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AUDUBON ARTISTS INCORPORATED

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President's Message

November 17, 2017

Greetings!

I have received nothing but positive reviews so far, reminding me of Audubon's exemplary online exhibit scheduled through December of 2017. It is a testimony to the 75th anniversary celebration of Audubon Artists and its reputation as a national art society of great renown.

Acknowledgements are in order for this huge electronic undertaking in receiving and posting 231 art images. Kudos to our Administrator Julie Kiss and Treasurer Christina Sanes for completing this project. Let's also recognize the role of our Medium Directors in the selection process,

Riveted to her computer screen for countless hours, esteemed awards juror Tova Navarra, also an acclaimed art critic/author/artist, targeted fifty two outstanding winning art works (Enjoy her elaborate art review in this issue).

Our Anniversary Catalog team, headed by my dedicated First Vice President Evelyn Floret (see Board News), is compiling historical documents in a 'time line' to meld with other parts of this special full color catalog. Interviews with family members of celebrated Audubon artists of the past should be rewarding as well. Reaching out to our Honorary Members is already producing interesting commentaries about Audubon's influence on their careers. One section of this historic publication will be devoted to their thoughts. Joe Villa is contributing his expert design skills as this anniversary catalog comes to fruition.

With our compliments to Audubon Artists for reaching it's 75th year, the Anniversary Committee is now encouraging any artist member or organization to salute our historic achievement by placing up to a full page paid ad. Consider your context to share career highlights, scheduled exhibits, web site, publications,

2017 DONOR CAMPAIGN

A great big thank you to our Donors. Your donations are very much appreciated. They help us provide the Audubon Artists Gold and Silver Awards for the Annual Exhibit, and defray some of the costs associated with running a respected and vibrant national art organization. Our donors will be listed in each newsletter and on our website. To make a donation, please go to the Checkout link on our website. The Board of Directors thanks you for your generosity.

A list of the Award Sponsors who contribute generously for our Annual Awards is also listed on our website (see "2016 Awards and Sponsors" link). If you would like to provide an award, please contact Vincent Nardone, President (nardoneart@comcast.net).

GOLD DONORS (\$100 AND ABOVE)

Natalie Becker
Buren Gilpin
Randy Globus
Tom and Carol Chase Jory*
Nikos Kalamaras
Roberta Lin Lai
Judith Moroney
Vincent Nardone*
Sally Ruddy
Christina Sanes*
Tong Wei Zhang

SILVER DONORS (UP TO \$100)

Olivia Alberts

teacher workshops, etc. Please contact me with any inquiries regarding an ad at nardoneart@comcast.net.

On a somber note, let's be aware of the passing of our long standing Board member Raymond Olivere, who served as our Corresponding Secretary was recognized as a noted portrait painter while residing in NYC and Philadelphia.

Lastly, we should recognize Pat Hutchinson, for her commitment to providing such a "classy" presentation in editing our electronic Newsletter, especially the popularity of the "featured artist" highlight. It appears to me that other art societies are motivated by our direction as we subscribe to the inevitable journey of digital communication .

Respectfully,

Vincent J. Nardone, President
Audubon Artists Inc.
nardoneart@comcast.net

Donations Make the Difference

Audubon Artists is run by volunteers, including the Medium Directors, Trustees, and Committee Members who donate their very valuable time and, in many cases, fund awards or make donations.

The Board thanks those members who quickly stepped up to our 2017 Donor Campaign and asks all members to consider making a donation. To do so, please go to our website, click on the Checkout link, and scroll down to the donation section. Donors will be recognized in each newsletter and on the website. See the sidebar for a list of the donors who kicked off this year's campaign.

With many thanks,
Vincent Nardone
President

Who's Who at Audubon Artists

OFFICERS

President:	Vincent J. Nardone
First Vice President :	Evelyn Floret
Second Vice President:	Miklos Sebek
Recording Secretary:	Denise Rolland
Treasurer:	Christina Sanes
Elected Membership Coordinator:	Carol Ann Chase-Jory
Associate Membership	

