

**SWA***Splash!**May 2025***NEWSLETTER**

# **SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS**

*Fort Worth, Texas*

## *From the President...*

**Our largest event of the year is here!** The 2025 SWA International Juried Exhibition opens on May 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 28<sup>th</sup>. This year the event is being held at the House of Neville Gallery & Gatherings in Fort Worth. We think you'll find this to be an exciting show, and we believe with it being in a professional gallery that we'll have several paintings sell!

The juror for this show is Plano, Texas artist Michael Holter. Michael is an award-winning watercolor artist whose paintings can be found in private and corporate collections in the US and several foreign countries. He recently held a three-day workshop for us, and I can say it was really enjoyed by all in attendance.

The gallery will be hosting a Premier Party for our exhibition on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 9pm. There will be food & drinks along with music provided by Nate Starmer on the piano. We hope a lot of you will be able to attend to see the amazing artwork that was chosen for the show. We had entries from 22 states, and 6 different countries. The 55 paintings accepted into the show by Michael Holter shows a wide variety of subjects and techniques.

The artist reception & awards presentation will take place on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 2 pm. At that time, we will announce which paintings will take home the \$6,000 in prizes. I encourage you to invite your friends to this exciting show.

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned we are working on a Plein-Air event. It's been a very busy month, so we're still working on exactly where we want to hold it and when. Watch for e-mails for more information.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The demo artist this month will be Joshua West of Azle, Texas. Joshua says many of the ideas of his work exists at the intersections between what we are told about the work, what we would like to believe and the true nature of reality. Joshua graduated from Stephen F. Austin University and received his Master of Fine Art from the University of North Texas. He is currently an art instruction at Tarrant County College and Great Hearts Classical Academy and shows his artwork at the House of Neville Gallery.

We take a summer break during the months of June, July & August, so come join us for our last meeting before summer vacations start.

All my best,

**Skeeter Murley**

Email: [swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com](mailto:swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com)



## Inside This Issue

*President's Message*

*Next Meeting Information*  
*Artist – Joshua West*

*2025 International*  
*Juried Exhibition*

*Member News*

*Announcements*

*Fundraising / Donations*

*2025 SWA Calendar*

*SWA Information Station*



Facebook



Instagram



BlueSky

**Follow Us!**

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

# Next Meeting...

## Guest Demo Artist

# Joshua West

**Monday, May 19th**  
**7:00pm -8:30pm**  
**UNT Health Science Center**

### Artwork critiques begin at 6:30

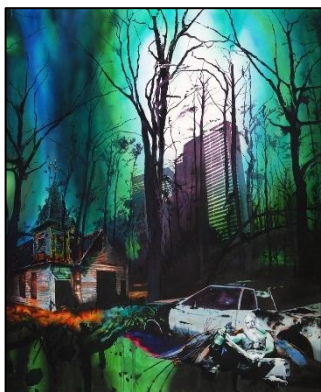
Bring a piece of your artwork, and **Ann Winchester** will critique your work. It's a great way to get free advice from a pro!



**Our meetings  
are held at the**

**UNT Health Science Center**

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth, Tx.



There is plenty of room to spread out to encourage social distancing. We want everyone to have fun and feel safe at the same time.

Joshua West believes people make art for a host of different reasons. "Each artist has to decide for themselves. I want to encourage people to think deeply about the world and our place in it. Art can be an escape. However, in a world overflowing with content, it seems as though we have no shortage of things to distract ourselves. When I make a painting, I want it to be more than a pretty decoration. I used to want to tell the truth with my art. I still do, but with age has come the realization that the truth can be complicated, and it is rarely as tidy as we would like to imagine. So, with each piece of art that I make, I hope to invite the viewer to take time to thoughtfully consider. Each piece tells a story. Sometimes there are many stories all in one painting. Sometimes the story I want to tell is about wonder and how truly amazing it is that we are alive on this rock flying at 60,000 miles per hour around a star. In other works, I want to draw attention to injustice and encourage others to right action in the face of it. No matter what, every piece that I make has a story and a reason that it was made. Art cannot fix the world and how it is broken, but if we use it wisely it can nudge our hearts in the right direction."



