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3 CAL 2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"



Above: Best in Show, Gregory Radionov
Right: 1st Place, Kathryn Donatelli

Art in a Free Society

Juried by Jim Morphesis
A California Art League Exhibition

Feb. 23 - Mar. 12
Reception Sat. Feb 27, 2:00 - 4:00pm



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CAL CALENDAR

March 14 (Monday): "Art in a Free Society" Exhibit take down, 10:00 to noon.

March 15 (Tuesday): March demonstrator and General Membership meeting
7:00 p.m.
SFV Arts & Cultural Center
18312 Oxnard St., Tarzana

March 30 (Wednesday): Release of prospectus for upcoming exhibit at Blinn House.

See the CAL website for more details:
www.californiaartleague.org

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President's Message:



(Painting by America Martin)

Everyone really enjoyed the “Art in a Free Society” reception at the San Fernando Valley Arts and Cultural Center last weekend. We had a very good turnout, lots of new faces, new exhibiting members, and Jim Morphesis, the juror, who spoke to us about his job, jurying the exhibit.

The SFV Arts and Cultural Center is slowly but steadily becoming known to local (and not-so-local) artists, art lovers, and many others. There are plans for musical performances by small groups on a regular basis, now that there is a permanent stage available for their use. Our group’s regular general membership and demonstration meetings will continue to be held there, on the third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 to 9:00, with the exception of July, August, and December. Several other art groups have demonstration meetings and workshops there on a regular basis. If you want more information, go to the SFVACC’s website, www.sfvacc.org and see what is happening.

A few weeks ago, I gave the February CAL demonstration there, a Power Point slide-show of “How to Photograph Your Paintings”. I had a lot of fun doing it, and there was a very good turnout of both CAL members and guests and visitors. If anyone wants me to send the Power Point file to them, with most of the information in it, I’ll be happy to.

Over the last two weekends, in Reseda, one of the small, local cultural events was taking place. It was the Reseda Fun-A-Day art exhibit, which I participated in.

Fun-A-Day is a family friendly event, started in the northeast U.S., where there are long, cold winter days. The concept is for local artists to work on art projects every day during the month of January. If they are a photographer, for instance, they would take one photo each day. A painter would paint one picture each day. Of course, since I make kinetic sculptures, I just kept working on the same project till it was done...all in the month of January.

Then, in February, all the artists have a group exhibit. No curating, no judging, just an opportunity for everyone to display what they’ve done. The exhibit in Reseda had entries from 20 artists, most of whom had prepared 31 pieces which were on display. It was a very interesting exhibit, with photos, drawings, sculpture, mobiles, a garden of whimsical plastic flower-like objects, even a self-published book. Live local musicians performed for additional entertainment.

At the exhibit, I met two very talented artists, one working in alcohol-based dyes on plastic, and the other doing fine-line ink drawings on paper. Neither had ever been part of an art club or group, and I invited both to join CAL. They were both very happy to receive the invitations, and I hope we’ll see their work in our upcoming exhibits.

This is a reminder to all CAL members: if you are at an exhibit (or anywhere else, for that matter) and you find a talented artist who is not a member of CAL, don’t hesitate to ask them to join us. We can’t just wait for good artists to look us up and join. We need to actively recruit new people. Our exhibits have been getting better and better, with many highly talented new members participating. I really want to see that continue.

Until next month,

Ken Ronney
 President, CAL
Kronney@aol.com

California Art League 2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"



Best in Show
"Daddy's Girl" by Gregory Radionov
Watercolor



First Place
"Knights"
by Kathryn Donatelli
Oil



Second Place
"Get Into Jail Free Card"
by Stephen Bray
Acrylic



Third Place
"The American Dream - Anna"
by Bin Feng
Photography



Honorable Mention
"The Mohawk"
by Michael Wicks
Photography



Honorable Mention
"Hope" by Norm Beal
Oil

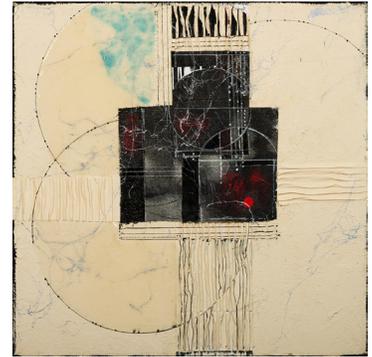
California Art League 2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"



