

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

MAY 2010



Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224-0059 • www.verdugoarts.com • Nikki Thomas, Editor

Artist of the Month

Quinton Bemiller: SoCal artists then and now

Quinton Bemiller is a painter, educator and gallery director who has recently received significant grants from the City of Pasadena and the City of Los Angeles for his work as a painter. These awards have funded his mural, *Habamongna*, currently on view at the Armory Center for the Arts and a solo exhi-



Quinton Bemiller returns to speak to the May VHAA meeting. His acrylic painting, "Horizon" is top right.

bition of paintings on view May 26 through September at Los Angeles International Airport's Terminal 1, Arrivals.

Bemiller teaches Art History at Chaffey College and leads art tours at galleries, museums and studios in Los Angeles, New

York and San Francisco. He also teaches two weekly painting classes at his Chinatown studio and conducts private workshops.

In June, Bemiller will present a painting exhibition of current and former painting students at his own gallery, *Project_210*, which he opened in October 2008 with fellow artist, Chuck Feesago.

Bemiller earned a Master of Fine Art degree at Claremont Graduate University, a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University and an Associate of Arts degree at Pasadena City College. He was born in Arcadia and lives in Claremont with his wife Megann and their daughters, Lillie and Jade.

For his May presentation, Bemiller will give a slide lecture highlighting some of the most notable artists from Southern California, both past and present. He will also donate one of his recent paintings.

"The climate, geography, ethnic diversity and Hollywood are some of the factors that have caused life in Southern California to be unique," says Bemiller. "You might expect that the art produced here would be different than the rest of the country too,



and you are right. From the early California Impressionists to Post-Surrealism to the Hard-Edge Abstract Classicists to the Ferus Gallery phenomenon, there have been many memorable moments in Southern California art history.

"It wasn't until the 1960's that artists in Los Angeles stepped into the international spotlight," continues Bemiller. "Before that, being an artist in Southern California didn't mean much. Today, Los Angeles is considered by most museum curators to be the richest center of artistic production in the world. This lecture will focus on many of the forgotten early artists and highlight many of the best working today."

For more information on the artist, log onto www.quintonbemiller.com.

NEXT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING

Friday, May 7, 2010 • 7:00 P.M.
Citibank Community Room
2350 Honolulu, Montrose

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 10, 2010 • 7:00 p.m.
Home of Mary Jane Klune
4905 Carmel Rd., La Cañada

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring appears to be coming and going. Maybe by the time you read this missive, warmer weather will be a more consistent trend. The plants and flowers seem to be blooming, sure of the season to come. This is our "sort of Spring" in Southern California.

Joseph Todorovitch was a joy to watch last month. Wasn't Sandy's portrait stunning? Joseph said he wished he would have had more time to complete the painting, but most of us thought it was beautiful the way it was.

This month we should all be well entertained by Quintin Bemiller who will give us a presentation on *Famous Painters of Southern California*. I have heard this artist speak on similar subjects before and he is very knowledgeable and interesting.

We have the opportunity to exhibit at La Canada Library this May, so bring your paintings to Citibank on April 24, to partake of the juried show, 9-11 a.m. This will be our last show of the September-to-June club year.

Do sign up for our workshop with Joe Cibere, which will be held on Saturday June 19. Don't miss this fun day!

Remember not to let everyday life get in the way of your commitment to art. We can always fill our time with mundane things and never have time for the enjoyment of the arts. Plan to carve out the space to paint, listen to music, visit an art museum or just enjoy the beauty of nature at least a couple of times each week. This will heighten your positive thoughts and leave you calm and happy.

Happy Spring!



Mary Jane Klune
President

VHAA NEWS AND INFO

NEW MEMBERS

NANCY J COLER
3301 Community Ave
La Crescenta, CA 91214
818) 248-2443
nancoler@earthlink.net
watercolor

MARY JO GRAIS
P O Box 26434
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323) 661-7135
mjgrais@earthlink.net
graphite/drawing, watercolor

CORINNE VENIT
3745 Canfield Rd
Pasadena, CA 91107
626) 351-9185
cfvenitc@gmail.com
photography

JOAN WHITMORE

1108 So. 5th St
Alhambra, Ca 91801
626) 282-4857
joanwhitmore@earthlink.net
watercolor, waterbased oil

PASSING

With much sorrow in our hearts we announce the loss of another member of V.H.A.A, **BILL BATES**, a past president and an influential member of our club. Bill, a C.P.A. who had his office in Montrose, was active in the Montrose Chamber of Congress for many years. He taught watercolor classes at Brand Library and loved to paint rural scenes. We will miss you Bill!

Joe Cibere watercolor workshop set for for June 19

WHEN: Sat., June 19, 2010 • 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Citibank Community Room

2350 Honolulu Avenue • Montrose, CA

(Downstairs in rear of building; enter from the alley.)