*Coming this Fall...*

**September Demo Artist – Tim Saternow**

September 15th, 2025





2025

# *International Juried Exhibition*

**May 7<sup>th</sup> thru May 28th, 2025**

**The House of Neville Gallery & Gatherings – Fort Worth, Tx.**



**2024 Best of Show Award**

Matthew Bird  
Sykesville, Maryland  
*In Remembrance*

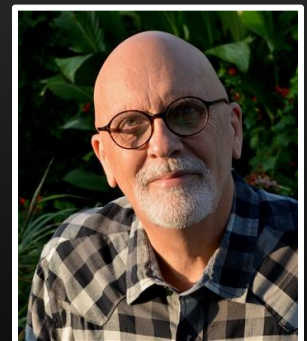


2409 Neville Street  
Fort Worth, Texas

**PREMIERE PARTY**

**Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 – 9:00 PM**



**Artist Reception & Awards Ceremony**

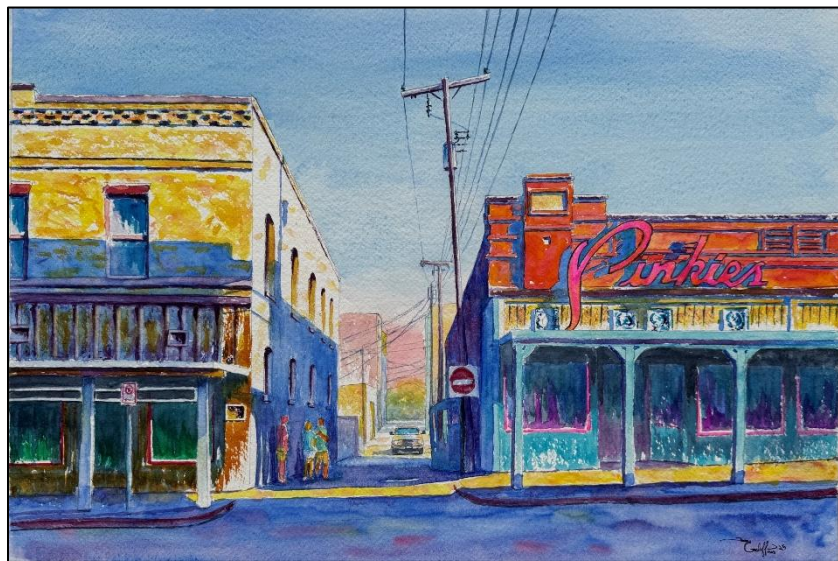
**May 24<sup>th</sup> - 12 Noon to 2:00 PM**

Juror:

