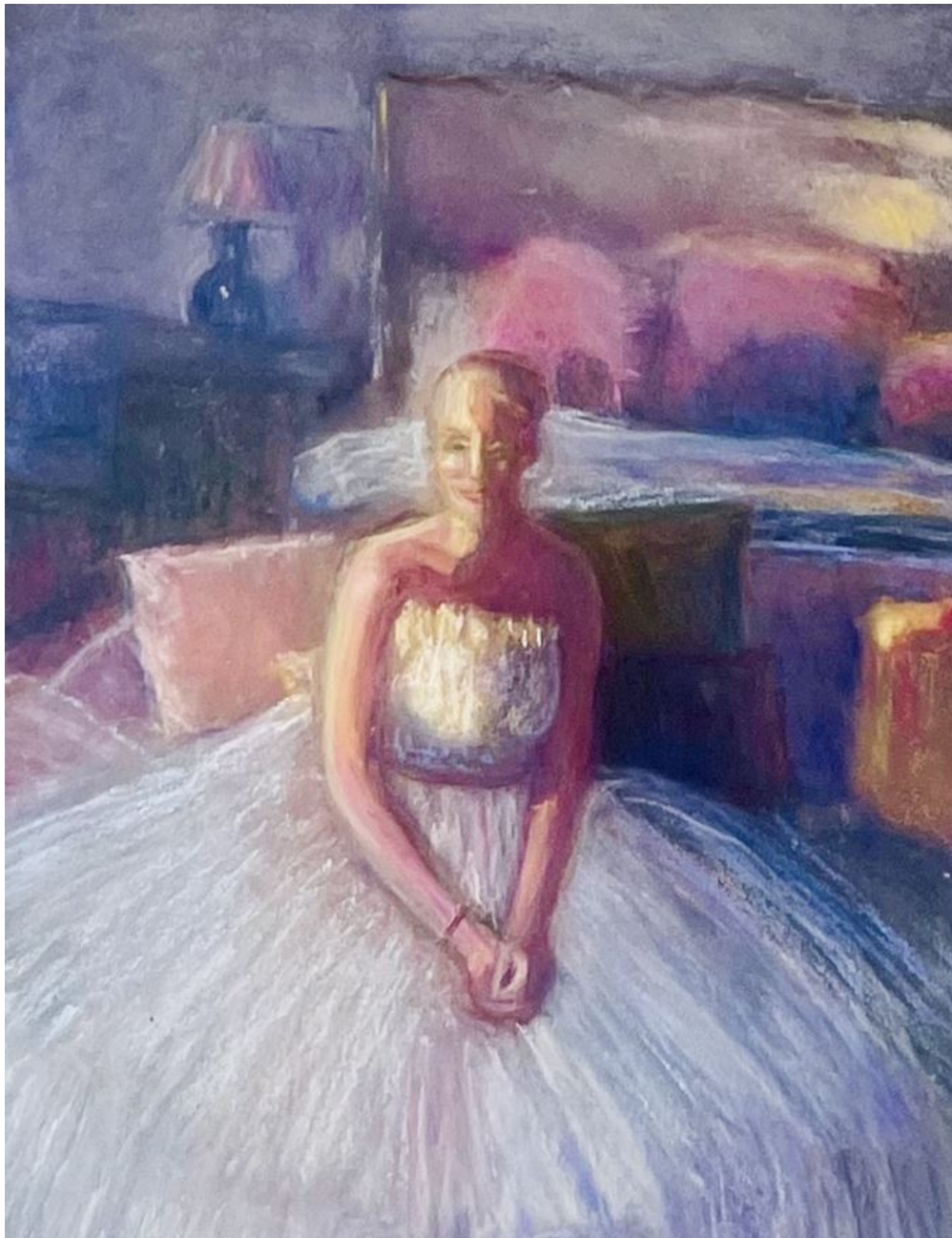
"The Finalists", Karen Israel



"Same Time Tomorrow", Karen Israel

Patricia Byrne Varcasia has recently obtained Signature Status within the New Jersey Pastel Society. She has also been juried into the following shows/exhibits since our last newsletter:

