MNWS CALENDAR

Spring Show **Juror Notes!** Celebrating Lifetime **Members! Studio Tour** То Lake City!

> See More Inside!

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Sept.- May only. Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100) JUNE 29... Spring Exhibition Closes. Pick up art at Arboretum June 30, 2-8 p.m.

OCT. 27-29.. Dan Wiemer Workshop. Registration form inside.

NOV. 1-30... Fall 2016 Exhibition, "Flying Colors" at Lakeville Performing Arts Center. Non-Juried. Any member who submits early is sure to be included in this beautiful facility. Questions: Call Suzi McArdle 612-281-6781.

SEE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ON PAGE 3

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10427 Fawns Way, Eden Prairie, MM 55347-5117



Volume 37, Number 4

I had the privilege of working on the Juried Spring Show this year and dealt with some unexpected drama in the weeks leading up to it! The MNWS 2016 Spring Show Awards Reception was held at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum on April 14th from 6:00-8:00 pm. Of the 148 paintings submitted by 83 artists, 14 artists were awarded for their work. Initially, Keith Wilcock, watercolor instructor, owner of Wilcock Gallery, and former curator of the Reedy Gallery at the Arboretum, had agreed to act as judge and juror of the show. But late Sunday night, five days before he was to submit the list of paintings juried into the show, he called to say he was seriously ill and had to withdraw as judge. I wished him well, told him to focus on getting better, and not to worry. I hung up the phone and thought, "What am I going to do??!



The next morning I called Wendy DePaolis, Curator of the Reedy Gallery at the Arboretum. We had been working together on the details of the spring show since she took over from Keith Wilcock's position at the gallery. After hearing my news, she secured Dr. Lisa Michaux, PhD Art History, as our replacement judge, who agreed to work within the very short time line. Lisa was an assistant curator at Minnesota Institute of the Arts, has taught undergraduate and graduate classes, and now operates her own business as a consultant and art dealer. (Continued on Pages 6 & 7)

Permit 4665 Twin Cities, MN **DIA9 U.S. Postage** First-Class Mail



2016 SPRING St By Georgia Kandiko

From the President





As we head into another amazing Minnesota summer, I'd like to take a moment to offer

big thanks to Wendy Westlake for her leadership as our President over the last two years. We have all benefited from her positive energy and commitment to our organization. As your new President, I will do my best to pay forward all the wonderful experiences I've had as a member of the Minnesota Watercolor Society and support your development as an artist.

Throughout May and June, MNWS artists will be doing demonstrations every Saturday and Sunday at the Landscape Arboretum as part of our Spring Show. Take in this beautiful blooming season at the 'Arb' and pick up a fresh idea for your next painting from one of our members. Demos are in the Reedy Gallery from noon-2:00.

Looking ahead, it's not too soon to reserve your spot for the October workshop with Dan Wiemar at the Southshore Commute Center. Dan will help you simplify your landscapes with strong shapes and good design. He is a joy to paint with. Register now to ensure your spot. You can find registration information on our website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com and in this newsletter on page 11.

Before you know it, our Fall Show will be upon us. This is a great reason to keep your brushes wet over the summer. Secure a spot to exhibit your work at the Lakeville Performing Arts Center in November by registering on our website. Fall Show registration will be open starting in August.

Last but not least, we have openings on our Board that are awaiting your contributions.

- •If you are a member of Northstar Watermedia, please consider being our liaison. It is great to share opportunities with this dynamic organization.
- •If hosting is your thing, consider becoming the hospitality chair who makes sure we have treats provided by and for our members during our meetings.

•For the best in networking with our members, you could further your talents as membership chair.

There is no better time to 'jump in' to support your fellow artists. You can reach out to me or one of our board members to let us know of your interest and to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to hearing from you.

Have a great summer. We'll see you in September. - Sonja Hutchinson

-2- BRUSH STROKES: MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Summer 2016

MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

BUARD OF DIRECTORS		
President	Sonja Hutchinson, 952-471-0098	
	sonjahutchinson@mchsi.com	
Past President	Wendy Westlake, 507-732-7778	
	Westlakewatercolor@yahoo.com	
Vice President	Pending	
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	gkandiko@gmail.com	
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Northstar Liaison OPEN

Website: www.minnesotawatercolors.com

MNWS BRUSH STROKES Newsletter Editor & Design Gail Vass 5809 Three Oaks Ave., Maple Plain, MN 55359 Gail@GladArt.net Proofreader Jeanne Long Published January/February, March/April, May/June, Summer,

September/October, November/December

Dynamic Landscapes In Watermedia Workshop!