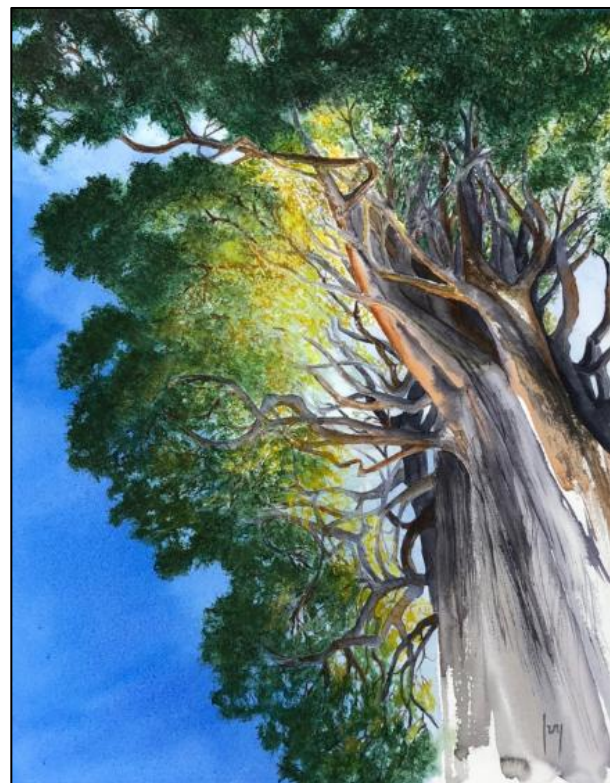
**Michael Holter**

*AWS, NWS, AIS, TWSA*





**Tony Gerloff's** painting *Pinkies* (above), was accepted into the Texas Watercolor Society's 76<sup>th</sup> Annual National Exhibition. June 4 – July 31  
Juror – Stephen Zhang



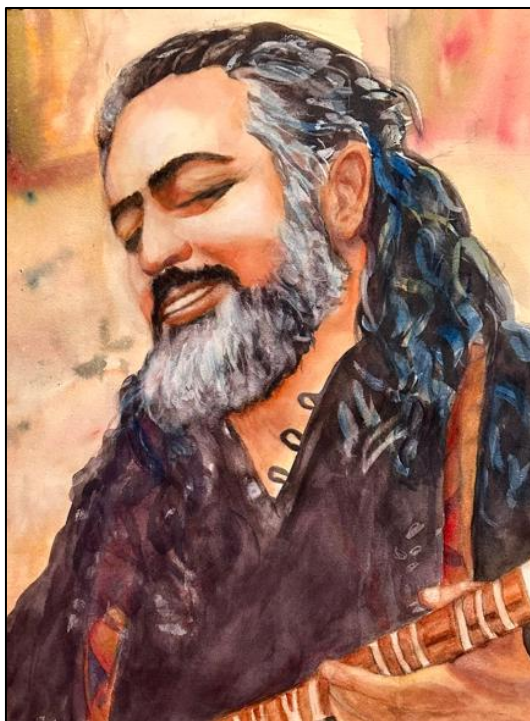
**Marilyn Ivy's** painting *Villa d'Este Cipresso* (above) will be shown in an upcoming exhibition at the House of Neville Gallery and Gatherings. The theme of the show is Here Comes the Sun. The show will run from June 4 thru Aug 30<sup>th</sup>.



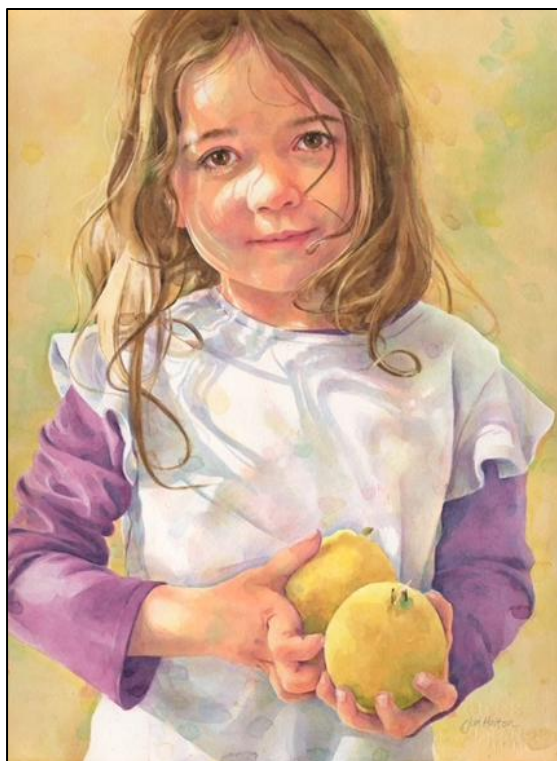
**Bill Dale's** painting *White Boa* (left) received the Cotton Boll Award of Distinction at the 50<sup>th</sup> Western Federation of Watercolor Societies Exhibition. The event was held by the West Texas Watercolor Society in Lubbock, Texas.  
Juror – Ken Call

*Congratulations!*





**Shahrzad Afshinpour's** painting *Illusion of Truth: Sunflowers* (above left) was accepted into the 50<sup>th</sup> Western Federation of Watercolor Societies Exhibition. Juror – Ken Call. And her painting *Forbidden Melodies* (above right) won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Non-Signature Painting of the Month in April at the Southwestern Watercolor Society.