Honorable Mention
"Saturday Morning"
by Julie Hubert
Oil



Honorable Mention
"Jamaican Rum Punch"
by D. Wynne Nixon
Oil



Merchandise Award
"Asian Quilt V"
by Suki Kuss
Mixed Media



Merchandise Award
"Armageddon Rag"
by Richard Wynne
Mixed Media



Merchandise Award
"Okay, You Have My Attention"
by Preston Craig
Acrylic

JUROR: Jim Morphesis

Morphesis' work examines the profound predicaments of human life and reflects the artist's deep concern with the dehumanization of society over this and the last century. Morphesis most often works serially, on imagery and themes as varied as the Passion of the Christ (influenced by his Greek Orthodox upbringing), nude torsos (inspired by Rembrandt and Soutine) and universal symbols of mortality, including skulls and roses.

Jim Morphesis lives and works in Los Angeles. Born in Philadelphia in 1948, Morphesis received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the Tyler School of Art of Temple University in 1970 and earned his

Master of Fine Arts Degree from the California Institute of the Arts in 1972.

Morphesis' paintings have been shown in 42 solo exhibitions and in more than 130 invitational group exhibitions in museums and galleries that include the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Queens Museum of Art in New York, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the State Museum of Contemporary Art in Thessalonica, Greece. His paintings can be seen in the permanent collections of more than 25 museums including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the Oakland Museum of California, the



Phoenix Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Religious Art in St. Louis and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

California Art League

2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"

Article by Marian Fortunati

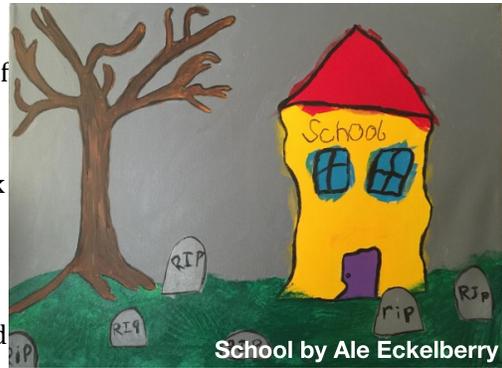
When our CAL president, Ken Ronney, asked me to write something for the newsletter about our upcoming show, "Art In A Free Society" I was flummoxed. I am the exhibit chair, but this theme and our joint venture with the ACLU was his inspiration – hoping to bring in more members for CAL and further strengthen our group.



Prayer by Sara Shai

To begin writing about the show I decided to see what the ACLU had to say about Art and Freedom, so I Googled

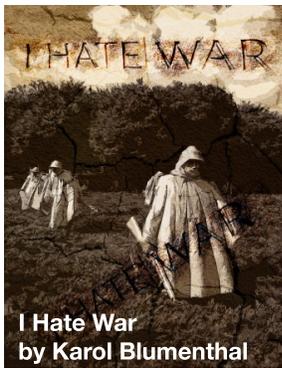
So here goes. This exhibition, juried by renowned artist, Jim Morphesis, is widely diverse in subject matter, medium and message. I think Morphesis did a great job of being inclusive especially considering the extremely large number of entries and the diversity of artworks made by artists wishing to express themselves. That the show includes such a wide range of artwork really does say it all.



School by Ale Eckelberry

their website. I will insert various artworks from the show throughout this article trying to select artwork that the juror hadn't already recognized for awards. Information from the ACLU website gives us an overview of the arts in our free society:

"In the late 1980s, state prosecutors brought a criminal obscenity charge against the owner of a record store for selling an album by the rap group, 2 Live Crew. Although this was the first time that obscenity charges had ever been brought against song lyrics, the 2 Live Crew case focused the nation's attention on an old question: should the government ever have the authority to dictate to its citizens what they may or may not listen to, read, or watch?



I Hate War by Karol Blumenthal

American society has always been deeply ambivalent about this question. On the one hand, our history is filled with examples of overt government censorship, from the 1873 Comstock Law to the 1996 Communications Decency Act. Anthony Comstock, head of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, boasted 194,000 "questionable pictures" and

134,000 pounds of books of "improper character" were destroyed under the Comstock Law -- in the first year alone. The Communications Decency Act imposed an unconstitutional censorship scheme on the Internet, accurately described by a federal judge as "the most participatory form of mass speech yet developed."



The Muralist by Idie Weiss

California Art League 2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"

On the other hand, the commitment to freedom of imagination and expression is deeply embedded in our national psyche, buttressed by the First Amendment, and supported by a long line of Supreme Court decisions.