COURSE CONTENT: Good painters are first good designers. Learn concepts that allow you to find strong abstract shapes in your scenes. We will learn about the different types of contrasts and how they add drama to your painting. Composition will be explored and used to lead the viewer's eye through a more interesting painting. Simplifying a scene can be one of the greatest challenges that face an artist; we will explore distilling a scene and become better artists through the process.

Experience Level: Intermediate

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION For Dan Wiemer

lame	Member/Non-member	
Address		
Phone: ()	Email:	
100 deposit secures a spot in the work	kshop	
Vorkshop fee in full due September 25:	: \$300 Members, \$320 Non-me	embers
Registering after August 15: \$320 Mem	bers, \$340 Non-members	_
Cancellations: In writing prior to Sept 25 for a ful illed from waiting list. Then, full refund minus \$7		
Make checks payable to Minnesota Mail to: Clare Ritter, 4108 Sheridan Phone: 612-618-7274 E-Mail: <u>ritte00</u>	n Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 554	410
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With

October 27-29, 2016 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Southshore Community Center 5735 Country Club Rd, Shorewood, MN

Dan Wiemer is an award winning artist and illustrator who lives in Red Wing, MN. He was trained as a graphic designer and has painted in watermedia most of his life. Dan is a past president of the Minnesota Watercolor Society and has taught classes and workshops for over twenty five years. His direct style lends itself to plein air as well as studio work. He has also developed an innovative way to combine watercolor and acrylic to create stylized graphic landscapes. Dan has traveled to China on an artist exchange program where he taught western watercolor as well as learned from his eastern counterparts. He couldn't speak the language, but he could communicate through his

watercolor and that translated well.



Lifetime Members Continued from page 5

and the friendly members all willing to help when needed. When I joined I did not paint with watercolors. It was 2007 before I even began painting with watercolors and it has become a love of my life. Wow! Where have the last twenty years gone?" Karen Lattery

"In the first show I entered after joining MNWS I received a 1st place award. This got me very interested in remaining in the organization. Over the years I have kept up my interest by being active. I have given a couple painting demos and, along with my husband, Terry Kayser, organized 2 fall exhibitions in 2005 and 2006. I also continued on the board for a few years and helped with starting the process of signature

Painting and Passion

The Dilemma of Process vs. Product by Vera Kovacovic

How many times have many of us felt the frustration between our passion and desire to paint freely with abandon, and felt constricted by the intellectual knowledge of what the rules and theories require for our painting to be considered "good?" It is likely to be understood by the watercolorists as they face the challenge to reconcile the tension between the natural tendency of the media to "flow" and imposing just the right amount of control to achieve the desired effect. Below is an articulate attempt to span the topic of process vs. product from the book, Life, Paint and Passion: Reclaiming the magic of spontaneous expression by Michele Cassou and Stewart Cubley.

... "To meet your passion you will have to transcend everything you know, technique and all. At a certain point you must make a choice in painting between the process and the product. There is a tendency to have a foot on each side: "I want to paint for exploration and freedom, but I also want to do it skillfully, and have it to be recognized." You cannot serve two masters. You cannot embrace product and process at the same time. If you paint freely, you will most likely end up loving what you do because your intimacy with it, but in the meantime it is necessary that you let go and surrender. The process is enough.

Most of us wish to discover an insatiable passion to create, but meanwhile, if a small unexpected color or shape appears against our desire, we get very upset, judgmental, protective. What we really want is control, to be decision makers. We have to to know where we are going. To meet your passion, you must jump naked into the deep waters of the unknown. It is an act of love and trust. You paint what is given to you, as it comes, never avoiding, postponing, or bargaining.

Ask yourself, "What do I really want?" If you want a technically pleasing painting, work for it: you might get it. But don't fool yourself: this won't bring you closer to the aliveness you long for. Passion is elsewhere; it has nothing to do with the result, only with the doing.

