



# NEWSLETTER

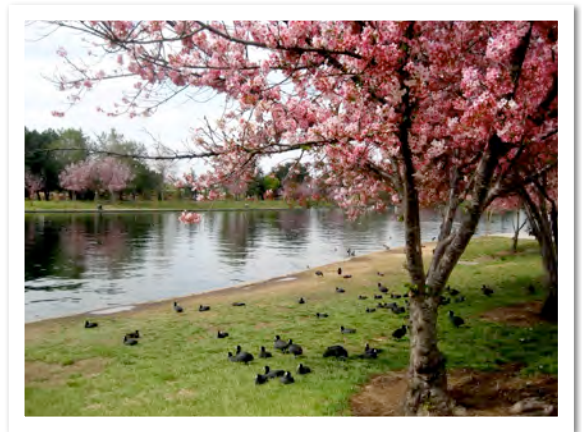
April 2011



VAG proudly announces a paint out at

## ✧ *Lake Balboa* ✧

Lake Balboa was created out of farm land in the early 1990s at the bottom of real estate bust in the San Fernando Valley. It is now part of a recreational park adjacent to the Balboa Park Golf Course with abundant fish, birds, mature flowering trees and scenic open and covered picnic areas. On Sunday April 17 please join us at Lake Balboa for our first annual paint out.



We will have live models and the beautiful scenery of Lake Balboa to inspire us. There will be plenty of food and drinks for everyone. We hope that you can join us for this first annual paint out. It will be a fun and educational day filled with art. We will begin to meet at 9:00 am. Follow the Vag signs to the first pavilion when entering from the Balboa Blvd entrance. You are welcome to bring family and friends to join us. You are also welcomed to bring food and drinks to share. Arriving there early is recommended so you can find a good parking space.

So come and spend a great Sunday, with family and friends and working on some art!!!



### *Next General Meeting*

*Date: Sunday, April 17, 2011*

*Time: 9:00 to afternoon*

*Place: LAke Balboa*

*Admission: free*

no mini show

## President's Message

There was art, on the eve of destruction.

We all shared a period last month that was so seriously wrought with emotion and calamity that the peril was palpable. Japan's heartbreaking double blow of earthquake and tsunami damage was being compounded with news of a nuclear disaster, while the situation in Libya teetered towards promises of military ground-strikes and war. A perfect time to contemplate the black-paintings of Goya? No, actually a perfect time for color and paint in its most pure and playfully artistic state.

The Valley artist Guild was honored to have artist and educator Quinton BeMiller as a guest demonstrator, especially during such a time when, (if you watched the global news) everything in the world was becoming darker and more and more dire by the minute. Quinton delivered one of the most dynamic and decidedly profound demonstrations we have ever hosted. He brought with him what amounted to the contents of an entire studio: a vast array of acrylic paint containers, dozens of jewel-like canvases... some finished and glowing, others in-progress, all arranged on two large, flat tables. Quinton had a rapt audience as he thoughtfully and deliberately demonstrated the raw and fundamental nature of chroma upon canvas; how a flat field of alizarin crimson may be rendered and divided by stains of opposing color, how gravity creates puddles with the beauty of Yellowstone hot springs, and space shifts, appearing first flat and then dimensional.

Our many attending artist members watched closely. Groups were invited to step up behind Quinton to get a bird's-eye view of his working methods. Sometimes crowds would swell around the table to experience the act of creative discovery... the antidote for world destruction.

The abstractions were always created in the spirit of wonder with warm human response. The message of the evening was about creation. How does paint behave, when applied with a roller? How does acrylic dry? What transparency occurs? What illusions are hinted at, avoided or coaxed out from the process? It represented a refreshing opportunity to re-examine the essence of what we all are devoted to and share a passion for. Quinton BeMiller provided yet another example of what the Valley Artist Guild promotes: articulate, talented individuals who are capable of not merely spreading their gifts of skill and craft, but also their awareness of the sacred role of art within our lives. Quinton educated and inspired.

Veronica Stensby, our friend and talented fellow painter with the Valley Artist Guild, is an especially vocal supporter of Quinton BeMiller. We thank you, Veronica, for suggesting him as a guest last month. It was also Veronica who happily informed the audience that Quinton had just been graced by the birth of his third daughter, named Violet.

Ah yes, that message of creation again. And hope, eternal.

John Paul Thornton, President,  
Valley Artist Guild

Balboa Park Paint-out and Potluck.

Join us at Lake Balboa for a day of landscape and [figure painting](#). As Spring arrives, it is time for our annual get-together along the banks of Lake-Balboa, one of the jewels of our city.

We will be meeting at "pavilion 1" on the South-west tip of the lake. (West of the playground). Bring some food item to share with others. We will have drinks and a grill or two for use.

Also bring friends and family. Everyone is welcome! [The Lake](#) and trees are gorgeous and we will also be hosting live costumed models to paint, so bring your art supplies.

