

the **ArtGallery** e-magazine

Volume 2 • Issue 9



Showcasing Artists from around the World!

The Amazing Archibald Motley

Art Deco artist of the
Harlem Renaissance



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7 **INTERNATIONAL
ARTISTS**

**THE AMAZING
ARCHIBALD MOTLEY**

**SPONTANEOUS
WATERCOLOR**

BATCHING YOUR ART
*Fascinating Stories of
Famous Artists
Part 3*



the artGallery

e-magazine



In the Studio... ...with the Editor!

GERALD WALL

Paint has incredible properties making it unique for artists. When it is wet, by either water or oil, it is pliable, movable, spreadable, blendable, and subject to manipulation by the artist. In that wet state, it can be opaque but also thinned and diluted to make it more translucent or transparent. It can be applied as a solid color or blended into a multitude of gradient colors, as well as a wide range of gradient values from light to dark and everything in between.

Photography and digital AI can only copy a single frame of reality, but paint and pigmented media either portray reality or produce a distortion of reality. Nobody can paint an exact copy of something, but when reality is desired, incredible realism can be achieved. Also, if one desires to paint loosely, they can make reality impressionistic or abstract by adding embellishments, distortions, and exaggerations to convey things any way they want. I am amazed at the range and extent that a little wet paint can achieve on a piece of paper, a board, a canvas or wall.

But the other great property of paint is that when it is dry, it can be fixed, sustained, and archived with or without fixatives and finishes. It not only goes from a liquid to a solid but it now goes from a workable state to nearly a permanent finished state.

The wide variety of paint media coupled with the wide variety of skill levels makes painting not only fun and enjoyable but gives artists an ever growing curve of learning, experimentation and perfection.

The properties of paint, coupled with the tools, techniques, skill and inspiration can, with infinite imagination, make the possibilities of creativity an endless and exciting journey! So peruse knowledge and inspiration here and then go paint! ■

Please address all comments to
editor@theartgallerymag.com

T.A.G. THE ART GALLERY E-magazine

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The Art Gallery is a free monthly publication showcasing Artists and providing resources and information for the art community!

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The ARTS!*



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ABOUT THE ART GALLERY E-MAG

The Art Gallery e-magazine is a monthly free 32 page digital publication. Its purpose is to showcase artists from around the world and their work.

We are excited to gather both upcoming as well as seasoned artists from many states and countries to display their art in this publication. Each month we will exhibit new artists and their works in this digital gallery to help promote their art and inspire other artists. We will also offer articles on tips, techniques and trends in the art world. This is a monthly **Free** online digital e-magazine that is both viewable and downloadable to our subscribers. If you enjoy this publication share it with others.

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-TAG-

The Art Gallery e-magazine is an interactive publication.

The Flip book version and downloadable PDF is interactive. All URLs, including artists' websites and social media links are clickable links. They will open up a browser and take you directly to their website. Likewise, all email links will open up your email program to send an email. I have also made the **Table of Contents** interactive. By clicking on an artist's **name or image** you can go directly to the **artists page**. Click on the **header** at the top of the page and you will return to the **Contents page**.

Let us Hear from You!

We would love to hear what you think of this publication, its contents, suggestions for articles, artist recommendations and anything you would like to share with us. Please address all comments to editor@theartgallerymag.com




[Click to see iPad promo Youtube Video](#)

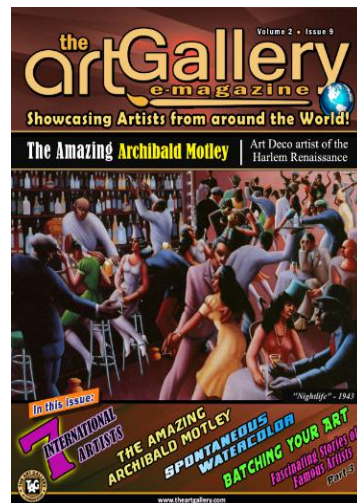


About the Cover

When we see art depicted on an Egyptian wall or scenes painted on a Roman fresco, we see more than just art. We gaze into history! Art can inspire and delight the eyes, but it can also cause us to step back in time and see a culture, perhaps long forgotten. Artists from time past give us a glimpse into their era and their unique culture.

Thus it is with painter Archibald Motley. He wonderfully chronicled the urban African American culture in Chicago during the 30s, 40, 50s and 60s. His wonderful paintings were a blend of realism, surrealism and Art Deco that reflected the times. He revealed in his paintings the culture of Jazz clubs, city streets, gambling joints, carnivals, lawn parties and more. The paintings pictured bustling times, energetic and crowded rooms and populated scenes of Chicago, Harlem and the black culture. Not only did he leave a huge body of great artwork in his unique style but with it he left for us a legacy of an exciting era long past.

On the cover is one of Archibald Motley most famous paintings called "Nightlife" and conveys his unique style of vibrant colors, extreme details and people packed paintings!  **Gerald Wall** -Editor



The Art Gallery is a free subscription e-magazine. All money comes from donations and ads. If you want to donate you can click on the button below.



If you are an artist and would like to know how to have your art displayed in our magazine, click below:

Artist Information

If you are interested in advertising here in the Art Gallery e-magazine, we can send you a rate card. You can either send us the ad or we will design it for you for free.

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For Your
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Non-Discrimination Policy

We at the Art Gallery e-magazine do not discriminate against Race, Gender or Nationality! Being an *international publication* means we deal with artists from around the world. This unfortunately means that we sometimes have artists from nations that take offense with using other artists from opposing or warring nations.

We believe art is universal in both origin and appreciation and that art breaks political barriers as long as it does not purposely promote social concerns or division. We have had many artists in our magazines whose nations may be in conflict, but we do not look at them as soldiers but as artists. It would be wrong to remove an Ukrainian artist because a Russian artist is offended or an Israeli artist because a Muslim artist is offended, and visa versa. Both groups have people that would rather use a paintbrush and canvas than a gun. This is not a political publication but an art publication. And regardless of one's race, gender or nationality we are to appreciate their work regardless of their background! The focus of this publication is Art and not politics, gender preference, race or nationalities.

The world can be an ugly place and art can help us focus on the beauty around us and take us away from the horrors that are often around us. We are very selective in who we allow in the magazine and it's based upon the artist expression not the political or social message. Let's leave that to social media. Art should unify people and not divide us. Art should focus on nature and people apart from social issues without being discriminatory, preferential, divisive or exclusive. Let's appreciate the creativity of the individual and avoid shortcomings of select groups, and just continue to show the beauty of nature and artistic expression so that we can enjoy art for the sake of art alone.

Thank you for your understanding and respect of other.