Provocative and controversial art and in-your-face entertainment put



New Alchemy Unfolding
by Christopher Cook

our commitment to free speech to the test. Why should we oppose censorship when scenes of murder and mayhem dominate the TV screen, when works of art can be seen as a direct insult to peoples' religious beliefs, and when much sexually explicit material can be seen as degrading to women? Why not let the majority's morality and taste dictate what others can look at or listen to?

The answer is simple, and timeless: a free society is based on the principle that each and every

individual has the right to decide what art or entertainment he or she wants -- or does not want -- to receive or create. Once you allow the government to censor someone else, you cede to it the the power to censor you, or something you like. Censorship is like poison gas: a powerful weapon that can harm you when the wind shifts.

Freedom of expression for ourselves requires freedom of expression for others. It is at the very heart of our democracy." - ACLU

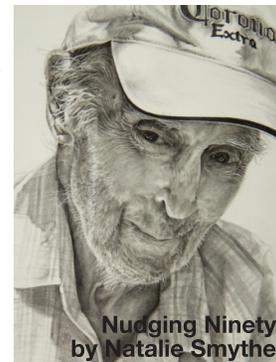


Everyone's A Critic by Larry Barsh

him. We must never forget that art is not a form of propaganda; it is a form of truth. And as Mr. MacLeish once remarked of poets, there is nothing worse for our trade than to be in style. In free society art is not a weapon and it does not belong to the spheres of polemic and ideology. Artists are not engineers of the soul. It may be different elsewhere. But democratic society--in it, the highest duty of the writer, the composer, the artist is to remain true to himself and to let the chips fall where they may. In serving his vision of the truth, the artist best serves his nation. And the



Two Sides
by Robin Cohen



Nudging Ninety
by Natalie Smythe

Interesting history which makes me more than ever glad I live here in our free society.

In going a bit further, I decided that this quote from a speech made by John F. Kennedy was

also appropriate:

"If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes



Memoirs of a Kimono
by Tricia Kaman

California Art League 2016 Exhibit "Art in a Free Society"

nation which disdains the mission of art invites the fate of Robert Frost's hired man, the fate of having "nothing to look backward to with pride, and nothing to look forward to with hope."



On The Run by Lana Blades



Child of Liberty by Cheryl Goettemoeller

-respectfully submitted - Marian Fortunati - CAL exhibit chair

Opening Reception: February 27th, 2016





UPCOMING CAL EXHIBITS and Dates for Release of Prospectus

To allow our members PLENTY of time to prepare new works for our exhibits, the board of directors has mapped out our exhibit schedule for the rest of the year. If you want to work on one or more pieces that really fit the theme, you've got plenty of time to think about it.

The upcoming exhibits' venues, themes and dates will be:

March 30, (prospectus release); Blinn House
Theme: "A Moment in Time"
Show begins June 3.

August 3, (prospectus release); SFV Arts & Cultural Center
Gold Medal Exhibit "Spirits of the Night"
Show begins October 24.

September 28, (prospectus release); Blinn House
Theme: "Red"
Show begins December 2.

Upcoming CAL Events

March demonstrator and General Membership meeting

Tuesday, March 15th, 2016

7:00 p.m.

SFV Arts & Cultural Center

18312 Oxnard St., Tarzana

CAL's March meeting will feature a watercolor demo by Joseph Stoddard, partner at SKA Design and extraordinary painter. Guests are always welcome. Suggested donation at the door, Members \$5, Guests \$8. This is an opportunity for members to pay their 2016 renewal, also (\$45).



Joseph Stoddard

Joseph Stoddard is a partner at SKA Design (an environmental graphics design office) located in South Pasadena. He paints in the evenings and on weekends and lives in Pasadena.

He has produced paintings for a number of Pasadena events, including the Bungalow Heaven Annual Tour, the Colorado Street Bridge Party, the Pasadena Showcase House of Design, the California Art Club Artists for Architecture Painting Project, the Pasadena Symphony and the Pasadena Pops Orchestra. His work was recently featured in the latest issue of *The Art of Watercolor*, a French art magazine as well as *Studios* magazine, and *Watercolor Artist* magazine. His studio was featured in *The Man Cave Book*.

His work has also been on the covers of a variety of publications

including *Westways Magazine*, *Pasadena Magazine*, a book series published by the Historical Society of Southern California, and the *Lost and Found Series* by Many Moons Press. In 2001 a book of his sketches entitled *Pasadena Sketchbook* was published. The second edition was published in October of 2008. A collection of sketches of the University of Redlands entitled *Redlands Sketchbook* was published in 2007. *Walter Foster Publishing* published *Expressive Color*, a painting instruction book, in August of 2008.