Rita Agron
 Jeffrey Berman*
 Eunice Bronkar
 Edith Rae Brown
 Miguel Castillo
 Alison Cattan
 Jason Chang*
 JoAnn Coll
 Donna Corvi
 Carol Strause Fitzsimonds
 Deborah LaFogg Docherty
 Carmen Frank
 Lisa Gleim
 Marian Harris
 Mary Ann Heinzen
 Lisa Holley
 Cheryl Johnson
 Don and Juanita Jones
 Robert Kelly
 Mona Kirk
 Suzanne Kissell
 Geoffrey Leckie
 Esther Lin
 Jenny Lin*
 Kuang Lin
 Calvin Lynch
 Arlette Malivernier
 Georgene E. McGonagle
 Anthony Migliaccio*
 Elise Morenon
 Patricia Morgan
 Lana Privitera
 DeAnn Prosia
 Ellen Ricci
 Denise Rolland*
 Selva Schenkman Sanjines
 Claudia Seymour
 Paula Shipman
 Mary DeWitt Smith
 Judy Stach
 Molly Stern
 Barbara Thompson
 May Trien
 Kenju Urakubo
 Idaherma Williams
 San San Yu
 Tricia Zimic

2017 GOLD CATALOG **SPONSORS**

Evelyn Floret*
 Carol Chase Jory*
 Nikos Kalamaras
 Vincent Nardone*
 Arnold Prywes

Coordinator:

Tony Migliaccio

MEDIUM DIRECTORS

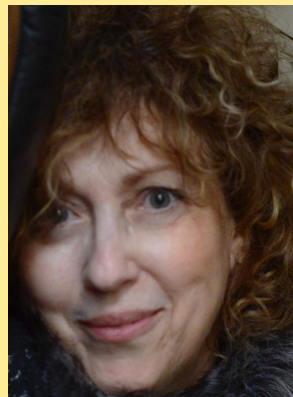
Aquamedia:	Marie-Paule Martin
Collage & Mixed Media:	Jeffrey Berman
Graphics:	Masaaki Noda
Oils:	Eric Michelson
Pastels:	Jenny Lin
Sculpture:	Alexandra Martin

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:	Jason Chang
Admissions:	Vincent J. Nardone
Awards:	Susanna Anastasia
Exhibition:	Miklos Sebek
75th Anniversary Planning	
Ad Hoc Committee:	Evelyn Floret
Exhibition Catalog:	Joe Villa
Financial Oversight:	Christina Sanes
Reception Hospitality &	
Entertainment:	Tony Migliaccio
Newsletter:	Patricia Hutchinson
Photography:	Denise Rolland
Salmagundi Junior	
Membership Liaison:	Susan Brand

...ON JUDGING THE AUDUBON ARTISTS 75th ANNIVERSARY SHOW

from Tova Navarra, our 2017 Audubon Artists Exhibition Judge



The ancient saying "Judge not, lest ye be judged" may work on many levels in life, but not in art. We're always judging art whether we realize it, are ambivalent, or feel a strong sense of emotion or enthusiasm for it. As juror for the Audubon Artists 75th Anniversary Exhibition 2017, I studied 231 works in acrylic, oil, watercolor, pastel, graphics, collage and mixed media, and sculpture. My task was to choose a total of 52 awards for what I believed to be the most eye- and mind-altering pieces.

2017 BRONZE CATALOG SPONSORS

Miguel Castillo
Donna Muzzicato
Dianne Nungesser
Maurice Stern
Tatyana Teichberg

* Denotes member of the Board of Trustees. These members support Audubon Artists financially in addition to volunteering countless hours to govern our organization.

**PLEASE CONSIDER
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AUDUBON ARTISTS, INC. IS
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Your donation will be acknowledged in our Newsletter and on our Website. Again, we thank all our donors.

Hardly a task per se, I enjoyed every hour of seeing all the submissions. Always with unflagging conviction, I look solely at the work and not at any artist's name. How joyful to contemplate the composition, design, execution, and originality borne by every piece! The Gold Medal of Honor-winners are still under my skin. For example, W. Carl Burger's "Fantastic Landscape" (abstract aquamedia) draws a great deal of awe for its energy as a moveable feast of emotions. Wherever that place, I want to go there for a spell. "Woman with Record Changer Pendant" by Rick Perez (oils and acrylics) introduces me to the subject's gravitas, her mood, her candor, her strange taste in pendants, this one, perhaps, symbolizing the woman's changing values as she ages—a remembrance of turntables past? Vincent Nardone's "Back Bay Whimsy" (pastel) jumps and sways to environmental music with light-hearted colors at once delicate and dense. Georgene McGonagle's "Hawk Eye" (sculpture) fashions the bird's wing span as ready for a graceful trip through Art Deco sensibility. Martha Ives' "Tango Egyptico Version I" (graphic) will surely dance for centuries on a Pyramid wall as easily as it kicks up its heels in Argentina, and Gail Postal's "Cynthia" (collage and mixed media) exemplifies how individuality can be staunchly authoritative with a grisaille figure tenaciously set against deep jewel-tones that include exotic gold earrings. Viewers might ask which image is my favorite. Trick question, for each conjures its own magic brew.