Sincerely,

Gerald Wall

Editor/Publisher

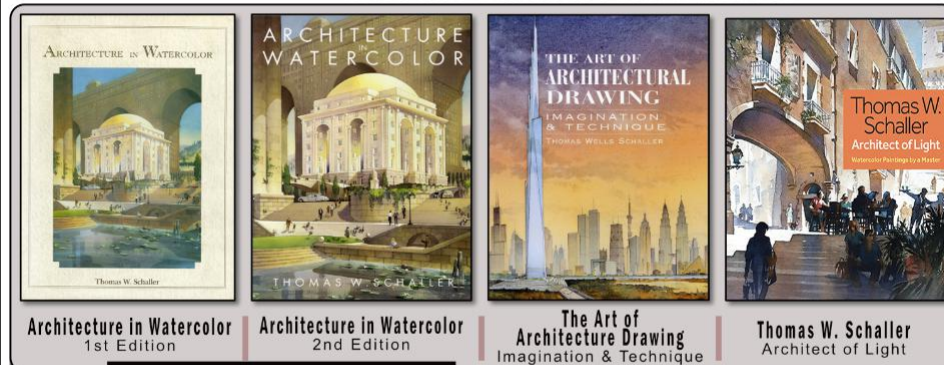


Art Attack:
The overwhelming feeling of having so many creative ideas at once and not enough time to do them.

@keetons | keetonsonline.com



BOOKS AND VIDEOS THOMAS W. SCHALLER Master Watercolor Painter

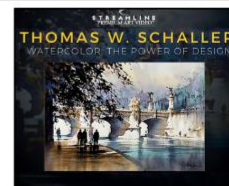


Available on Amazon

(Click Photo to go to Link).

Thomas Schaller is a multi-award-winning artist, architect, and author based in New York City. He has been a premier watercolorist for decades and travels nationally and internationally to give lectures and classes to teach his watercolor techniques. He also has instructional and teaching videos on his YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/@thomaswschaller>
www.thomaswschaller.com



Watercolor: The Power of Design - DVD
(Click Photo to go to Link)

Dreamtime Products by Aboriginal Artist Mirree Bayliss

From her Dreamtime Series Mirree Bayliss has created this activity series based on her Australian aboriginal art. Her products are for both children and adults and convey the beauty of unique artwork.



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Dreamtime Colouring Book
28 colouring pages for children and adults from the Dreamtime Series.

This PDF is **interactive**. All URLs, including artists' websites and social media links are **clickable links**. They will open up a browser and take you directly to the website. Likewise, all **email links** will open up your email program to send an email.

CLICK on the artist's **name** or the **IMAGE** below to go to the ARTIST PAGE
CLICK on the **Art Gallery header** to return to the Table of Contents.



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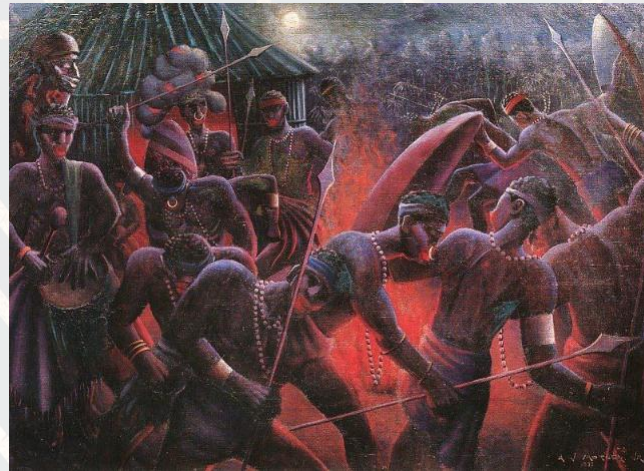


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The Amazing Archibald Motley

The Art Deco Artist of the Harlem Renaissance!

Archibald John Motley Jr. was an influential African American artist known for his vibrant and vivid paintings that capture the essence of African American life and culture, particularly during the **Harlem Renaissance**. Motley made significant contributions to the art world through his unique style and subject matter.



Personal Life

Motley was born on October 7, 1891, in New Orleans, Louisiana, and raised in Chicago, Illinois. His maternal grandmother lived with the family and had been a slave after having been taken from East Africa. She often shared her stories about slavery with young Archibald which impacted him greatly!

He studied in France for a year and was inspired by the great Renaissance masters whose work was displayed at the Louvre.

Motley was married to Edith Granzo, a white woman, at a time when interracial marriage was highly controversial and even illegal in many parts of the United States. Their relationship, while challenging due to societal prejudices, was a testament to his commitment to love and equality. Motley himself was light skinned and of mixed racial makeup, being African, Native American and European. Unable to fully associate with either Black nor White, Motley wrestled all his life with his own racial identity.

Artistic Career

Motley's work is known for its exploration of racial identity and the complexities of the African American experience. He used his art to challenge stereotypes and provide a more nuanced portrayal of African American life. The Urban Nightlife was his central theme. Motley often painted scenes from nightclubs, bars, and dance halls, capturing the energy and rhythm of jazz culture. "Nightlife" (Depicted on the cover) is one of his most famous

Motley's work is characterized by its rich use of color, dynamic compositions, and keen observations of social and cultural settings. He often depicted scenes of everyday life in African American communities, jazz clubs, and street scenes, highlighting the diversity and vibrancy of these environments. His portraits often addressed themes of race, class, and cultural identity..

Archibald John Motley Jr.'s work not only celebrated African American culture but also addressed the complexities of racial identity and social dynamics in America. His paintings often combined elements of realism and expressionism, allowing him to depict both the external appearance and the internal experiences of his subjects.

Early Life and Education

Motley was born to a middle-class Creole family in New Orleans but moved to Chicago at a young age. His upbringing in Chicago exposed him to a diverse urban environment, which later influenced his artistic perspective.

He attended the *School of the Art Institute of Chicago*



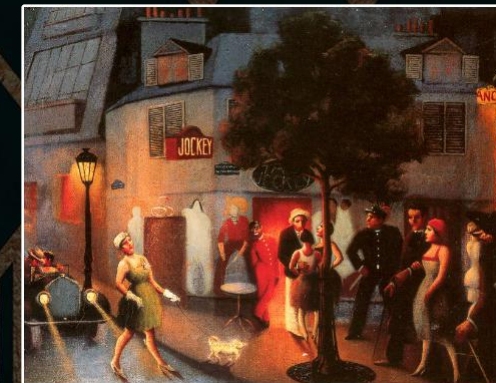
Self Portrait -1920

(SAIC), graduating in 1918. Despite facing racial discrimination, he excelled at SAIC and was among the first African Americans to have his work displayed in major exhibitions.