- [9th Annual Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition](#) winning the "Portrait Award" with her painting, "*Wedding Bliss*";
- [Eighteenth Annual Juried Exhibition](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of New Jersey winning "Best In Show" with "*Lacemaker*";
- [27th Annual 2023 For Pastels Only](#) sponsored by Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod with her painting which sold at the show, "*Bob*";
- [Northwest Pastel Society's 37th International Open Show](#) with her painting "*Yes Chef*";
- [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society, with her painting, "*Yes Chef*";
- [7th Annual PURE COLOR: Online International Juried Exhibition of Pastel Paintings 2023](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of North Carolina with her painting, "*Lacemaker*".





"Wedding Bliss", Patricia Byrne Varcasia





"Lacemaker", Patricia Byrne Varcasia

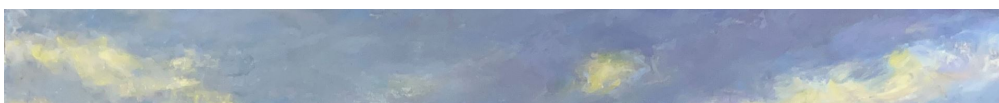
Chris Reid has the painting, "*Summer Begins*", in the [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society which runs now through September 30 at Fiveparks, 7 Fairbank St., Harvard, Mass. Opening Reception September 10, 3-5.

Chris also has "*Before The Summer Storm*" juried into the [Connecticut Pastel Society 30th Annual National Juried Exhibition, Renaissance in Pastel](#). The show is at the Arts Center East, Vernon, Ct. The show will run 9/28-10/28, opening reception October 14, 12-4.



"Summer Begins", Chris Reid

Colleen Kean Jensen is pleased to have been juried into the [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society with her painting, "*Peaceful Journey*".





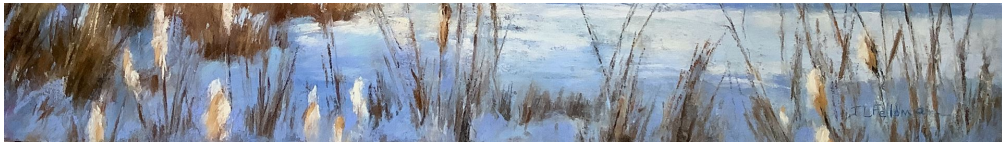
"Peaceful Journey", Colleen Jensen

Joelle Feldman is very thankful to jurors of selection [Loriann Signori](#) and [Javad Soleimanpour](#) for choosing her painting "*Sunny Winter Day at Oxbow*" to be included in our Central Mass Pastel Society's [2023 Marks of Distinction](#) exhibit on display at Fivesparks in Harvard, MA until September 30, 2023.

Joelle's "*Golden Light on Shaker Mill Pond*" received the PSME award at the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod [27th Annual 2023 For Pastels Only](#). It's a great honor to have a piece recognized by two exceptional artists, [Corey Pitkin](#) and [Christine Danylik Ivers](#) and to be included in this amazing exhibit.

Three of Joelle's paintings, including "*In the Courtyard*", are on display at the Pastel Society of Cape Cod's [2023 Signature Strokes Exhibit in Pastel](#) at the South Shore Art Center in Cohasset, MA. Opening reception, September 14th, 6-8PM.