**Janine Helton's** painting *Sunshine and Lemons* received the Alla Jablokow Memorial Award in the Transparent Watercolor Society of America's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition. Juror – Matthew Bird







**Annie Strack's** painting *Disconnected* won an Award of Merit at the Philadelphia Watercolor Society's 2025 Membership Show.

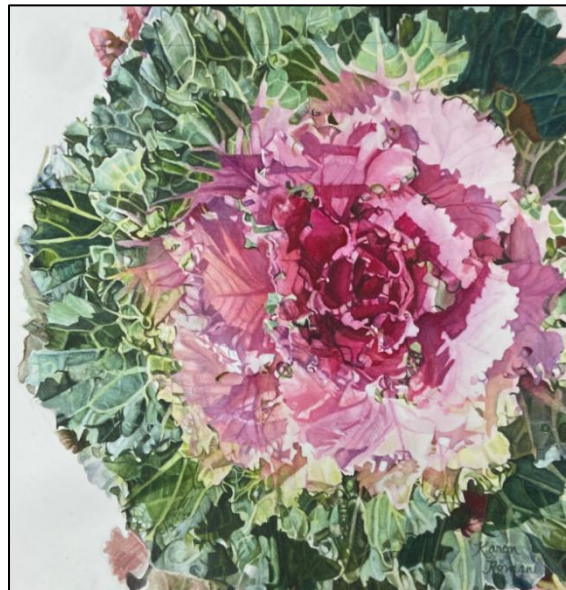
She's had paintings accepted into the Missouri, Georgia, Southern & Northwest Watercolor Society's Exhibitions. She has also recently been featured in Fine Art Connoisseur, Plein Air, and Watercolor magazines.

*Congratulations*

**Alexandra Savelieva's** paintings *Early Spring in Yao Garden* and *Late Spring in Yao Garden* have been accepted in the Art and Cultures festival organized by the International Watercolor Society.







**Karen Romani's** painting *Singing the Blues* (above left) won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Rhode Island Watercolor Society's Natural Wonders Show. And her painting *Beauty in the Garden* (above right) was accepted into the Art League of Hilton Head Biennial National Show.



**Lisa Tennant's** painting *Go to Sleep* has been juried into the Texas Watercolor Society's 76<sup>th</sup> Annual National Exhibition.  
Juror – Stephen Zhang



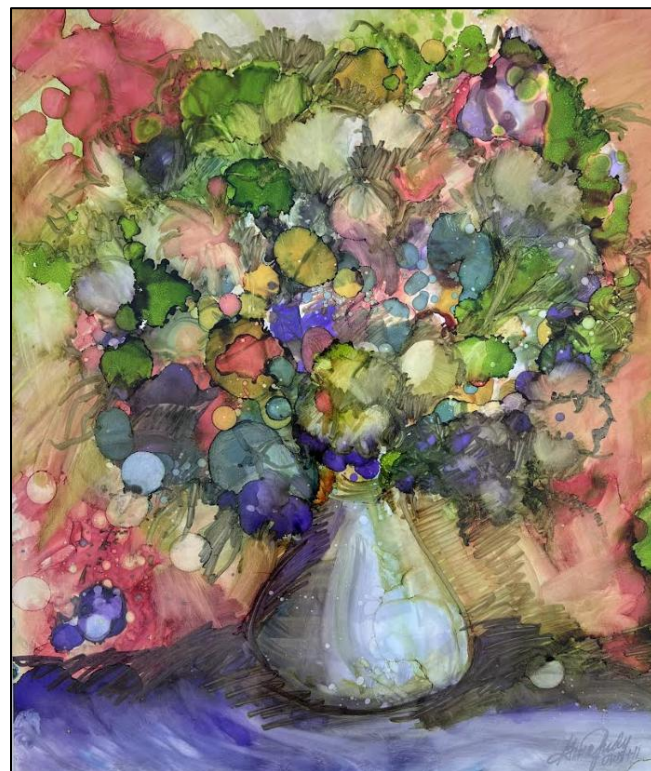
**Christine Alfery's** painting *With Diamonds* has been accepted into the Watercolor Society of Alabama's 84<sup>th</sup> Annual National Exhibition.  
Jurors – Carrie Waller & Michael Holter