The Amazing ARCHIBALD MOTLEY



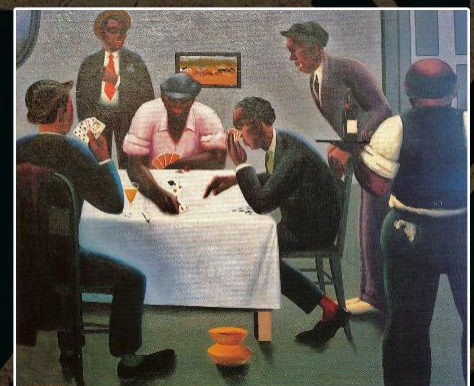
Cocktails -1926



Jockey Club -1929



The Jazz Singers -1934



The Boys in the Back Room -1934



Barbecue -1934



Black Belt -1934



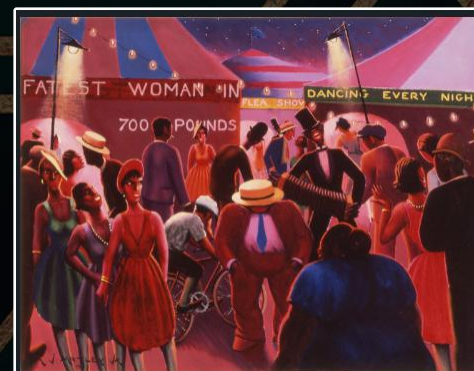
Saturday Night -1935



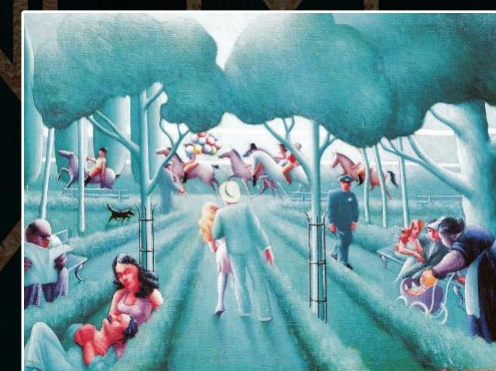
The Liar -1936



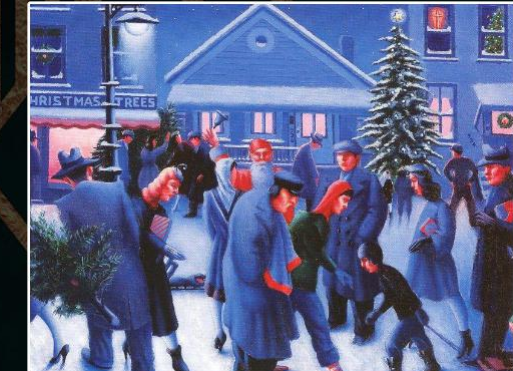
Lawn Party-1937



Carnival -1937



Sunday in the Park -1941



Christmas Eve -1945

works, depicting a bustling jazz club with vibrant colors and dynamic compositions.

Use of Color

Motley is renowned for his bold and expressive use of color. His palettes often include rich, saturated hues that bring a sense of energy and liveliness to his scenes. In works like *"Blues"* (1929) and *"Nightlife"* (1943), he uses color to evoke the vibrancy of jazz culture and urban life.

Realism and Detail

Motley's paintings are meticulously detailed, capturing the nuances of his subjects' appearances and environments. His portraits often convey a deep psychological realism, showcasing the individuality and dignity of his subjects. This attention to detail extends to his depictions of urban scenes, where he meticulously renders the architecture, fashion, and ambiance of the settings.



The Picnic -1936

Dynamic Composition

Motley's compositions are dynamic and often crowded, reflecting the bustling nature of urban life. He skillfully arranges figures and objects to create a sense of movement and interaction, drawing viewers into the scene. His use of perspective and spatial arrangement adds depth and complexity to his work.

Expressionism

While his work is grounded in realism, Motley also incorporates elements of expressionism. He exaggerates certain features and emotions to convey the underlying feelings and experiences of his subjects. This blend of realism and expressionism allowed him to capture both the physical and emotional realities of his scenes.

Modernist Influence

Motley was influenced by modernist movements during his time in Paris, which introduced him to new techniques and perspectives. This influence is evident in his experimentation with form, color, and

composition. He also was highly influenced of the Art Deco movement of his era.

Social Commentary

A significant aspect of Motley's style is his focus on social commentary. He addresses themes of race, identity, and social dynamics through his art. His works often depict African American life with a mixture of celebration and critique, highlighting both the joys and struggles of his community.

Depiction of African American Culture

Central to Motley's style is his dedication to depicting African American culture with authenticity and depth. He portrays a wide range of experiences, from everyday life to the vibrant nightlife of jazz clubs, showcasing the richness and diversity of African American life.

In summary, Archibald John Motley Jr.'s art style is a unique fusion of realism, expressionism, and modernism, characterized by vivid color, dynamic composition, detailed realism, and insightful social commentary. His work stands as a powerful testament to the complexities and beauty of African American culture.

Motley initially started as a portrait artist but found his niche in portraying the bustling nightlife of the Chicago Streets. He continued to paint and exhibit his work well into his later years until he passed away in Chicago in 1981,

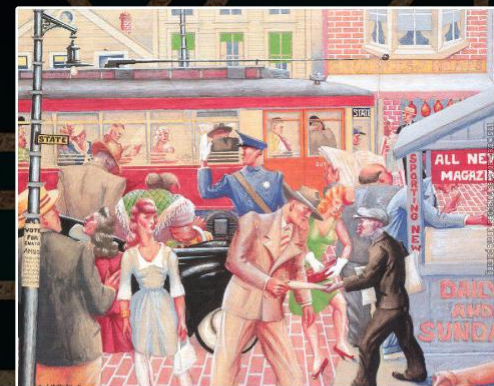
Recognition and Legacy

Despite his significant contributions, Motley did not gain the same level of fame as some of his contemporaries during his lifetime. However, his work has been increasingly recognized in recent years for its historical and cultural importance. Major retrospectives, such as the 2015-2016 exhibition *"Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist"* at the Whitney Museum of American Art, have helped to cement his legacy as a key figure in American art history.

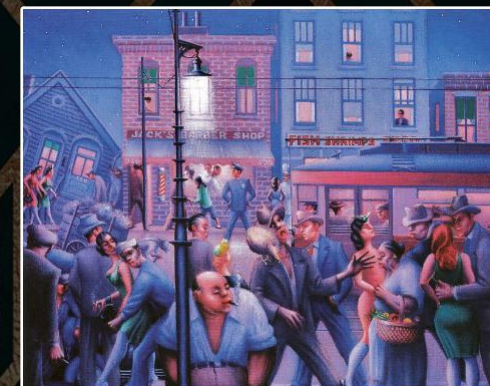
Archibald Motley Jr.'s legacy is celebrated for its contribution to American art and its portrayal of African American culture, making him a significant figure in both the art world and the broader cultural history of the United States.

Archibald John Motley's art has become a chronicle of the urban and city culture of his generation and has left us a beautiful snapshot not only of his wonderful art but also of the excitement and energy of a busy bygone era. ■

The Amazing ARCHIBALD MOTLEY



Extra Paper- State Street scene -1946



Casey and Mae in the Street -1948



Getting Religion -1948



Bronzeville by Night -1949



Hot Rhythm -1961



Blues -1929

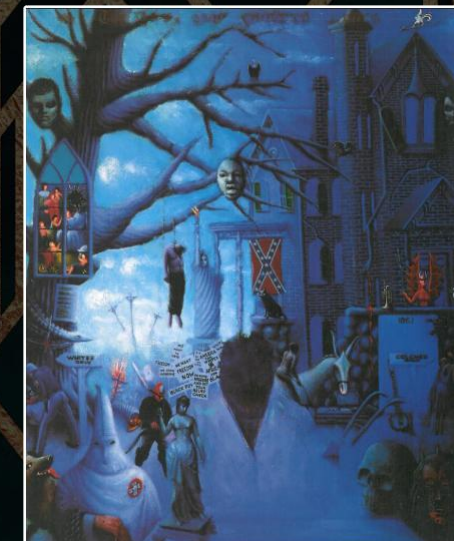
Archibald John Motley Jr. (1891–1981) was a bold and highly original modernist and one of the great visual chroniclers of twentieth-century American life. His works span a lifelong career from the 1920s to the 1960s



Portrait of My Grandmother
- 1922



Stagecoach and Mail-1937



First 100 Years -1963

Artist Showcase

Romania

Sanda Ionescu

I am a Romanian artist and I am living in Transylvania.