When: [Sunday April 17th 2011](#)

Time: Anytime from 9-2

Place: Lake Balboa, (ANTHONY C. BEILENSON PARK - FORMERLY called [BALBOA PARK](#)) [6300 Balboa Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91406](#) Enter from Balboa. We are in the first pavilion. (partially shrouded by trees...) northwest of the big playground.

Parking: The earlier you come, the easier to park. Parking is available in the lots and along the road.

# Member events and reminders

## UPCOMING VAG EVENTS

### VAG BOARD MEETING --

Trice Tollie's house. April

## VAG REMINDERS

### Deadline for submittal of items for the newsletter.

If you wish to share with us news, thoughts, anything that might interest your member friends, please submit it to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month Send to Scott Kiche, [Lunahope2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Lunahope2003@yahoo.com),

This is a reminder that it's time to renew your membership in the Valley Artists Guild. All renewals are due by **January 31**. Annual membership is \$45 for individuals. Your membership must be up to date to exhibit in VAG shows. If you haven't done so yet, to be sure to mail your membership renewal for 2011 to:

Ken Ronney  
Membership Chairman  
7357 Hesperia Ave,  
Reseda, CA 91335

## MEMBER NEWS

**Richard Herd** had 6 of his paintings and 3 of his metal sculptures chosen to be exhibited in the **Palm Springs WestFest** which closed this past Sunday.

**Scott Kiche** has been invited to join the **American Society of Traditional Artists**

He will also begin to be represented by the **Jack Meier Gallery in Houston TX.**

**Beth Summers** has a new book out of her paintings and poems, "Gathering of

Getaways." You can view it at <http://blurb.com/books/2006782>

## MEMBER NEWS

Fritz Suter had 5 artworks selected for the 12th Annual Realism [International Art Exhibition](#) at the Upstream People Gallery in Omaha/NE - Show run from February 1 to 28, 2011. He was also selected for the 14th SPRING OBSESSION Competition & Sales, "THEME DIVISION [Daffodils & Tulips](#)". Ironstone Winery Gallery in Murphys/CA - Show run from March 5 to May 8, 2011.

**Trice Tolle** has 10 of her painting in a group exhibition at La Galeria Gitana entitled "Favorite Weekend Getaways".

The opening reception is for Saturday, April 2nd, 6-9:00pm and the show runs through to June 18, 2011.

## Announcements

*La Galeria Gitana presents...*



Beth Summers, "Leo Carrillo Sunrise", 16"x20", oil

**Favorite Weekend Getaways:**

*Where L.A.  
Gets Away to Play*

**April 2 - June 18**

## ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

### International Artist Magazine

CURRENT ONLINE COMPETITION

**Favorite Subjects**

Entries Close:

11 May, 2011

Winners Features: IA#80



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## VAG BOARD MEMBERS

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## Special Announcement

Dear VAG Members

The Valley Artists Guild is undertaking a very ambitious and exciting two phase project this year. Planning has progressed far enough now to explain our plans to our entire membership.

Our goals are (1) to include digital images of every Exhibiting Member's work in VAG's (upcoming) revamped web site, including links to your individual web site and/or e-mail contact, and (2) to prepare hard cover books which will feature our exhibiting member's works.

If you have not yet been juried in as an exhibiting member, we want you to know our plans and emphasize our interest in your soon becoming an exhibiting member.

The books will be high quality medium large format coffee-table style books which will include the works of multiple artists. Since we have over 120 exhibiting members, it will take more than one book to represent everyone's work. Thus, this will be an ongoing process, including selected artists works in each book. Each book will be curated by committee.

We anticipate these books will cost approximately \$75 per copy. You will have the opportunity to order as many copies as you wish. We are still in the planning stages, and there are many variables we are considering.

In case you don't have them available, we want you to know we will soon need high resolution digital images of three or more of your best works, in .jpg format, 300 dpi or higher, to clearly print a 5" x 7" image.

We will be giving detailed submission information in a follow up document, which will include a release form for you to sign which authorizes VAG to use your work in our book(s) and web site. We anticipate we will send out our formal requests for images on May 1, with a receipt deadline of June 1. Curating for the first book should take one month.

We want to make these books as attractive as possible. Choosing the mix of pictures in each book will be a difficult choice. We hope our Associate Members will participate in the April jurying so their work can be included in the books and web site.

Please let us know your thoughts about this project. Any suggestions and/or recommendations are welcome. You may contact me by e-mail at [KRonney@aol.com](mailto:KRonney@aol.com) or by phone at 818 996-1630.

Sincerely,

Ken Ronney

For the Digital Images Project Committee



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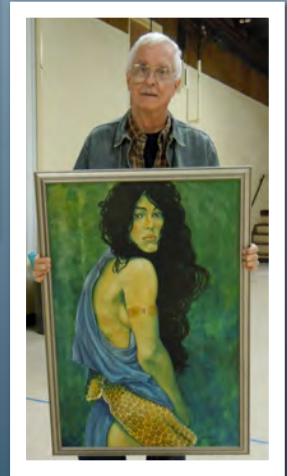


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Congratulations to Antonio Pelayo for being our winner of March's mini Show.



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