From a particularly quirky cauldron, Frank Webb's "Grain," a Silver Medal winner (aquamedia), is part-undisciplined Hopper, part-farm pushed off-kilter by Dorothy's twister. In this painting, too, Webb created an ambient innocence with swatches of abstraction in the foreground and sky. "Honoring the Past" (Silver Medal, collage and mixed media) by Christina Sanes is not only dedicated to Audubon Artists, but in its shaded tumult summons past presidents by name. Another mystery arises in Idaherma Williams' graphic "Cabin by the Sea." This Silver Medal-winning image challenges the viewer's eye by placing the viewer inside the cabin's black lines and mustardy tone, then demanding a gaze at the bright sea, greenery and sky outside—a compelling composition of two distinct vantages.

The sorcery never ends, however. Silver Medalist Carmine Palermo offers "The Last Supper, Then and Now" (oils and acrylics), which is arguably one of the most creative takes on a world-revered religious-themed painting by Leonardo da Vinci. The figures, a.k.a. disciples, are shown as motley-sized, seemingly fused squares with abstract, mostly green

and orange faces, a seating of masks sans bodies. The table is a simple brown arch seen from above—jarring perspective—and on it are warped loaves of manna. The sentiment of the entire occasion is boldly and playfully bizarre. A Silver Medal award also goes to Jacqueline Meyerson for her "Rubber Band Ball" (pastel), perhaps a colorful cat's toy. Floating in a haunting black ionosphere like a planet, the bands are wound cleanly over each other so the viewer can peer at the bands underneath. The contours and lines, particularly the one blue diagonal "streak" as the bands' leader, are impeccably drawn.

And the "Reclining Nude" (sculpture) by Silver Medalist Selva Sangines layers a ceramic body with a terra-cotta-like finish, bringing to mind a marriage of pre-Columbian and Henry Moore. The full-figured woman in a familiar pose provokes weighty thoughtfulness, and possesses a stillness of conviction and character.

All the other award-winners' artworks have the ability to teach an altered vantage, even those that are figurative or realistic. Some of the portraits "spoke" to and glared at the viewer as if the viewer were actually the portrait. Michael Sherfen's "Piano Man" (aquamedia) has a determined face and "industrial-strength" hands on a keyboard foreground that could anchor a battleship, while Niamh Butler's "Eirik den Raude" (oils and acrylics) soothes with a side view of a tender, bearded face and chiaroscuro presence reminiscent of Rembrandt. Lou Riccio's painting of a man sleeping on a park bench titled "Counting Sheep" (oil) could make a viewer wonder what the man may be dreaming, what prompted this respite. Riccio may just have wished at first to capture the man's restful slouch. Gary Erbe's "Jazz" (collage and mixed media) delights a Picasso/Braque fan's view of what might be called "Les Musiciens D'Avignon," but Erbe's own remarkable style bursts through—he gives the angular figures dapper bow-ties and gloves as they lean into each other over a triangular harmony of instruments. And a masterful image titled "The Queen" (pastel) by Liz Masi treats viewers to a tableau of amazing colors, details and unusual suspects.

Sculptures, from modern to classic, including Carl Raven's "Her," Gwen Marcus' "The Tempest," and Larry Scaturro's "Yoga Stretch," are exciting enough to keep viewers on edge. The paintings, graphics, collages and mixed media pieces—a diverse lot—give fascinating tribute to the "no rules" stance of art and thus a riveting exhibition this year. Every award-winning work says *Stay and look, Open to us, Let us impress you. And by all means, interpret and judge us freely.*

I am grateful to all the competing artists for sharing their images with me in such an intimate way and offering me a virtual tour of their powerful insights. Never stop making art from every notion, fledgling, seed, and nuance in your hope chest.

Tova Navarra, Awards Juror
Art Critic/Author/Artist

Board News

75th Anniversary Planning Committee

The Audubon Artists 75th Anniversary Catalog is the project at hand for our Planning Committee.

The catalog will include:

1) A two page pullout of the Timeline derived from research through the years of catalogs we have on hand to show the progression of the Audubon Artists from the 1940's to the present.

We are missing catalogs for 1942, 1943, 1947 and 1949. If anyone has access to any of these catalogs please contact me at evelynfloret@gmail.com.