My belief is that nothing in our life is accidental, every change comes at the right place and the right time.

I say this, because almost simultaneously to the few changes in my life, in 2017, destiny worked even harder for me and opened my path to painting. As a child I used to draw and paint, but I didn't follow an artistic career. On the contrary, for 30 years I hid that in a box of memories and I've been following another professional career. I believe in destiny and I believe that my passion for color had to surface and make sense. Thus, 2017 also became the year of my debut in painting. It followed a path that reached maturity through the organization of two solo exhibitions in 2023 and through invitations to art creation and art documentation camps.

The passion and attention to detail that you must have in art was perfectly combined with the exigency and attention to detail that I have in my professional career. My profession in the field of engineering has not been a hindrance for me to give color and shape to my life and those around me through my art and it translated on canvas what I feel. My paintings, in general, are executed in oil on canvas, many of them in palette knife, a technique that creates more emotion, energy, vibration and that I also like because it attracts the viewer more and makes him or her enter the universe created by me. The color in my life radiates into the lives of those around me, and this brings me joy and gives me energy, inspiration and confidence in everything I do. ■

"Sanda Ionescu in plein air"



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**Sanda
Ionescu**
Oil/Acrylic



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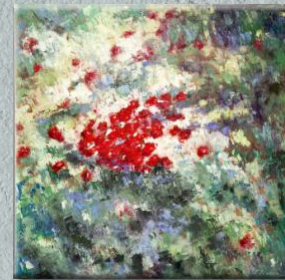
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Sanda Ionescu Gallery



"Red in May"
- oil



"Flowers at Monastery"
- oil



"The Window at the
Castle" - oil



"Rain with Summer
flowers" - acrylic



"The Water Sources"
- oil



"Flowers" - Oil



"Sun Flowers" - acrylic



"My Inner Universe" - acrylic



"Still Life with Ears of Wheat"
- Oil



"Haystacks" - Oil



"The Country House in Bucovina" - Oil



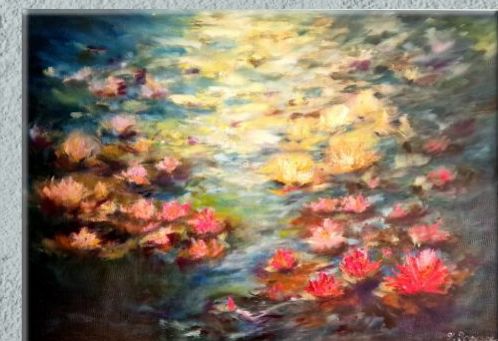
"Poppies" - Oil



"Sunset on the Sea" - acrylic



"The Old Cherry Tree" - Oil



"Water Lilies" - Oil

Fu Man Yat

Watercolor



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"Companions" - watercolor

Artist Showcase

Hong Kong

Fu Man Yat

Fu Man Yat, a watercolorist in Hong Kong, lover of fine art since his childhood, once lived in Indonesia and China, currently engages himself in painting and art education, teaching watercolor courses at The Chinese University of Hong Kong's School of Continuing and Professional Studies. His works have been exhibited in more than 20 countries in Europe, America and Asia, and have won multiple awards.

His works center upon everyday scenes of life and people. Highlighting beauty in the ordinary, he tells his story and leaves his footprints in the passing times.

Fu is also an enthusiast in music and has graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong with a bachelor's and a master's degrees in music. Through the process of painting, he came to realize the musical aesthetics he had been steeped in over many years subtly finding ways to influence his painting. Fine arts and music have shared many commonalities. Exploring these commonalities has offered him fresh insights which over time become an inexhaustible source of creativity for his painting.

His approach to creative works is inspired through every day scenarios, circumstances and people that strike him with a sense of beauty in his life, leaving his works a record of his lived experiences which he most cherishes.



"Busy Chef" - watercolor

Fu Man Yat Gallery



"Blossom" - watercolor



"Colorful Night" - watercolor



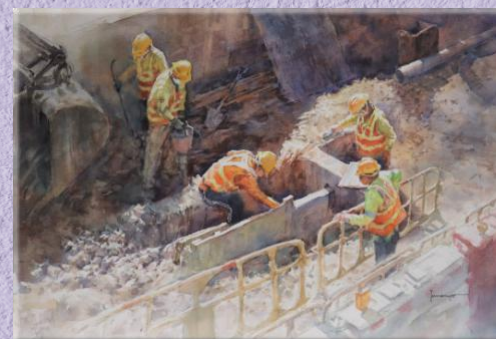
"Street Market in Hong Kong" - watercolor



"Sunshine in the Alley" - watercolor



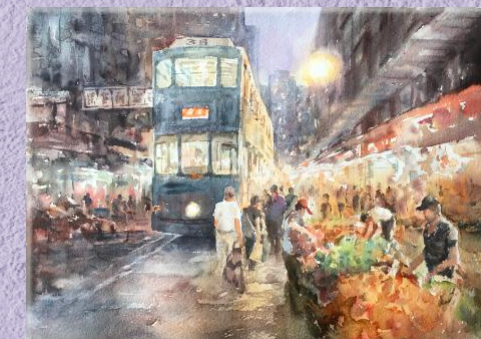
"Busy Fisherman" - watercolor



"Quintet in the Sunshine" - watercolor



"Sunshine at Noon" - watercolor



"The Evening Street Market" - watercolor



"Old Lady" - watercolor



"Memory" - watercolor



"Still-life" - watercolor



"Tibetan Woman" - watercolor

Artist Showcase

Illinois, USA

Robert A. McCoy

I have been in the construction industry most of my life until 11 years ago when I sold my portion of the business. This got me back into my love of art and have since produced many works.

I have focused these submittals on my love for my Grand kids and the humor they provide. With seven grand kids there is not a lack of humor to go around.

I feel that I give each of my works as much thought prior to picking up a brush as actually doing the works. I work mostly in Watercolor, Pen & Ink, and Graphite but dabble in Pastel once in a while.

I recently had an entry accepted in the magazine Splash the best of watercolor and won numerous awards over the years.

I hope some of these works bring a smile to your faces.

Thank you to the editors for considering my work.