In 2012, Azusa Pacific University purchased a series of 10 original sketchbooks for their permanent collection, and a print of his painting of Maranatha High School was given to Laura Bush by the school. In 2013, he was invited to submit art for the *Bright Side of the City* art event in Jyvaskyla, Finland. His painting



of the Pasadena Train Station is in the permanent collection of the Pasadena Museum of History. He developed the theme paintings for the Pasadena Showcase House of Design for both 2012 and 2014. He is currently working on a sketchbook about Los Angeles.

You can see his work on his web site: josephstoddard.com

News Tax Court Ruling Is Seen as a Victory for Artists

Read the [New York Times Article](#) by Randy Kennedy [here](#).

The United States Tax Court ruled in favor of painter and printmaker Susan Crile, who was accused by the I.R.S. of underpaying her taxes. Because her art has not been particularly profitable over the years, and the I.R.S. argued that it was not her profession and she should not be claiming tax deductions. This ruling supports the idea that an artist does not have to make a lot of money in order to consider it a profession.

Ignatov portrait painting workshop

San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana, CA 91356

Portrait Painting from Life 4-hour Workshop Instructor Ignat Ignatov

April 23, 2016 (Saturday)
10:30am-2:30pm



Learn the building blocks of portrait painting

This workshop starts with a painting demo/lecture by Ignat, covering the fundamentals of portrait painting. Students will then paint from a live model and receive individual instruction. Beginners welcome. Workshop fee: \$89

reserve your spot today

818-430-2509

ignatov101@yahoo.com

more info and supply list: www.IgnatovArt.com

Painting in Encaustic & Mixed Media

“Painting in Encaustic & Mixed Media” is an upcoming three day class (with accommodations) at the Watson Homestead Conference & Retreat Center in Painted Post, NY. See how encaustic (hot wax) painting can be a sculptural art form. Apply tools and techniques to create relief emphasizing positive and negative space and contrast in darks and lights. Workshop includes painting and collage with wax, fusing, carving into wax, and more experimenting with techniques. In addition, you can upcycle existing art (drawings, prints, photos) if you like. Click [here](#) for more information.

Other News and Events

WEST END CHATSWORTH ART DISTRICT



ANNOUNCES The Spring 2016

West End Window Gallery

ART EXHIBIT COMPETITION! ~ *California Dreaming*

EXCITING New Exhibition Concept with EXTREME VISIBILITY

* 4 Artists will have enlargements of their winning art pieces exhibited in
The West End Art District's New Devonshire Window Gallery

- Professionally Scanned copies of original Art pieces,
- Enlarged up to 3 X 5 feet, printed on outdoor-ad quality, adhesive, fabric material
- Applied to the glass of selected shop windows facing Devonshire St.

1st Place Winner

"One Month
Solo Art Exhibit"
With Wine & Cheese
Reception –

My *Creative* Outlet
Gallery
21754 Devonshire

2nd Place Winner

Giclee Quality – full size
Print on Canvas
Of Winning Art Piece
&

24 Custom
Blank greeting cards
Printed with
Winning art image

3rd Place Winner

5 Matted Prints
11" X 14" est. size
Of Winning Art Piece
&

12 Custom
Blank greeting cards
Printed with
Winning art image

People's Choice Winner - \$110 Naya Spa Gift Certificate

All Winners will also be awarded a copy of the **Giclee Quality Digital File**,
used to make the enlargements of their original art – **valued at \$150**
Artists will have the option to use the digital file themselves to create quality prints of their artwork.

Winners will have their bio/artist statements featured on the Art District Website,
and in information brochures given out at the exhibit site business locations
Art District Devonshire Window Gallery area is between Topanga Canyon and Owensmouth
Enlargements will remain on exhibit 6 – 12 months

ENTRY DEADLINE MARCH 25TH -- Details Next Page

Other News and Events

West End Window Gallery

ART EXHIBIT COMPETITION! ~ *California Dreaming*

Entry Details for Spring 2016

Entry fee is \$35

Competition is open to all 2D media. – Theme is “California Dreaming”

Deadline for submission and entry fee payment is March 25, 2016

All Entries must be the artist’s own original work.

Artists may submit up to 3 images (jpg, CD, or Photos) for preliminary judging to select finalists.

Finalists will be notified by March 30th.