"Sunny Winter Day at Oxbow", 12x18, Joelle Feldman



"Golden Light on Shaker Mill Pond", 14x14, Joelle Feldman



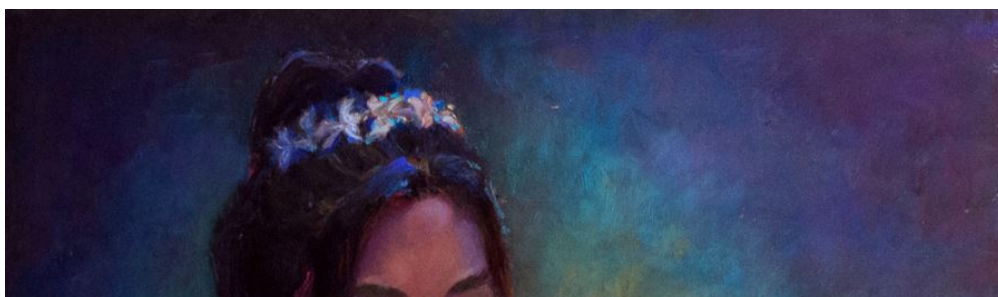


"In the Courtyard", 10x10, Joelle Feldman

Susan Shuk Lee is excited to share her many art exhibition opportunities this fall. Eight figurative paintings have gotten into ten different national/international juried shows in NYC, California, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and online!

- [Pastel Society of America 51st Brilliance Online Show](#);
- [Allied Artists of America 110th International Online Show](#);
- [Open New York Figurative Exhibition](#) at the Salmagundi Club, NYC with her painting, "*The Enchanting Flutist*";
- [Pastels USA: 99 Voices in Pastel](#) sponsored by The Pastel Society of the West Coast with her painting, "*Summer Oasis*";
- [Marks of Distinction National Juried Show](#) sponsored by our Central Massachusetts Pastel Society with her painting, "*The Magic of Autumn*";
- [Connecticut Pastel Society's 30th Annual National Juried Exhibition, "Renaissance in Pastel"](#);
- [7th Annual PURE COLOR: Online International Juried Exhibition of Pastel Paintings 2023](#) sponsored by the Pastel Society of North Carolina;
- [American Artists Professional League's 95th Grand National Juried Exhibition](#);
- [June 2023 BoldBrush Painting online competition](#) where three of her paintings were selected as the top 15% Favorites: "*For me It's Always Spring*", "*Wishing Upon A Rose*", and "*The Magic of Autumn*".

Lastly, Susan is also honored to share that her artwork "*HOPE in the Pandora Box*" has been selected as one of the top 50 finalists in the [2023 UART Pastel Competition](#).





"Hope From the Pandora Box", Susan Shuk Lee

Upcoming Events From Our Members

Jane Robbins is teaching a 5-week class, ["Getting the Glow: Luminosity in Pastel" at Wickford Art Association](#). This class is focused on soft pastel's remarkable potential for "capturing the light." Working from your own references and through a variety of exercises, we'll use color, value, underpainting methods, layering, and temperature to generate the "glow" for which pastels are famous, and to make our paintings "pop." While some experience with pastel is recommended, all levels are welcome to this class designed to advance your understanding and handling of the medium, and particularly the behavior of various brands of pastel, to produce clean, vibrant color.

- 36 Beach Street, North Kingston, Rhode Island
- September 12, 9:30am-12:30 pm
- Click to [Register](#)



"Obstacles", Jane Robbins

Kelly Milukas is organizing and hosting the following event:

[Register](#) to join instructor Lyn Asselta for a part studio, and part plein air, coastal Rhode Island retreat and workshop hosted at Milukas Studio. See description in flyer below.



The poster features two background images. The top image is a close-up of dark, layered rock formations with some green moss or lichen. The bottom image is a coastal scene with large, light-colored rock formations in the foreground, a calm body of water, and evergreen trees on a hill in the background.

Lyn Asselta

Coastal Pastel Workshop & Retreat

Tiverton & Little Compton, RI

www.kellymlukas.com

September 17-22, 2023

(5) Day Coastal Pastel Retreat
Sunday Welcome Gathering
Daily Yoga, & Mindfulness
Daily Continental Breakfast
4 Lunches, and 1 Dinner

Jeanne Rosier Smith has three upcoming fall events. Register for all three events at EpiphanyFineArt.com.

- **Painting from Travel Photos**

Wanderlust also stirs the desire to capture what we discover and paint it. But so often our photos lack the sensory and emotional feeling of being there. A good painting can do that, though. How to take your photos and memories and translate them into a painting? Join Jeanne for an entertaining getaway evening and come away with your bags packed with ideas.