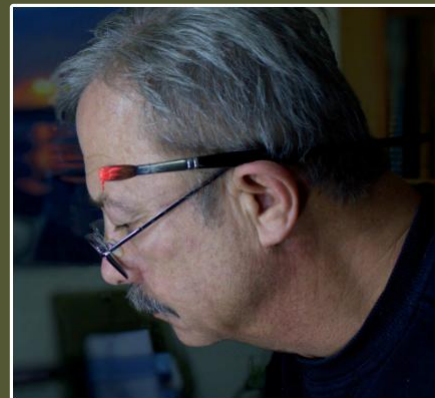
"Balls" - watercolor



"Wall Dogs" - watercolor

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**Robert A.
McCoy**
Watercolor



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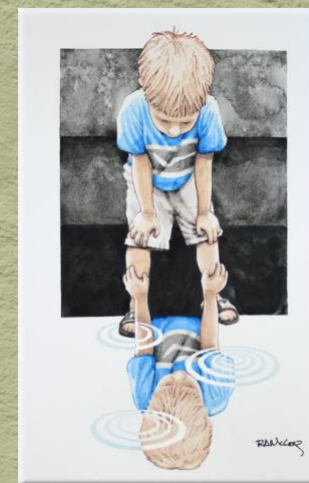
ramccoy55@hotmail.com



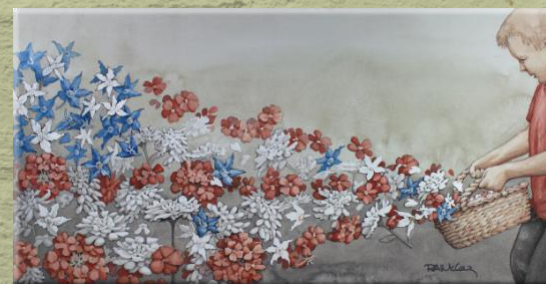
"The Last Hiding Place" - watercolor



"Laundry in Action" - watercolor



"Reflections" - watercolor



"American Boy" - watercolor

Robert A.
McCoy
Gallery



"Little Friends" - watercolor



"It's Complicated" - watercolor



"Launch" - watercolor



"The Predicament" - watercolor



"Slide" - watercolor



"Sunset Boys" - watercolor



"The Find" - watercolor



"Gull King" - watercolor



"Wayward Way" - watercolor



Abi Naude Watercolor

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Artist Showcase

South Africa

Abi Naude

Abi Naude is a South African watercolor artist who creates paintings depicting Africa.

Abi was born in South Africa, living close to the Kruger National Park and later the Kgalagardi National Park, after spending some time in Namibia – Home to the Lion, Elephant, Leopard, Cheetah and other African wildlife.

Her watercolors of African wildlife captures the character of the animal in its natural state. Her minimalistic style draws focus to the animal itself.

Abi's preferred painting medium for her original paintings is watercolor. This medium is widely acknowledged by artists and experts to be the most difficult painting medium, because watercolour leaves no room for error.

Abi has no formal art qualification but was born and married into a family of artist. Her husband studied fine art and sculpturing and is also her 'Art Critique'.

Abi began painting on a full time basis in 2016 and concentrates mainly in wildlife art. ■



"A Moments Notice" - watercolor

Abi Naude
In her Studio!



Abi Naude
Gallery



"Day of the Jackal" - watercolor



"One Step at a Time" - watercolor



"Snootchie Snootchie" - watercolor



"Impala" - watercolor



"LOL" - watercolor



"My Good Side" - watercolor



"Stripes" - watercolor



"Trigger" - watercolor



"George" - watercolor

Artist Showcase

Mississippi,
USA

*Crystal
Bryde*

Crystal Bryde has loved art her entire life and gets pleasure in creating her works or teaching students in the classroom. Painting and drawing both allow her to express her love of nature and history in a form other than words. She is most herself when she is working or teaching.

Crystal developed a desire to draw while in elementary school. She picked up on the techniques taught and tried to use them on her own later. The periodic visits from art teachers captivated her and gave her something to do in her spare time at home. As she entered high school, that art experience was not available except through private lessons. Her parents found an instructor who loved teaching but could not teach in the public schools because of handicap issues. It was from him that she developed a deep love for drawing and painting and decided to major in art degree in college.

Post-graduation, Crystal went on to college to major in graphic design starting at Northeast Mississippi Junior College (now Community College) where she improved her basic skills into something more advanced. Transferring to Mississippi University for Women, she loved all her studio classes that focused on drawing and printmaking but found her heart not in the commercial end of the art world. Crystal felt compelled to teach.

Years later, after working as a screen printer/artist and at retail businesses, she heard about the Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality Teachers (MAPQT). This was her opportunity to get certified to teach. Crystal took the step and moved forward with this program.

She worked in the printmaking and art retail industry until she started teaching in the Itawamba County School District in Mississippi. Crystal taught kindergarten through sixth grade at three schools as well as a high school art class at Tremont Attendance Center. Since then, she has taught in the Tunica County and Alcorn School District in Mississippi.

Crystal Bryde has a BFA in Graphic Design from Mississippi University for Women and an MA in Art Education from The University of Florida. She now teaches and advises students at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, Mississippi.

Her work and biography can be found online at fineartsamerica.com, and on Northeast Mississippi Community College's website. 

the
artGallery
e-magazine

**Crystal
Bryde**
Watercolor



Contact information

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"Reddest Daylily" - watercolor



"Gerber Daisies" - watercolor



"Melrose" - watercolor



"King's Tavern" - watercolor

**Crystal
Bryde**
Gallery



"White Hall in Columbus MS" - watercolor



"Longwood Manor" - watercolor



"Mississippi Cypress Swamp" - watercolor



"Neglected Worship" - watercolor



"Ruins of Windsor Column" - watercolor



"Hanging Impatiens" - watercolor



Laura Pollak

Pastel

Contact information

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Artist Showcase

North Carolina,
USA

Laura Pollak

Laura Pollak is an award winning artist exhibiting in International Shows, Museums, Galleries and publications such as *Strokes of Genius* and several times in *Pastel 100*. She has attained Master Circle Status with the *International Association of Pastel Societies* as well as Signature Status of the *Pastel Society of America*, *Pastel Society of the West Coast*, *Pastel Society of North Carolina* and *Southeastern Pastel Society*.

Born in Detroit Michigan, Laura loves the arts; studying ballet, piano, ceramics and painting. She now splits her time between Greensboro, NC and Naples Florida. Pollak has a Master of Arts in Graphic Design from MSU. She worked in advertising on clients as Sears, Nortel, Kraft, Kodak and GM and started her own successful ad agency in NC with clients around the State and Northeast.

Laura is now a full time professional artist as well as workshop teacher. She was President of the *Pastel Society of North Carolina* for 2 years. 'My favorite accomplishment was creating a FB group for professional Pastel Artists who teach to help us all learn how to use Zoom to teach online during COVID. We went from 3 artists to 100 worldwide!'

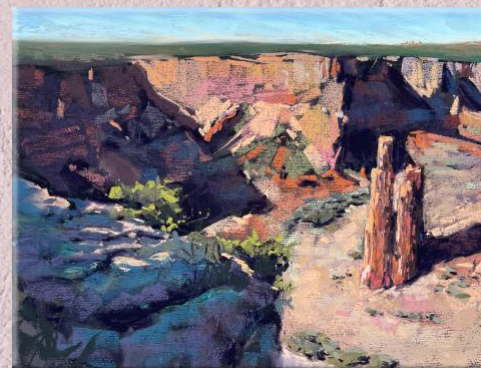
"My art is a continual search for my place in the universe. Forces of nature excite me! I paint both landscapes and abstracts, as one informs the other. From the earth beneath my feet, the mountains in front of me, to the magic dust of the constellations where life began. My goal is to connect the two."