2) Historical information will be culled from Audubon files and outside resources as needed.

If anybody has any significant documents to share with us please let me know what you have by contacting me at evelynfloret@gmail.com.

We are grateful to Kathy Engel, the daughter of a previous president and historian, Michael Engel, Jr. and grand daughter of the Audubon Artists founder, Michael Engel, for the historic documents she has recently donated.

3) Commentaries from honorary members and long standing members.

Our President, Vinnie Nardone, is interviewing honorary members and longstanding members to learn what effect Audubon Artists has had on their lives.

Honorary Members and long standing members please contact Vinnie Nardone at nardoneart@comcast.net if you have information to share.

4) All exhibitors of Audubon's 2017 Online Exhibit will have a full color photograph of their work included in the historic 75th Anniversary Online Exhibit

Catalog, as well as in the printed catalog.

5) There will be a Memorial Tribute to our beloved David Pena.

Artist Spotlight: Louis N. Riccio

THE LAST OF THE GREAT BILLBOARD ARTISTS GENERATION

At age seventeen in 1947, Louis Riccio attended art school in NYC and completed a three year course. This followed with a pictorial artist position with O'Mealia Outdoor Advertising Co. in NJ.

After two years as an apprentice, Lou was inducted into the 1953 Korean War as a Medic. Following the war, Lou returned to the O'Mealia Company, becoming a top pictorial artist specializing in large scale billboard art. Riccio continued on with his art career while attending night school for six years at the Newark School of Fine & Industrial Arts, NJ. His mentor was the notable artist/ instructor John Grabach, who specialized in Drawing and Portrait painting.



Pepsi Cola Girl, 1961



Good Housekeeping Baby, 1967



Mona Lisa, 1967

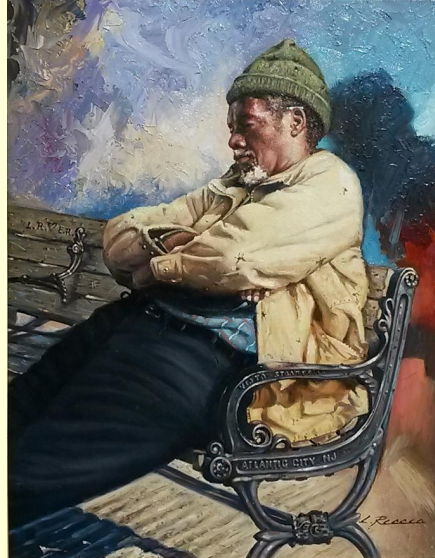


Mona Lisa Hands

After twenty years as a billboard artist, Lou opened up his own shop with his son, culminating with retirement in 1987. He then moved to the NJ shore town of Point Pleasant to pursue an art career as a painter, while competing in many local and national jury exhibitions. Lou continues to teach at the local high school and community college on a private and public level.



Contentment, 2013



Counting Sheep, 2016

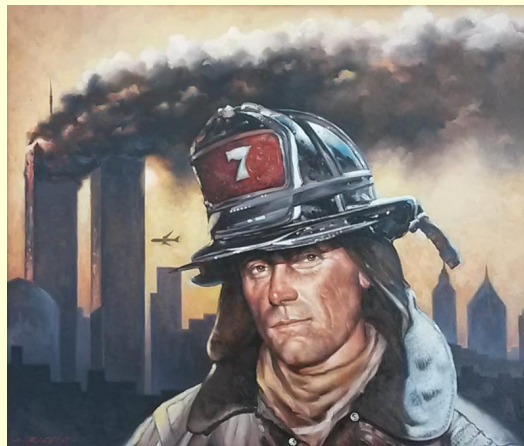


Vintage Car Show, 2013



Yellow Power

Currently, Louis competes in many art shows in the NY metropolitan area and has won numerous awards with his favorite media: Oils, Pen& Ink and Watercolor. Over the past fifteen years he has garnered recognition from the NJ State Citizens Competition and the NJ Chapter of the American Artists Professional League (AAPL). Louis Riccio has been recognized recently with a lifetime arts achievement award as Ocean County "Man of the Year 2014".



The Unthinkable, 9/11



Louis Ricci in front of *Flea Market Sam, 2005*

Lou is also a signature member of the Audubon Artists Society of NYC (winning three national awards); The Allied Artists of America, NYC and the Noyes Museum of Art, NJ. His biographical listing can be viewed in 'Who's Who In American Art' publication. Lou resides in Brick Township, NJ with wife Eunice. His art works are handled by the ReFind Gallery, Bay Head, NJ.