Price: Active-Subscribers \$20 Non-Subscribers \$40

Date: September 19, 6:00-8:00pm eastern

Access: One month access to archived video after the event,

Indefinite access to archived video for subscribers with a currently active account



"Cypress, Olive & Stone", Jeanne Rosier Smith

- **Bon Appetit**

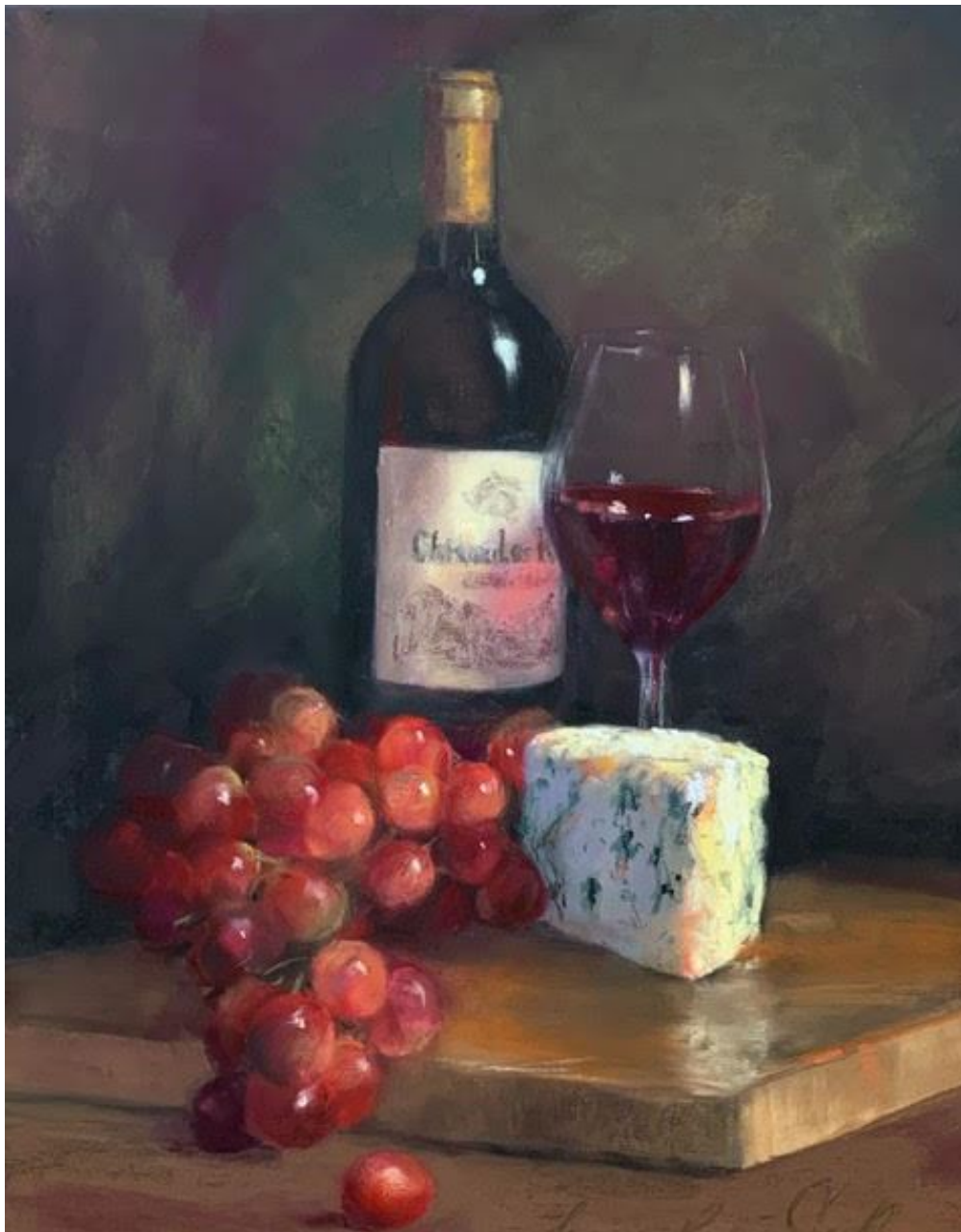
It's always important to paint what you love. Jeanne's recurring still life theme has been and continues to be delicious, appealing, appetizing foods. Pour a glass of wine, tear a good hunk of bread and get ready to enjoy an evening of tasty painting. Learn how to compose and paint food from life in this 2-hr live demo.