-10- BRUSH STROKES: MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Summer 2016

membership. I enjoy the friendship and camaraderie of the members, taking part in exhibitions and attending the meetings." CeCeile Hartleib

I was not able to reach all the lifetime members in time for this newsletter edition. As I receive additional statements, they will be included in future newsletters. Also, if any lifetime member would like to share their watercolor journey with us in a future newsletter, earlier and later artworks, and how they grew in their art, please contact Carol Wingard at cjwin48@hotmail.com

Northstar Activities

Members' Meetings are usually the third Thursday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Roseville Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Drive, Roseville, MN.

Workshops:

- Skip Lawrence, Oct., 2016 \$200 deposit required with registration.
- Jennifer Stone, Spring, 2017
- Mark Mehaffey, Sept. 19 22, 2017

Upcoming Programs 2016 • Doug Lew Demo, June 16

NSWS National Show Juror, Kerry Morgan Lakeville Art Center, Oct. 1 - 30, 2016, registration due Aug. 1

For more information about **Northstar Watermedia Society** and their activities. Visit the website: www.northstarwatermedia.com

Catalonia - Barri Gotic by Diane Posselt Monroe

MNWS NEW MEMBERS

- Deborah Klug
- Elizabeth Hollands
- Stephanie Shea
- Gail Tadevich

WELCOME NEW **MEMBERS!** We have 323 current paid members.

Diane Posselt Monroe's painting "Catalonia - Barri Gotic" was juried into the Red River Watercolor Society exhibition, opening May 17th in Fargo. The same painting was juried into the Northwest Watercolor Society exhibition last spring.

The Brush Pilots, would like to invite you to see their exhibit. "Resonance" at the Robbin Gallery in Robbinsdale. The group is made up of watercolor artists, Jean Allen, Sonja Hutchinson, Vera Kovacovic, Roy Lindaas, Victor Perlbachs, Mary Rogers, Buffie Shannon, Therésa Weseman and Carol Wingard. The show runs June 2 – July 2.

MNWS Member Happenings

Send member news and quality images to: Gail@GladArt.net (Images used as space permits.)

	MNWS Membership Dues:
	•College Student -\$15 •Single -\$30
	•Couple/Family -\$40 •Seniors (65+) -\$25
NAME	
ADDRESS	
STATE	ZIP
TELEPHONE	
E-MAIL	
Mai	I your application and check payable to:
	Minnesota Watercolor Society
	Carol Wingard, Membership Chair 10427 Fawns Way
	Eden Prairie, MN 55347
Or you may	y apply on line at www.minnesotawatercolors.com
	have your name removed from the list sent to our exhibition award
	duct information to our members.

Celebrating Our

By Carol Wingard

This month in our newsletter, we wanted to celebrate our Minnesota Watercolor Society lifetime members. What does it mean to be a lifetime member? Any person that has had 20 years of uninterrupted/consecutive membership with the Minnesota Watercolor Society becomes a lifetime member. Once they have reached this status, membership fees are waived and they no longer are required to pay annual membership dues to maintain their membership.

We have a total of 42 lifetime members. I reached out to these members to ask them what kept their commitment as a member of the Minnesota Watercolor Society and here are some of their wonderful responses. I hope you enjoy reading their great testaments to the society as much as I did when getting them ready for this newsletter. What a treat it was to read their responses! We thank them for their great commitment to the society and the art of watercolor!

Quotes from Lifetime Members

"I love Minnesota Watercolor Society. The demos are inspiring. I especially have enjoyed the demos by national artists, Judy Betts, Jan Kunz, and so many that are no longer with us." Pat Undis

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"I've been a member for as long as I've been painting. For me, it's very important to stay in touch with my friends, and most of my friends are artists. I like seeing demos where everyone paints in totally different styles. If I'm not traveling, I always attend the monthly meetings. Social butterfly, that's me!" Karen Knutson

"MNWS is a constant source of camaraderie and inspiration in my life. Over the years I have met some of my best artist friends. I have continued to grow in my use of watercolor and other water media. This is more than pigment and water for me. It's my fountain of youth!" Mary Sue Krueger

"I joined the watercolor society when I first started painting as a way to meet other artists and to take advantage of the workshops the society has sponsored over the years. I have learned to paint largely by watching others paint and being inspired by them, and the demos and workshops have been the largest part of that. Also, there are a lot of really nice people in the society, very welcoming, and fun to hang out with!" Jim Turner

-4- BRUSH STROKES: MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Summer 2016

"Great friends and a passion for art." Kim Grant

AIVERSAR 20+ Years!