**Rebecca Krutsinger's** painting *That Year* (above left) has been accepted into the Green Mountain Watercolor Exhibition in Waitsfield Vermont. Juror – Thomas Bucci  
And her painting *Fragility* (above right) has been accepted into the Southern Watercolor Society's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition in Panama City, Florida. Juror – Keiko Tanabe

**Darla Bostick** currently has works in the Grand Prairie Events & Convention Center and the Eisemann Performance Hall in Richardson. She will be teaching a week-long workshop with the Central Texas Watercolor Society in Waco.



**Gina Judy's** painting *Vase of Wild Flowers* (right) won the Gloria Morelli Award at the Women's Art Club of Cincinnati Juried Regional Exhibition.



# Art Opportunities!



## 2025 Weatherford Art Association

### Peach Festival Art Show

May 30<sup>th</sup> – August 2nd

Juror – Beverly Boren

Entry Deadline – May 20<sup>th</sup>

[weatherfordart.com](http://weatherfordart.com)

## Artists in the Meadow

Connemara Meadow Nature  
Preserve in Plano, Tx.

Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

9am to Noon



For more information

[CLICK HERE](#)



SWA Members may bring a completed painting to the April meeting to compete for **Painting of the Month**.



## PAINTING OF THE MONTH

Prizes donated by Jerry's Artarama

Arlington / Fort Worth

**DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WORLD-CLASS ART MUSEUMS  
IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS**



The Modern



# SWA Fundraiser Opportunities



*Community  
Rewards*

**Kroger** offers us the opportunity to raise funds for our watercolor society. They make quarterly donations to SWA based on the shopping you do every day in their stores.

Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Then simply follow the directions on how to link your Kroger card to our organization. We are listed as Society of Watercolor Artists Inc.

Your transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to SWA, at no added cost to you. **Every dollar we raise helps!**



## DONATE DIRECTLY TO SWA

Click the link below to be taken to a page to donate to SWA through PayPal.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

You can also donate by writing a check payable to Society of Watercolor Artists and sending it to:

**SWA**

**P.O. Box 471571**

**Fort Worth, Texas 76147**

**We want to thank you in advance for considering a donation to the Society of Watercolor Artists.**

SWA will be able to use your donations to support our operational needs.

Those needs include funding for meeting & gallery space, equipment, outreach and awards.

SWA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

## SWA Painting of the Month Competition



**ARLINGTON  
FORT WORTH**

Don't forget to bring a painting to the February meeting to enter the **2025 Painting of the Month** contest.

Paintings that win 1st Place in the monthly contests throughout the year become eligible for the year ending Painting of the Year contest!

**Next Meeting**

**Monday, May 19th at 7:00pm**





## SWA

P.O. Box 471571  
Fort Worth, Texas  
76147

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### PRESIDENT

*Skeeter Murley*

#### SECRETARY

*Evette Oister*

#### TREASURER

*Christopher Stewart*

#### EDUCATION/WORKSHOP

*Laura Rugg*

#### COMMUNICATIONS

*Iok-Hou Pang*

#### MEMBERSHIP

*Iok-Hou Pang*

#### Exhibition Chair

*Janet Southern*

# 2025

# 2025 CALENDAR

Our meetings are held at the UNT Health Science Center  
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd. in Fort Worth, Tx.