Laura has been published many times and is an associate editor of the *Pastel Society of the West Coast's* magazine and has appeared in the *Pastel Journal*. Laura is often requested to do Demos and teach Workshops for Pastel Societies around the country. Her Online teaching brings students from around the world including Australia, Europe, New Zealand, Hawaii and Taiwan. She is a sought after mentor helping individual artists achieve their artistic goals. ■

Laura Pollak Gallery



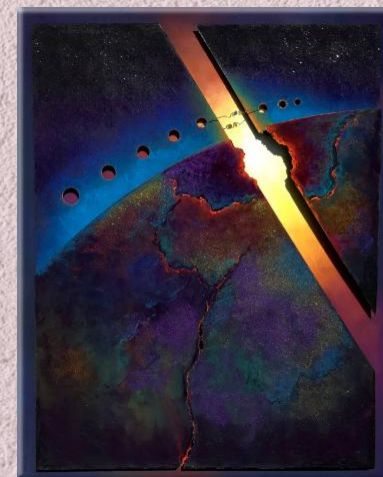
"Ancient Footings" - pastel



"Ancient Columns" - pastel



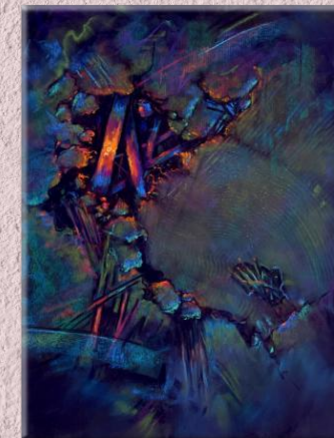
"Cody Reservoir, Pastel" - pastel



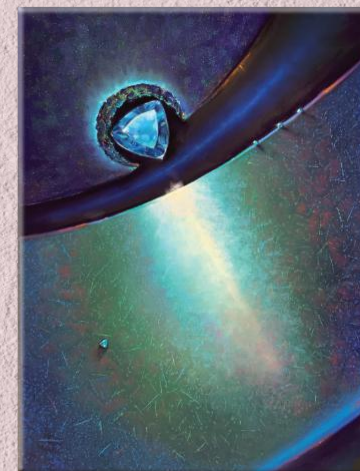
"Open To The Universe" - pastel



"Mardi Gras" - pastel



"Deep Dark Secrets" - pastel



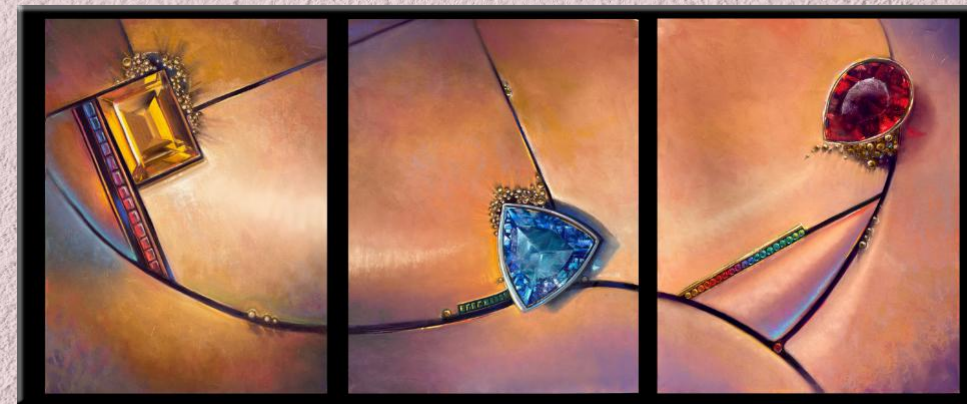
"Aquamarine" - pastel



"External Influence" - pastel



"Outside Pressures" - pastel



"Jewels Triptych" - pastel

Encore * Artist Showcase

Armenia

Mishel
Alekyan



I was born in Armenia, in the city Vanadzor on June 7, 1990. I lived in Germany from 1993 to 1998. In 2007 I graduated art school and in 2015 I graduated from the Vanadzor State University. I am now married and have two children, a boy and a girl.

I still live in Vanadzor where I am doing my art. Professionally, I have been painting now

in oil for about 5 years. Before that I was playing bass guitar in a metal group. My paintings are in private collections and galleries in many countries in the world. ■



"Traveler" - Oil on canvas



"Untitled" - Oil on canvas



"Untitled" - Oil on canvas

*Michel was featured in our November 2023 issue

the
artGallery
e-magazine

Mishel
Alekyan
Oil Painting

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Mishel Aleqyan Gallery



"Walk after the Rain" - Oil



"Are We Going Right" - Oil



"Parental Home" - Oil



"Untitled" - Oil on canvas



"Untitled" - Oil on canvas



"A Boy in a Red Hat" - Oil



"The Boy in a Green Scarf" - Oil



"Memories from Childhood" - Oil



"Untitled" - Oil on canvas



"Poet" - Oil on canvas



"He" - Oil on canvas



"The Musician" - Oil

SPONTANEOUS WATERCOLOR

Gerald Wall

When the grandkids would come over I use to have them scribble a shape on to a piece of paper and I would turn their scribbles into a face or an animal or even a landscape. It was a great exercise in creativity as well as a delight to the grandkids. Now I often paint more realistic things in watercolor but recently discovered something called Spontaneous Watercolor.

Spontaneous watercolor is a painting technique characterized by its loose, fluid, and often unpredictable style. Normally we sketch out what we want to paint and then sort of paint within the lines to achieve a somewhat planned painting. With Spontaneous Watercolor Painting we paint rather randomly and slowly develop a scene as we go along.

The natural flow of the medium slowly develops and later, comes the details. This approach to painting is not just about the final product but about the journey that the artist undertakes, allowing the medium to guide the process. Rather than controlling every aspect of the painting, artists working in this style embrace the organic interactions between water, pigment, and paper, leading to results that are often unpredictable yet captivating.

A defining characteristic of spontaneous watercolor is the emphasis on the process itself. Artists in

this style focus more on how the paint behaves on the paper than on achieving exacting precision. The fluidity of watercolor allows for colors to blend and merge in ways that can be unexpected, creating patterns and effects that are unique to this medium. This emphasis on process over precision encourages a sense of freedom in the artist, who can let go of rigid control and paint more loosely and then look at the results through the eyes of imagination to further develop the piece.

Embracing the Happy Accidents

In spontaneous watercolor, what might be seen as mistakes in more controlled painting techniques are often welcomed as happy accidents. These unintended effects, such as a color bleeding into another or an unexpected splash of water, can add a layer of charm and individuality to the artwork. The artist's willingness to embrace these surprises reflects a broader philosophy of acceptance and flexibility, where the unexpected is not only tolerated but celebrated. Happy accidents are often a key delight in making spontaneous watercolors.

Water plays a central role in this technique, often being applied liberally to the paper. The interaction between water and paint is a defining feature of spontaneous watercolor, with the water allowing the paint to spread, creating organic shapes and textures. This interaction is inherently unpredictable, as the artist cannot fully control how the water will move the pigment.

This unpredictability is not a drawback but rather a core aspect of the medium's appeal, contributing to the overall spontaneity and liveliness of the artwork. They say that watercolor is the most difficult of mediums



because there is no room for error, but with spontaneous watercolor painting you can freely embrace the error. A splash of yellow in the pond can become a duck and the bleed in the sky the start of a sunset.

Play, Don't Plan!

Another key element of spontaneous watercolor is the minimal planning that typically goes into each piece. Unlike more detailed and carefully pre-planned watercolor techniques, artists working spontaneously may start with only a general idea or a loose color scheme. From there, they allow the painting to develop naturally as the paint plays with the watered paper. This approach allows the artwork to evolve organically, often leading to surprising and dynamic results that might not have been possible with a more rigid plan.