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"This is the best way to meet real artists up close and personal. It keeps me motivated as I see how others paint." Rosita Meehan

"The day I joined Minnesota Watercolor Society, I was connected to the greater art world, a world in which I was inspired by the creativeness around me and by the desire to be an intimate part of it. That feeling surges with the arrival of 'Brush Strokes' each month and I am lifted into that wonderful art world." Lois Heim

"What did I find at Minnesota Watercolor Society to last a lifetime? I found high quality art to be inspired by and to learn from. Plus, I found high quality artists with whom to form lasting friendships for a lifetime." Harry Heim

"MNWS has long been a touchstone for me. The monthly meetings, newsletters, programs, and demos have been educational and inspiring. The workshops have been an incredible opportunity to study with outstanding artists. The exhibitions are exciting to see what amazing works Minnesota artists are producing. It has been a great place to meet with like-minded painters, all working with the always surprising and versatile medium of watercolor." Mark Monroe

Artist Studio Tour

Step inside and see the creative work space of our members!





New Changes in the Board of Directors

Welcome Sonia Hutchinson as the new MNWS President! Tara Sweeney has resigned from the Co-Chair of the Spring Show committee and is taking over the monthly programs with help from Marilyn Jacobson. Georgia Kandiko will be the solo Spring Show Chair person. **Molly Bergum** will resign from her term as Hospitality Chair. Contact her if you are interested in fulfilling the position at: ebergum8415@comcast.net or call 952-881-0593.

the shores of Lake Pepin after I retired from my 33 year interior

favorite Florida photographs complete with molding. With time along with art books stacked in a corner. His and her favorites are also framed and scattered throughout. Two work surfaces added allowed me to go from one project (painting) to another (book art, photography, drawing, etc.)

"You need to walk by your art several times a day to evaluate what you've done." I was told by Marilyn Garber (botanical artist). I agree. I love my **Hobby Hut** where I look forward to retreating at least one hour a day to paint and *play*, listening to music. Over stimulation? Perhaps, but why not?

Please email photos and description of your art studio to be published in MNWS Brush Strokes to Editor: Gail Vass at Gail@GladArt.net

-9-

Stay Connected

this summer through Facebook

The Minnesota Watercolor Society will not be meeting together until September. However, there is a way for watercolor enthusiasts to stay in touch. The society has a Facebook group page with more than 475 followers.

It's easy to become a member of the MNWS Facebook page Go to https://www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors/ and

Not sure what to post? Here are some suggestions:

- Art fair opportunities
- Award announcements
- Paint out events
- Watercolor exhibits

click the join group button.

- Workshops you're teaching
- Or maybe you have a painting question you'd like answered

I look forward to seeing your posts this summer. If you're uncomfortable posting to Facebook or don't use Facebook, please email me at tweseman@earthlink.net and I will post for you.

Thank you, Therésa Weseman, Publicity Chair

Opportunities for Artists this Summer

The Minnesota Watercolor Society members are invited to do Painting Demos at Parley Lake Winery in Waconia 8280 Parley Lake Road, Waconia, Minnesota, Call (952) 442-2290. Located less than 10 minutes from the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

A Call for Artists in the Artisan Series Label 2016 Competition **Parley Lake Winery** For more information see

http://parleylakewinery.com/ParleyLakeWinery/Call to Artists.html

-8- BRUSH STROKES: MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Summer 2016

"Being connected to other artists who share my passion with watercolor is a real gift. I enjoy the meetings and demos, and when I can't get there, the newsletter and Facebook link help to keep me informed and inspired! " Deborah Ronglien

"I have maintained my membership in MNWS because it is a great link to the watercolor world in the Twin Cities. I enjoy keeping up with the newsletter with all of the activities sponsored by MNWS and/or linked to other organizations, the awards and shows that our members have participated in and the workshops that are sponsored by MNWS." Suz Galloway

"I enjoy MNWS so much...I keep up my membership as I learn a lot from the good demos and from the other artists attending. Always a pleasure to mingle and learn. Looking forward to many more years." Joy Hartl

"I like that my membership supports educational opportunities for the watercolor society, and I greatly appreciate the encouragement and support that I have received from MNWS. I've learned so much by getting involved with exhibition committees, working on the newsletter and attending many painting workshops over the years! Thank you MNWS!" Kristine Fretheim

"What kept their commitment to Minnesota Watercolor Society?"