Free parking in the lot west of the building.)

FEE: \$45.00 (VHAA Members) • \$55.00 (Guests)

Make checks payable to Verdugo Hills Art Assoc. and mail to:

Mary Hoehn, 3673 Hampstead Road, Glendale, CA 91206.

QUESTIONS? Mary Hoehn • 818/790-3134

Joe Cibere's painting style and art demonstrate his love of nature and wilderness. His "abstract realism" paintings integrate strong design and balance with a sense of illusion and have appeared in *Watercolor Magazine* and in the International Artists book *The Watercolor Sky and Cloud Techniques of 23 International Artists*, available at Amazon.com. His work is also part of both corporate and private collections. He teaches at the California Art Institute in Westlake Village, CA.

Mail in your reservation or sign up at the May meeting.

Don't forget the Spring Art Show

Don't forget our Spring Show for the month of May. April 24 is the take-in date from 9-11 a.m. and your pick up time is between 1-3 p.m. at the Citibank meeting room in Montrose. It is important that you bring your paintings to the La Canada Library on May 1 between 9 and 10 a.m for hanging. The juror is Mark Woods, a professional art photographer with a background in watercolor and oil paintings.

Galleries

Upcoming Events at VIVA (www.viva@vivaartcenter.org)

• **May 15:** Collage Artists of America — *SNIPPETS, A Newsworthy Exhibit*

Reception: Sunday, May 2, 2-4 p.m.

• **May 19 - June 5**

San Fernando Valley Art Club — *Views & Visions 2010*

2010 Spring Member 's Juried Art Show

Reception: Sunday, May 23, 4-6 p.m.

From Sue Peacock, the Media Muse

We have a new DVD in our collection: *Landscape in Pastel: Reflections of Monet's Garden*. The artist is Urania Christy Tarbet, PSA. By the end of this DVD, I felt I could create the scene as Urania had, and I have never worked in pastels.

This was an easy-to-follow lesson where the painter shows the entire process from foundation to completion. She begins by painting the surface of her board with very wet gouche, then discusses the types and brands of pastels she uses, how she selects the colors she will be working with, and continues through the basic drawing stage, where she blocks in the large areas of background, adds the details and finishes by critiquing and correcting her painting.

The DVD has pop-up statements emphasizing some of her actions, such as, "Urania wipes each pastel clean before putting it on the canvas," which I sometimes found distracting. But, all in all, this was definitely a useful demonstration.

Among her comments were:

- "Work with at least three values," which she demonstrated with both different hues and different intensities of a single pastel
- "With pastels you can work from light to dark or dark to light," which she did throughout
- "Don't call attention to a single color," meaning don't add in a color that will stand out by itself, but select one that will harmonize with the rest of the palette.

Remember the Muse will give you two free rentals if you write a report for the newsletter [she'll edit it if you need help.] Since she doesn't have a VCR player she would really appreciate getting reviews of those.

We're looking for a new home

The board is considering finding a new meeting site for monthly meetings. We need your help.

Our needs are: easier access; a larger room where we could have overhead projection of the demonstrations; good, well-lit parking; storage for our videos and DVDs, magazines, tables, etc.; a restroom; and a kitchen.

We are willing to consider a different night for our meetings if we can find the right place.

Sooo...if you know of a church, community center, office, retirement home, lodge (Elks, VFW, etc.) or any site within our general area that could be a possibility, please let one of the board members know, and we'll check it out.

■ **IN JUNE** we will have our annual *Artist of the Year* competition. In addition, our new members will be describing their medium with show-and-tell. We have so many new members and we want to get to know you and your work. Please contact Sheri Garwood at 818) 293-0901 or shereeamore@yahoo.com.

June also means we honor our high school student with our scholarship and listen to the art journies of students, who will bring some of their own work. Then we will have installation of our new officers.

Five win *Artist of the Month* awards in April; Grant Wood takes first place



Out of 11 entries in April for *Artist of the Month*, first place was won by Grant Wood (no, our Grant Wood, not the other one) with a watercolor entitled *Ketchum* (top left). Second place awards went to Nancy La Croix-Toyne (top right) for her oil, *April Hills*; and Roland Clark (bottom left) for his watercolor, *Follow the Light*. Third place went to Diane Bernstein (bottom center) for her watercolor, *Meditation*; and Lana Blades (bottom right) for her watercolor, *Reservation needed*.

May is the last month to bring in art for *Artist of the Month*. A new standing rule is that there can be no more than two paintings per person for the Artist of the Month judging. The rules are that if you have won a first place in any month from September thru May, you may not enter another painting until the June meeting where all winners will be judged for Artist of the Year.

In June, only the first place winners need to bring their winning pictures to be judged by their peers for the *Artist of the Year* award for 2009-2010.

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**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE PROCESS IMMEDIATELY**