This technique is often employed to convey mood, emotion, or a sense of movement, rather than aiming for detailed representation. The fluid nature of watercolor lends itself to creating compositions that are full of life and energy. The result is artwork that feels vibrant and immediate, capturing the artist's emotions and the essence of the moment in which it was created.

Many of the same watercolor effects apply to spontaneous watercolor painting: Wet on wet, wet on dry, splattering, sponging, masking, etc. Also the same creative processes apply with the exception of sketching or planning your piece. Often as you go along building up layers you began to visualize a scene forming, a house in the woods a waterfall flowing from a rock cliff. The process helps to in-

spire imagination and also helps direct the work into more of a definitive direction. It also may help formulate a multitude of unplanned abstract work through the use of experimentation. It is a freer form of painting that often brings forth the unexpected.

Creative Process

The artist may begin with a simple idea, or even just a color, shape, or gesture. As the painting unfolds, it evolves naturally, shaped by the artist's intuition. This approach encourages freedom and creativity, enabling the artist to explore new possibilities and unexpected outcomes. As the paint moves and dries, it presents new opportunities for the artist to make real-time decisions, resulting in a dynamic and interactive process. This responsiveness to the medium fosters a deep connection between the artist and their work, as each brushstroke and wash of color influences the direction of the painting.

While spontaneous watercolor can be used in representational art, it often lends itself to abstract or semi-abstract forms. The loose application of paint, combined with the artist's instinctive response to the medium, frequently results in compositions that focus more on mood, movement, and color than on precise depiction. This abstract approach allows the artist to convey emotions and imagination.

Let it Evolve!

In many ways, spontaneous watercolor is about relinquishing control and trusting the medium to lead to a result that is organic and authentic. It's a practice of mindfulness, where the artist is fully present, responding to each moment as it unfolds on the paper. As you work, let the painting guide you. If you see an interesting shape or color blend, emphasize it with more paint or by adding details. If something isn't working,

either let it be part of the spontaneous process or lift the paint while it's still wet and try again. As you work, let the painting guide you.

Watercolor changes as it dries. Colors lighten, and edges soften. Allow the painting to dry naturally, which can take some time, depending on how much water you've used. Resist the urge to overwork areas while they're still wet.

Texture and Details

Like in most painting you start out with light washes and colors and place in the larger shapes. Colors mix and blend but often in unexpected ways. Then as a scene is formulated you can further define that scene by letting it dry and adding details like trees, and sharp edges and applying details through paint splatters and even pen and ink. If you see an interesting shape or color blend, emphasize it with more paint or by adding details. Once the painting is dry, step back and look at it with fresh eyes. You may decide it's complete, or you might want to add a few more details or layers. If you feel like the painting needs more contrast or definition, you can add more paint, but try to maintain the spontaneous feel.

Spontaneous watercolor is about enjoying the unpredictability of the medium and letting your creativity flow freely. The more you experiment, the more confident you'll become in this intuitive and expressive style.

In conclusion, spontaneous watercolor is an artistic technique that values process, embraces mis-



takes, and celebrates expressiveness. By allowing the medium to guide the painting and welcoming the unexpected, artists can create works that are not only visually striking but also deeply personal and evocative. This approach to watercolor painting invites both the artist and the viewer to appreciate the beauty of spontaneity and the unique charm that comes from letting go of control and embracing the natural flow of the creative process.

Helpful YouTube links:

Intro to Spontaneous Watercolor Landscape Painting with Steve Mitchell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5i2EjdVNJM&t=6s>

BEGINNER | Spontaneous watercolor landscape

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lyGifcqm4>

Lois' SPONTANEOUS WATERCOLOR Painting for beginners, Tutoria

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3FwtRBBa9A>

BATCHING YOUR ART



What is Batching

Batching Art simply means creating multiple pieces of artwork at the same time. If you every created a diptych or a triptych (2 panel art or 3 panel art) you know the efficiency of doing the same kind of work at the same time on multiple pieces. But batching can be more than all of one painting. It can be many of one style or one medium or one theme or idea!

Why Batch your Artwork?

Batching can increase your productivity, instill more creativity, maintain consistency, and effectively manage your artistic processes. Artwork can often take a long time, particularly if your working in a long drying media like oils. But this can act as an advantage because while one piece is drying you can be working on something similar using the same colors or style. Thus utilizing and saving time.

Benefits to Batching your Work!

Time Efficiency: Batching allows artists to optimize their time by focusing on similar tasks in a single session. For example, an artist might choose to sketch several rough drafts in one sitting rather than doing them individually over several days. Batching can speed up your artwork.

Workflow Management: Batching helps in organizing the creative process. Artists can plan ahead, gather necessary materials, and set aside dedicated time for creating a series of artworks. Completing multiple pieces in a batch can provide a sense of accomplishment and progress toward larger artistic goals.

Consistency: When creating multiple pieces in a batch, artists can maintain consistency in style, technique, or theme across the artworks. This can be particularly important for projects that require a cohesive look or feel.

Creative Flow: Working continuously on similar tasks can help artists enter a flow state, where creativity and productivity are heightened. Batching can also help you develop your style as



you apply the same procedures to multiple paintings. When someone likes a style that you make, they may be interested in more of that style.

Theme Exploration: Batching can be used to explore variations on a theme or concept. One artist created a silhouetted girl in pigtails holding a stuffed rabbit, usually on a swing and put her in a series of horror paintings and surprisingly it was hugely successful.

Skill Development: Batching allows artists to focus on specific skills or techniques they want to improve. For instance, practicing different shading techniques in a series of sketches or mastering a particular brushstroke in digital painting.

Feedback and Iteration: Batching allows artists to receive feedback on multiple pieces simultaneously, which can be helpful for making adjustments and improvements across the series. You also can see what works and what does not and focus more on batching what sells or stirs the most interest!

Productivity: By minimizing context switching and maximizing creative momentum, artists often find that batching increases their overall productivity. It is not just quantity but quality that is produced.

Three Types of Batching in Art

Preparation Batching: This refers to preparing materials in advance for creating art, such as cutting canvases, priming canvass by batching materials, artists can save time during the actual creation process.

Process Batching: Artists may batch different stages of their creative process. For example, they might dedicate one session to sketching several ideas, another session to refining those sketches, and a third session to adding color or detail. This approach helps in focusing on specific tasks without distractions.

Production Batching: This involves creating multiple pieces of art that are similar in nature, such as a series of illustrations for a book or a set of concept designs for a project. Artists may create these in batches to ensure uniformity and efficiency in production.



Set out to be more prolific and productive by trying out batching your art and multitasking your art processes. You may find yourself producing more and stressing less. ■

FASCINATING STORIES OF FAMOUS ARTISTS

Part 3

Frida Kahlo's Imaginary Friend!