"When I joined the MNWS 20 years ago, the medium of watercolor was new to me. Attending MNWS workshops, demonstrations, and monthly meetings laid the foundation and fueled my passion for watercolor. During my 20 year membership, I have had the good fortune to have the support and inspiration from many "mentors". Pat, Karen, June, (You know who you are :) along with so many gifted MNWS artists! I am so proud to be a signature member of this wonderful MNWS art community." Julie Allen

"I am happy to have my name listed in the newsletter. I enjoy receiving it very much and like studying the paintings from the shows and people who do the workshops. There are some wonderful artists out there! I am 92 and because of some health issues, do not paint anymore, but it was a very important part of my life."

Mary Lou Matheson

"...I think I heard the cry of the Creative Artist inside of me so loudly that I joined the MNWS,

even though I would not have a spare moment to give to them or myself...it was all about making a living. And that I did, and still am taking on an occasional assignment in my retirement years. But through the MNWS, and a few other groups I have joined, I found the satisfaction of creating my art for myself. In doing that, I have earned a few awards, and one of the highlights of my art career was the exhibition evening that I did NOT place in the show, but was very unexpectedly awarded Signature Membership in MNWS. I was a Painter. I'm looking forward to more industrious years of painting...for whatever reason...and hoping to become more involved in the future friendship and camaraderie of the group. Watercolor painting has been the one and only constant in my life, and I'm so thankful to have it. " Judith Hallbeck Meyeraan

"I joined when Jeanette Sjordahl was the membership chair. She snagged me at the Uptown Art Fair. When she passed away, I volunteered for the job. 23 years later I decided it was time to pass the job to a new person. That was you, Carol. So I can't remember the date, but probably 1984 or so. I still love watercolor." Marian Alstad

"I have always wondered how artists figured out how to control watercolors. Actually, it's not all that different from oil, pastel, or other methods. I've figured out that you just need to 'let the color flow....try not to scrub & redo.' What I like mostly, is the friendship of the members of the watercolor membership...warm, welcoming, willing to share. The meetings are always most worthwhile!"

Judy Leiber

"When I first started watercolor painting, I really loved the medium, the results, and wanted to learn and grow quickly. I worked as a nurse and lived in Little Falls, MN - 100 miles north of the Twin Cities. So, every year Ltook a MNWS workshop from marvelous master teachers and continued to make friends with more artists. I enjoyed the demo meetings, seeing my friends, participating in exhibitions, receptions and many other events. I even participated in art fairs for 4 years after tutoring from "those MNWS artists in the know". Kathy Braud

"WONDERFUL! Ed Shimek was the person who told me about the watercolor society. He said, "The best fifteen dollars you will ever spend." He was right! I have remained a member for twenty years because of all of the remarkable talent I see

(Continued on Page 10)

Continued from page 1



A second bit of drama surfaced before the awards night. Lisa was scheduled to be in Paris for an art auction on the evening of our awards reception and arranged for Wendy to give the judges' remarks. Lisa wanted to make the final awards choices in person once the paintings were hung. A team of MNWS volunteers and Arboretum staff helped me hang the show the morning after drop-off. Lisa planned to see the paintings, make the final choices, and fly off to Paris. But an auction was rescheduled for an earlier time along with her departure unexpectedly. The morning after hanging the show, I brought my i-Pad to the Reedy Gallerv and spent a couple of hours on FaceTime with Lisa from France. She directed me to zoom in and back up for each painting and return to them many times as she considered each one. Valerie Clark, Wendy's assistant, accompanied me and was in dialog with Lisa, answering questions that arose in an unbiased manner. Technology was an amazing tool that day!