Finalists will need to deliver art pieces to Striving Artists Framing, at 21723 Plummer, in Chatsworth, on April 1st or 2nd, during business hours, for final judging.

Winning pieces will be selected and artists notified by April 12, 2016.

Exhibit installation at the end of April. Dedication / Reception date to be announced

Art pieces not selected may be picked up during business hours from April 13th thru April 16th.

Winning pieces will be kept until after the scanning process.

Prize Details: First Place Solo Gallery exhibit scheduled for July 2016. Prize covers gallery’s exhibition fee, standard 30% commission to gallery on sales will apply. Exact sizes of Second and Third place print on canvas, and 5 smaller prints, will be determined by the relative sizes of original winning art works. Prints, digital files, Naya gift Certificate, and “cards” will be delivered to winners at the dedication. People’s Choice winner will be selected during the April 6th, Chamber of Commerce Event hosted at Striving Artists.

Additional details: Winning pieces that are framed may need to be removed from their frames for scanning, but will be reframed. Final size of each enlargement will depend on proportions of original piece & size of window. Artworks will stay on display approximately 6 – 12 months, unless image is damaged and then it may be removed if necessary. Replacement enlargements may or may not be made at the discretion of the West End Chatsworth Art District Board. Winning artists grant the Art District Board the right to use images in FB, and website promotion and publicity for the West End Window Gallery. Artists retain all copyrights. Information about the winning artists, and art images, will be featured on the Art District website. Payment of entry fee indicates acceptance and understanding of West End Art Competition rules & processes.

To enter: Send name, address, phone, & email,
Plus: title, media, & dimensions of each art work
Up to 3 images - And a \$35 check, to the

Chatsworth Fine Arts Council

PO Box 5122

Chatsworth, CA 91311

Email submissions to: chatsworth-arts@att.net

followed by mailed check, OK

Entry is not complete until check is received



For More Information: 818 772-1639

Other News and Events



2016 ONLINE INTERNATIONAL Juried All Media Exhibition

Online Gallery March 25 – May 24, 2016



"Akaw!" acrylic on canvas by Patric Stillman, juror

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Original 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional media
produced in the last two years accepted – no videos

Awards: **1st Place** \$300, **2nd Place** \$150, **3rd Place** \$75

All proceeds will be for publication of
“**100 Artists/100 Years**”

The Artists Guild's remarkable century will be celebrated in a beautiful book of images and artists' biographies from the incredible 2015 Centennial exhibition at the Oceanside Museum of Art.

JUROR: Patric Stillman, Acrylic Painter & Photographer and Director of The Studio Door in San Diego, CA. [The Studio Door](http://www.thestudidoor.com) is an art gallery and visual arts center in San Diego.

For more information and to enter:

<http://www.sdmaag.org/art-competition/2016-online-international>

Norm's Corner

By: Norm Beal

VICTORIAN MUSES X Maud Franklin 1857-1941



Arrangement in White and Black
by James McNeill Whistler

Born in Oxfordshire England, Maud Franklin was recognized early on as not only a great beauty, but as a sensitive and expressive artists model. She is now best remembered as the mistress-model of James Mcneil Whistler, having posed for him as early as 1872 when she was fifteen. She became an artist in her own right, exhibiting at both the Grosvenor Gallery and the Society of British Artists, using the name Clifton Lin. She had become fully established as Whistler's mistress by 1877 and was listed as Mary Whistler in the 1881 census. She remained with him until his marriage to Beatrice Godwin in 1888.

Indeed, Whistler proved to be less than an ideal companion! Ms Franklin became pregnant in 1879 at the time of Whistler's quixotic liable trial against John Ruskin. Apparently not too eager to participate in the "Women's business" of birthing he deposited the lady in a hotel under the pretense of a necessary trip to Paris, from which he went so far as to arrange a series of his letters to be sent to her. No father's name was given when the little girl was born, however one of her middle names was Whistler. Most likely unaware of his deception, Ms Franklin joined him in Venice, regardless of his bankruptcy resulting from the trial. She found however that her attempts of assuming the role of being his consort would

be rebuffed by society and she was continually snubbed.