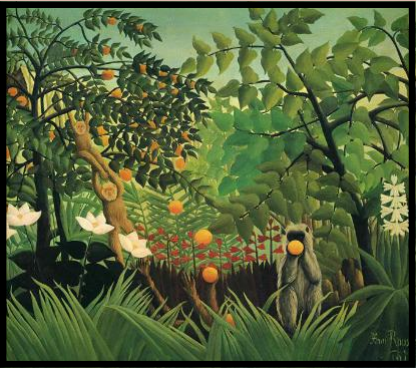
"The Two Fredas" by Frida Kahlo

It's not unusual for children to have imaginary friends but it is unusual to be entertaining them into adulthood. It's even a bit strange when you are a famous painter and you paint your imaginary friend into your paintings and it looks a bit like yourself?

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) was a Mexican artist celebrated for her portraits and self-portraits. When she was six, she contracted polio and at 18 she was in a crippling car accident that left her in bad health and crippling pain. To cope she created an imaginary friend. as an adult, she often communicated with her past self through her art. Her paintings frequently feature double self-portraits, where she depicts herself interacting with another version of herself, blurring the lines between reality and the imaginary.



with another version of herself, blurring the lines between reality and the imaginary.



Henri Rousseau: "The Jungle Painter"

Henri Rousseau, a self-taught artist, was often ridiculed by the art world during his lifetime for his "primitive" and "naïve" style. He worked as a customs officer and only took up painting seriously in his 40s and went full time at 49.

Despite the criticism, he was convinced of his greatness and even threw a banquet in his own honor, inviting famous artists. Picasso happened upon a painting by Rousseau being sold on the street as a canvas to be painted over. He recognised Rousseau's genius and wanted to meet him.

Rousseau was known for his "Jungle paintings", although he had never been to a jungle and had actually never even left France. Many of his paintings depicted oversized plants and wild animals that he learned to paint by taking many trips to the botanical gardens, reading illustrated books, and closely studying taxidermied animals.

After he died, his work was known as a precursor to modern art. He was also the inspiration for the contemporary animated films "Madagascar."

Oskar Kokoschka and His Doll.



Austrian Expressionist painter **Oskar Kokoschka** had a passionate and tumultuous love affair with the widow of composer Gustav Mahler, **Alma Mahler**, considered one of the most beautiful women in Austria. He was obsessed with her and proposed, but she refused and eventually married someone else. Kokoschka was devastated and thought that without her, his "painting genius will self destruct".

So, After their relationship ended, Kokoschka commissioned a life-sized doll in Alma's likeness to be made. He lived with the doll for a time, using it as a model for his paintings and taking it out in public, much to the shock of others. He dressed her in elaborate costumes, and made many drawings, paintings, and photographs of her, clothed and unclothed. But, at the end of a party, the drunken Kokoschka dragged "Alma" to his garden, cut her head off, and broke a bottle of red wine on her. The next day police arrived to investigate a report of a woman drenched in blood in his garden. Unable to possess the real Alma, he murdered her replica.



Artist's Reviews

"It's an honour to have my work showcased alongside so many talented artists. Grab a free copy of the magazine, find a cozy spot, and indulge in the diverse and captivating world of art that fills its pages." -*Tatiana*

"I just downloaded it and it's an excellent set of artists' work beautifully edited. Cheers for your work!!" -*Angel*

"Thank you so much, Gerald-san. I'm glad to see new issue of e-magazine with my works in it!" -*Kohei Yoshihara*

"I've been featured in the art gallery e-magazine! This is the coolest thing to me...seeing myself and my work on a 2-page spread. Subscribe to this magazine." -*Willow Barnes*

"It looks fantastic - thank you!" -*John Stadler*

"Wishing you continued success!" -*Wynn Yarrow*

"Perfect! You have a wonderful publication. It really looks good you are a fast worker to get this magazine ready like this. I think it's a huge plus for the art community!" -*Jennifer Goodhue*

"Thank you so much. It looks amazing. I love it!" -*Ian Yallop*

"Thank you so much for bringing cheer in my life. You are making me feel like a celebrity!" -*Sumita Bose*

"Thank you for the opportunity." -*Ismelda Garza*

"Looks great, thanks." -*Robert Corsetti*

"Very beautiful design! Cool! Thank you!" -*Valeriy Novikov*

"Looks awesome! Great layout! Thanks." -*K.Q.*

"Everything looks really great, thank you very much. I appreciate all the work you have put into this." -*Mirree Bayliss*

"I want to thank you very much for publishing me in the august edition of the artgallery magazine. It looks great. I really appreciate your work for that!" -*Karina Slik*



CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Each month we try to focus on various artists and different kinds of art media from around the world. Our purpose is to help promote artists and their work in a digital gallery format! With this publication we are dedicated to supporting the art community. Being an artist myself, I understand the hardships and struggles an artist has to endure to not only work to create inspiring works of art but also marketing and selling that work. Although we do not sell art, we do try to promote artists so they might be seen and perhaps sales or commissions will follow.

WE ARE OFFERING A 2-PAGE SPREAD TO SELECTED ARTISTS FOR FREE!

You can showcase your work with a 2-page spread in the next issue of "The Art Gallery e-magazine". You can take advantage of this opportunity by filling out a submission form that tells us about yourself and where we can view your work. If you are selected, you will be contacted and information will be sent on how you can upload your files and photos. If you know of any artists that may be interested, share this e-magazine with them and refer the link below.

[Artist Submission](#)

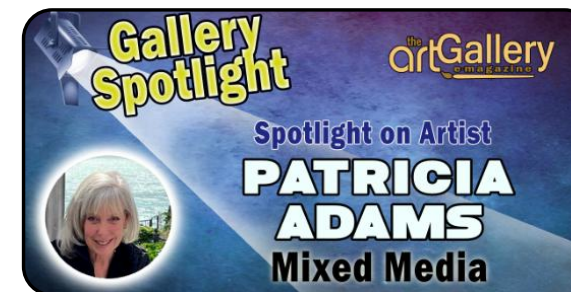
For more information, you can go to the website and see more about our digital magazine.

<https://theartgallerymag.com/>

Surprisingly, the biggest drawback to many artist submissions is skepticism! Many think we are scamming them because we offer this for free. But we never ask for money or any private non-public information and we have a legitimate and tangible product. We do ask for donations but that is strictly optional. If you would like to donate to this work you can do so below.

<https://theartgallerymag.com/donation>

Check out our new YouTube channel!



The Art Gallery e-magazine is now on YouTube! We posted a few helpful videos like "How to upload your Files", "How to View and Download your Issues" and more. We also started a video series called "Gallery Spotlight" where we focus on expanded works of artists from our magazine. This unique *video gallery* shows nearly 40 works of an artists in 5 minutes with video backgrounds and music. We also will be starting soon, a new "Famous Artists" series on YouTube so you can enjoy the works of the masters without going to national museums. We at T.A.G. Are all about displaying art for enjoyment and inspiration. Check out our YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCffSw8CmcP4yDm-lxZTVyqgQ>

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the artGallery e-magazine

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Quote Frames

Every month we put an art related quote on the last page of the magazine. Now we have made these 5X7 framed quotes available for your shelf or wall.

T.A.G. Mug

Support this work and enjoy your coffee or tea with our new The Art Gallery e-magazine "I Love to Paint" ceramic mug.



Artist's Mug

This special mug is for our showcased artists. It is customised with your picture and issue cover from the magazine! Promote us as we promote you!



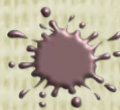
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*Art is a harmony parallel
with nature.*

Paul Cezanne



-TAG-