Juror's Comments

She was very impressed by the range of styles, techniques and subject matter found in the works submitted for this year's juried show. Lisa worked hard and took time to carefully review all of the submitted paintings. She struggled with the jurying process because in her words, "So many of the works were incredible." She stated that she loved the care and feeding that all the artists gave to their calling and all were winners in her book.

3 Honorable Mentions: Daniel Green, Hennepin Pylon; Wendy Westlake, Poppies and Columbine; Daniel Mondloch, January Sunset.

She loved the choice of urban landscape as theme and the way both Daniels varied in their approaches. In Hennepin Pylon the realism of the industrial power lines is technically beautiful and the work is given a majestic nature drawing visual similarity between these manmade pylons and tall trees.

In January Sunset the darkness of night punctuated by the headlights with reflections in the water on the streets begins to abstract certain qualities, giving a power and force to an everyday scene.

Finally, in Wendy's work, her use of bold, simplified strokes is expressive and energetic, while the choice of colors is both pleasant and eye-catching. The flowers almost seem to appear as if by magic from the watercolor washes.

6 Merit Award winners: Georgia Kandiko, Amboseli Park Elephant. A tour de force. Her work makes me want to get out of the way.

Judith Meyeraan, Scarlett by the Fountain; Tara Sweeney, His Curls. Figurative works are hard to do well and both Judith and Tara accomplish their artistic objectives. Scarlet is full of life, the realistic quality of the facial expression and the movement are commendable. Tara brings us up close to this sweet child. Lisa comments that she can almost smell that fabulous fragrance.

Peter Herzog, Early Spring. Early Spring strikes a chord in many hearts with the familiar subject matter of the Midwestern barn. What Lisa loved was the pleasing intimate nature of this barn done in such a way as to appear effortless. The artist remains restrained both in color palette and brush strokes to allow the viewer to enter in and through this realistic landscape.

Heidi Nelson, But You're Wet. Lisa loved the luminescent quality of this work in addition to the artist's facility with a variety of textures such as the girls hair and the cat's fur.

Marilyn Jacobson, Minnesota Ice. Marilyn, makes me cold! When an artist can bring you into the scene, make you want to stop long enough for another sense to take over, you know you've captured the viewer.

Third Place: Gail Vass, In Secret Splendor. This is an amazing floral work. The subtlety of color, the control of the medium and the interesting composition create a fabulous painting. It has a photo-realistic quality to it and the superb use of greens and violets is very pleasing to the eye. Most fun for the viewer may be the initial obscurity of the hummingbird and how entertaining it is to actually discover this blended object. It leaves the viewer wanting more.

Second Place: Julie Allen, Luminous Lilies. A mastery of the medium is evident in this gorgeous piece. The illusion of luminescence, as well as her creative decision to make the central lily a source of light is admirable. Additionally, the composition of the work, particularly with regards to the artist's use of diagonal lines is visually stimulating.

First Place: Janice Vaughan, View of the Lake. Lisa was impressed with the artist's choice to push the technical limits of the medium. The fact the artist didn't get lost in the process and still developed an utterly pleasing work of art is a triumph. The play of light across the trees and the rhythm of the composition is beautiful.

Emrich-Stordahl Founders Award named for the two women who started the society goes to Karen Knutson and her work entitled, The Highest Power. The abstract qualities combined with the figurative nature of this work were a winning combination for Lisa. She explains it is often a difficult thing for an artist to pull off without looking messy. In Karen's case it is seamless and beautiful. She lends an impressive quality to the show with this piece using a variety of techniques and pairing the large areas of solid color juxtaposed with the complex pattern of the garment.

Best of Show: David Smith, Orvieto. Lisa chose this work because of the confidence of the brush strokes, the variety of effect and the incredible depth of the image. She couldn't take her eyes off the spot where the sun was shining on a few pedestrians on and near the steps of the cathedral. It is a magical piece.

-6- BRUSH STROKES: MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Summer 2016



Thank you to all of the talented artists who submitted paintings to this show. Thank you to all of the MNWS volunteers who contributed time and effort to making the show happen. The MNWS 2017 Spring Show is already scheduled to be back at the Arboretum's Reedy Gallery. Think about painting something spectacular and submitting to this amazing venue next year!

Best to all of you and happy painting! - Georgia Kandiko

To see the 2016 Spring Show award winning paintings, visit the website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com

-7-