Member News

For her painting *Montville Road*, **Rita Agron** received the President's Award of Excellence in the Millburn Short Hills Juried Show; Honorable Mention from the Norescap Art Show in May, 2016; and the Award of Excellence from the Short Hills Arts Center Juried Show, June-July, 2016.

For her painting *Swedish Summer* she was given the Pastel Society of America Award by the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Juried Show, 2017 at the National Arts Club and an Honorable Mention by the West Essex Art Association Juried Show.

For her painting *Into the Light*, she received the Pastel Society of America Award from the

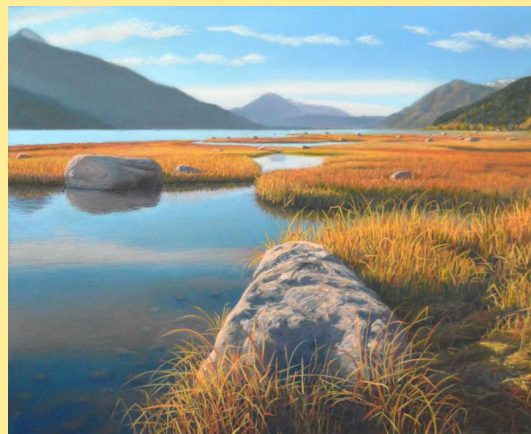
American Artists Professional League Juried Show at the Salmagundi Club, November, 2016.

Carol Z. Brody was awarded an Honorable Mention from the Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition in Evergreen, CO, for her painting, *Party Papers, Ribbons and Red Confetti*. Carol is also the juror for the exhibition of the Women in the Visual Arts in Palm Beach County, FL, in November.



Party Papers, Ribbon and Red Confetti

Donna Catotti's pastel painting, *Autumn Tidal Flats on the Chilkat River*, received a Merit Award at the Southeastern Pastel Society Juried Members Exhibition in Stone Mountain, GA in April. The painting has also been juried into the 2017 American Women Artists National Juried Exhibition, *Under a Vast Sky*, at the Tuscon Desert Art Museum from Oct. 13- Dec. 3rd.



Autumn Tidal Flats on the Chilkat River

On Sept. 23, 2017 President Vinnie Nardone presented a certificate to **Jason Chang** for his Honorary Member status at the Reception of the North American Pastel Artists Association at the Taipei Cultural Center in Flushing N.Y.



President Nardone presenting a certificate to Jason Chang

Alexandra Martin was honored to have won the Best in Sculpture and a Bronze Medal at the 25th Annual Open Juried Exhibition of the Guild of Creative Arts in Shrewsbury.

Idaho sculptor **Ken Newman's** sculpture *The Last Whistle* was installed at The Saginaw Art Museum over Labor Day Weekend in Michigan. Purchased by a foundation at ArtPrize and donated to the museum, the 850lb man walking down the stairs with a heavy jacket, lunch pail and thermos is reminiscent of those who built American, the blue collar/skilled labor jobs.



Tamayo Noda's embossing/collage *Journey* received Blick Art Material Purchase Award in the Society of American Graphic Artists' 83rd Members Print Exhibition at Old Print Shop in NYC, July - August, 2017.

Villo Varga painter, elected member, had a solo exhibition in the Szepmuhely Gallery, in Budapest, Hungary, *Messages of New York* in May.

She also had a solo exhibition, *New York Photographs*, from her reference/work photos in the Words and Pictures Gallery in Teignmouth, U.K. in October.

VILLO VARGA



NEW YORK PHOTOGRAPHS

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AUDUBON ARTISTS

Reminder--Apply for Elected Membership

Candidates who qualify for new Elected Membership into Audubon Artists for 2018 should now apply for admission to President Nardone (nardoneart@comcast.net) The main requirement is to have exhibited with us for three years within a six year period in your designated medium category. There is an exception to waive one jury show by the Admissions Committee for winners of the Gold or Silver award. Your application will be processed by the Admissions Chair & committee and induction will be official after the end of the current exhibit.

SUBMIT MEMBER NEWS

Member news entries highlighting a few of your recent accomplishments should be no more than three to four lines in length (or about 50 words).

Please send your news to Pat at
audubonnewsletter15@gmail.com

Audubon Artists | | audubonartists@gmail.com | <http://www.audubonartists.org>

To submit member news and other important announcements, contact

[Pat Hutchinson](#)

Newsletter Editor

Audubon Artists

audubonnewsletter15@gmail.com

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