Price: Active Subscribers \$20 Non-subscribers \$40

Date: November 14, 6:00-8:00pm eastern

Access: One month access to archived video after the event

Indefinite access to archived video for subscribers with a currently active account



"Bon Appetit", Jeanne Rosier Smith

- **Women's Roundtable: How Does She Do It?**

How do women artists make it work? Join us for an evening of conversation with creative women comparing notes and sharing the challenges, secrets, rewards, and maybe a few tricks on the topic of life in the arts. EFA welcomes master artists Kathy Anderson, Julia S Powell, and Jeanne Rosier Smith to a roundtable discussion on the nuts and bolts of cobbling together a life that sustains them both creatively and financially on top of everything else! These women have mastered their art skills and business acumen and simultaneously raised children, dealt with illness and whatever else life threw at them.

October 4, 4:00-6:00 eastern

2 hour free live zoom demo

FREE EVENT



"Women's Roundtable" with Jean Rosier Smith

Laurinda Phakos O'Connor has three upcoming fall events:

- Laurinda will be part of the [Cambridge Arts Open Studios](#) on September 9th and 10th from noon - 6pm at 288 Pearl Street in Cambridge MA.



"At the Edge of the Meadow", Laurinda Phakos O'Connor

- Starting on September 18th Laurinda will be teaching pastel classes at the [Milton Art Center](#) on Monday nights from 7-9 pm. All levels are welcome.



"Woodland Brook", Laurinda Phakos O'Connor

- Laurinda will also be teaching a 2 day workshop with the [Pastel Society of South Carolina](#) November 17 and 18th.





"Out at the Horizon", Laurinda Phakos O'Connor

Karen Israel will be teaching the following workshops:

- A one day in person workshop at the [Watertown Art League](#) in Watertown Ct, "*Still Life From Life*" on September 9th. Contact: wtnartleague@gmail.com, 860-938-5211.
- a one day in person workshop at [Glastonbury Art Guild](#) in Glastonbury CT, "*Pets and Animals*" on September 20th. [Register Here](#).



painting by Karen Israel

Chris Reid invites you to see his new studio during the [Monadnock Art Open Studios Tour](#), number 33 on the list. Preview show and opening reception at [The Monadnock Center For History](#) in Peterborough, New Hampshire, September 30, 4-7 PM.



"Mount Monadnock", flyer painting by Chris Reid

Joel Feldman has several events this fall:

- A solo showcase at the [Fruitlands Museum](#) in Harvard, MA opens on September 9 thru November 5, 2023. Reception date: September 17, 2-4PM. Joelle looks forward to sharing a tour of her town in pastel with you. Pastel demonstration: September 23, 2-4PM.
- Continuous In-person teaching at [Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church](#), Harvard, MA. Mondays from 2:00-4:00 pm or 5:00 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm: Next session begins on September 11th through October 16th, 2023 and is currently full.
- [Register](#) to attend her plein air workshop at the [Fruitlands](#)

- [Register](#) to attend her plein air workshop at the [Fruitlands Museum](#) on Saturday 14 October from 10AM-4:00PM.

Around Town

An Artist's Tour in Pastel

by Joelle Feldman



A showcase compilation of paintings done during and since the Covid pandemic in the artist's New England hometown



Opening: 9 September 2023
Reception: Sunday 17 September, 2 to 4 PM

Fruitlands Museum
102 Prospect Hill Rd, Harvard, MA 01451



Keith Demanche and **Lisa Regopoulos** will be having a two person Plein Air show "Under an Open Sky" at [Creative Connections](#) in Ashburnham, MA December 1st through January 30th.