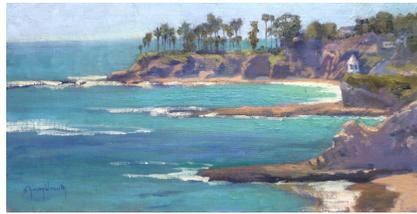
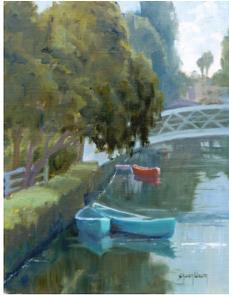
By 1887 Whistler's liaison with Ms Godwin had become the fount of fierce catfighting between the two misses. Ms Franklin, in poor health anyway, retreated to "convalesce" at the home of an artist protégé of Whistler, William Stott. Stott had been a loyal supporter of Whistler and the controversial reforms he had introduced as president of the Society of British Artists in 1886. It was during this sojourn that Ms Franklin not only learned of Whistler's marriage, but posed for Stott's painting "The Birth of Venus". (Any connection between these two can only be surmised!)

Unfortunately the painting received such a volume of criticism that it caused Whistler to take notice, thus discovering whom the model was. Hypocrisy aside, the issue resulted in a furious Whistler severing relations with both alleged offenders, and a violent incident at the Hogarth Club in 1889. The scandal naturally created an explosion of fame to surround Stott's painting and at the same time fueled the Victorian prejudice that modeling nude degraded both the model and the artist.

Ms Franklin managed to survive the sound and fury as well as two successive American husbands. She died in Cannes in 1941. Her image lives on, not necessarily as "Venus", but as depicted in a host of Whistler's works, such as "Arrangement in White and Black", and the "Blue Girl, Maud Franklin."

Sharon Weaver

PAINTING WATER ESSENTIALS WORKSHOP with Sharon Weaver at La Galería Gitana



Painting water with all its complexities and changing surface can be overwhelming and intimidating. The forms are complicated and it can be confusing. This studio workshop class will help all levels of artists to gain the basic building blocks needed to paint the ocean, a lake and reflections in water.

Sharon is an expert at painting water and can show you how to paint water using different colors and brush strokes. Learn her steps for painting realistic reflections. See how highlights on the water bring life and sparkle to your painting. Sharon will show you how to take these valuable lessons to create a complete seascape painting.

Demonstration of How to Paint the Ocean – Sharon will demonstrate how to paint a California seascape using a variety of tools to make foam, a waves crest and the sparkle on water. Students will paint their own painting with Sharon's help and instruction. **How to Paint Water Reflections** – Sharon will show how to paint a lake with reflections. Students will then paint their own version of a lake with Sharon's help and instruction.

When: Sunday, March 20, 2016
Time: 10:00am - 4:30pm
Where: La Galería Gitana
 120 N Maclay Ave Suite E
 San Fernando, CA 91340
Contact: Angie/Brianne
 818-898-7708

Supply list will be sent when you register.

Note: Payment ensures spot in class. Space is limited. No cancellations 1 week prior to class. Cancellation fee may apply.

Space is limited. Sign-up now!
\$175.00

- * Call 818-898-7708 with credit card **or**
- * www.galeriagitana.com/workshop (PayPal link) **or**
- * Send a check for \$175.00 payable to:
 La Galería Gitana
 120 N Maclay Ave Suite E
 San Fernando, CA 91340

Lynne Fearman

Saga Fine Art Gallery presents:
 "Fearman, Hrovat & Wambsgans"
 Show runs February 8th - March 18th.
 110 West Lime Ave.
 Monrovia, CA 91016
 (626) 358-5563 info@sagafineart.com

Crain Gallery in the Crowell Library in San Marino will present a solo show of 25 oil paintings by Lynne Fearman. Show runs from February 15th thru April 4th.
 1890 Huntington Dr, San Marino, CA 91108
 Phone: (626) 300-0777

Scenic Vistas of the San Gabriel Mountains
 Altadena Town & Country Club
 January 29 - May 24, 2016



"Last Days of Fall" 16x20 oil

Join Us...

CAL welcomes all levels of artists to join us whether you are a professional or a beginner. Painters, sculptors and collage artists are welcome. All genres, including abstract modern art, traditional realism, portraits, still life, landscape, cityscape, wildlife and everything in between are accepted.

For more details or to sign up, go to <http://www.californiaartleague.org/page-1328696>

About the Editor...

Stacey R. Swann was born and raised in Sterling, VA. She graduated summa cum laude from James Madison University in 2010, earning a BFA in Studio Art with a concentration in Graphic Design. She currently resides in San Diego, CA, where she works as an artist and freelance graphic designer. Her main goal with her art is to share a piece of beauty with her viewers.

To submit items for the newsletter, please e-mail Stacey at srswann4@gmail.com