**January 27** – Melinda Morrison - Demo Artist

**February 17** – Sarah Janece - Demo Artist

**March 17** – Jim Gensheer - Demo Artist

**April 21** – Michael Holter - Demo Artist

**April 22, 23 & 24** – Michael Holter Workshop

**May 19** – Joshua West - Demo Artist

**June, July & August** – No Meetings, Summer Break

**September 15** – Tim Saternow - Demo Artist

**September 16, 17 & 18** – Tim Saternow Workshop

**October 20** – Robert Krazewski - Demo Artist

**November 17** – Ron Crouch - Demo Artist

Masks are not required to attend the meetings.  
There is a lot of space inside the room for social distancing.  
We really do want everyone to have fun & feel safe.

**Your SWA Board Members continues to  
hold regular monthly meetings via Zoom .**

If you have any questions or suggestions,  
please send them to Skeeter Murley at  
[swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com](mailto:swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com)



If you have any news you would like  
to share in future e-mails, please feel  
free to send it our way. We've set  
up a new e-mail address for you to  
send all of your newsletter info to.

[swa.membernews@gmail.com](mailto:swa.membernews@gmail.com)



# SWA INFORMATION STATION



## *SWA memberships runs on a calendar year January through December*

You may join SWA anytime during the year. Our official membership campaign begins in October as our regular year runs with the calendar: January through December. Those who join mid-year do not receive a discounted membership fee, but they are eligible for the membership juried show in the fall, which is for current members only. We will not be meeting during the summer months and will resume in September.

## *We like new members...invite your friends!*



SWA Membership includes these benefits:

- ✚ Fellowship with like-minded creative folks
- ✚ Free monthly SWA newsletter
- ✚ Entry discount for any SWA show
- ✚ Annual Juried Membership Exhibition
- ✚ Annual Juried International Exhibition
- ✚ Painting of the Month Contest
- ✚ Invitation to Plein-Air events
- ✚ Links to Members' Websites
- ✚ While maintaining active SWA membership, earn SWA Signature Status after selection to 5 SWA juried exhibitions. (without disqualification)
- ✚ Advance notification & entry into Workshops
- ✚ Fun Competitions!
- ✚ Watercolor Holiday Greeting Cards
- ✚ December Holiday Party and Gift Exchange

Our Monthly meetings are held at the UNT Health Science Center building in Fort Worth. After you turn from Camp Bowie to Clinton St turn left into a sloping parking lot beyond the vacant kiosk. We are on the bottom floor of the building to the right corner. Watch for a sign on the parking lot with directions to our room (or check the map on the website)

6:30pm Artwork Critique (bring in 1 or 2 works for some friendly advice) Ann Winchester – Artwork Critique Artist  
7:00pm Member meeting begins after a short business discussions & announcements.

## 2025 Committees & Volunteer Opportunities

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Laura Rugg (*Additional Volunteer Needed*)  
Painting of the Month/Year: Vicki Rowley  
Monthly Critique: Ann Winchester  
Programs: Marilyn Ivy  
Social Chairman (Refreshments/Receptions): Linda Hidalgo  
Workshop Chair: Laura Rugg  
House & Properties: **AVAILABLE**

### EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Janet Southern  
Hanging Volunteers: **AVAILABLE**  
SWA Signatures: Veronica Ritchey  
Prize Sponsors: Skeeter Murley

### PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Skeeter Murley  
Newsletter Editor: Iok-Hou Pang / Skeeter Murley  
Photography: Veronica Ritchey  
Print Editor for Catalogs: Skeeter Murley  
Publicity: **AVAILABLE**  
Website & Social Media Manager: Skeeter Murley

### FINANCE AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Finance & Budget: Christopher Stewart  
Professional Standards (yearly audit): **AVAILABLE**

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Membership: Iok-Hou Pang / Skeeter Murley  
Greeters: Linda Hidalgo  
Editor of Online Membership Directory: Skeeter Murley