Reflected Light: The Plein Air Art of GO Paint!

Opening to view Friday, October 9, 2020

ROSE DOLAN-NEILL, CURATOR

Visual & Literary Arts Manager Pablo Center at the Confluence

ROBERT HODGES BONAWITZ, JUROR

Saint Paul, Minnesota

"Art is something seen and felt, interpreted for the public through the painter's aesthetic sense, plus the artists technical knowledge to make this understandable, so that the observer's reaction is what the painter intends." - John Folinsbee

I would like to congratulate all of you for your courage and passion to go forth and paint in nature's elements, especially in times like these. Plein air painting is demanding, even in the best weather but it is a catalyst that issues the greatest concentration and a unique kind of focus that transcends time, cold, rain and heat. Have you ever thought you were out for an hour and it was closer to four hours? I can see in your images that sweet embrace of nature, where you only shiver a little when you pack-up to go home. I am pleased by all your efforts and deciding who gets an award out of such a variety of good work was very difficult. I think the winner is anyone who takes paint to canvas and stands by their art, just as you did.

With any image I'm most interested in value, color and composition but with plein air sketching there is slightly less emphasis placed on composition because it's the impression that counts. The sketch is, after all, an abbreviated statement. From these bits of painting shorthand knowledge is gained along with an improvement of our skills and all last week you did just that. So, like the quote by John Folinsbee and having viewed all your work, I can say you speak most eloquently! Thank you.

ARTIST STATEMENTS AND BIOGRAPHIES

Statements and biographies are written by the individual artists and are published with their permission. The views expressed are their own. All artwork pricing is set by the artist and is non-negotiable and non-refundable. All artwork sales are by commission with Pablo Center at the Confluence. Your purchase supports our endeavors to present quality visual arts programming that is free and open to the public.

Thank you.

ROBERT HODGES BONAWITZ

Country Road

Oil on linen panel, 14x18 | \$550

Last Snow

Oil on linen panel, 12x16 | \$475

Oak

Oil on linen panel, 12x16 | \$525

A Light Rain

Oil on linen panel, 16x20 | \$650

Autumn

Oil on linen panel, 16x20 | \$750

JEAN ACCOLA

Creeper on Red Pine: Carson Park

Oil painting, framed, $9.5 \times 14 \mid \$295$

Windy Day in Durand

Oil painting 18 x 24 | \$495

Jean Accola has been a painter most of her life. In 1980 she moved to rural Western Wisconsin where she lived a creative life with her musician husband and two children.

In 1985 she opened the Accola Gallery in Durand WI, where she continues to work and exhibit. She has studied with many influential artists where she established her skills in watercolor, oil and finally acrylic. Jean Accola founded the Fresh Art Tour in 1998 and the Go Paint Plein Air painting event in 2013 and is now looking forward to years of 'just painting'.

MATT ANDERSON

Little Niagara Creek

Oil on linen, 14x18 | \$565

Confluence

Oil on linen, 25.5x16 | \$885

Pepin Marina

Oil on linen, 12x16 | \$445

My goal is to connect viewers with a time or place and allow them to appreciate something easily missed as we hurry from one place to the next.

Matt Anderson is a self-taught artist from Western Wisconsin, he and his dog Shaka operate a gallery on the banks of the Mississippi in Stockholm Wisconsin.

JAN BALOW

Quick Start

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$300

Leader Telegram

Acrylic, Lake Hallie, 16x20 | \$300

High & Dry

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$300

Frost Warning

Acrylic, Lake Hallie, 16x20 | \$300

So Still

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$300

Jan started painting after retirement, winter in Florida, where she took many classes. Summers at Senior Center in Eau Claire, and my studio in Hallie.

GALE BERNDT

Big Falls 1

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$1150

Big Falls 2

Acrylic, 24x36 | \$2900

Big Falls 3

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$1150

Chippewa River

Acrylic, 16x20 | \$825

NATHAN BRANDNER

Bottom of the Bowl

Oil on Panel, 12x24 | \$850

Rushing Forth

Oil on Panel, 10x20 | \$625

Under the Bridge

Oil on Panel, 11 x 14 | \$495

The Onset of Fall

Oil on Panel, 11x14 | \$495

Skipping Bridges

Oil on Panel, 8x8 | \$220

JOSHUA DOLAN-NEILL

6 PM River Prairie

Acrylic on textured Masonite, 6x9 | \$70

Lazy Nights

Acrylic on textured Masonite, 9x14 | \$80

MARY ELWORTHY

Ready for Winter

Watercolor, 12x9 | \$75

Nature's Art

Watercolor, 12x9 | \$75

Anderson Cabin

Watercolor, 12x9 | \$75

Carson Park Sentinel

Watercolor, 9x12 | \$75

I learned early to paint what I see. Hikes and car rides provide many subjects, so my husband and I often interrupt our drive or hike to explore further. My neighborhood is close to trails, woods, and lovely plantings so I do not have to search very far to find something to paint. An added bonus to plein air painting is the varied sounds of the outdoors, except that of lawn mowers and chain saws.

Mary Elworthy retired from a 40 year teaching career in 2007 and started painting watercolor in 2009 after taking a workshop from Drawn to the Word artist Paul Oman. Mary continues to take workshops offered both around the state and abroad. She paints in her studio, at the monthly Chippewa Valley Watercolor Artist meetings at Beaver Creek, at Karlyn Holman U of K workshops, Plein Air with Jean Accola, and whenever the opportunity arises. Her work is displayed periodically at Beaver Creek, the Heyde in Chippewa, the Eau Claire County Courthouse, The Altoona Library, the Chippewa Valley Airport, and her home.

MARTHA HAYDEN

Quarry and Birches, near Durand

Gouache on paper, 12 x 16 | \$350, not framed

Quarry and Birches, near Durand

Gouache on paper, $16 \times 12 \mid \$350$, not framed

County FF, near Durand

Acrylic on canvas, not framed, $12 \times 12 \mid \$350$

Prospect Street, back yards, Durand

Gouache on paper, 12 x 16 | \$350, not framed

Rainey Day at the Confluence

Gouache on paper, 12 x 16 | \$350, not framed

My painting is both realistic and abstract, it is on that elusive edge between there and not there. On first look everything is in place, then all dissolves. I want realism and abstraction to take turns. I want a painting sometimes very evocative of time and place, sometimes overwhelming in abstract, structural logic. I look for a surprise, a drama, a different way of seeing. I try not to see anything for itself alone, but as a part of the whole. In this context, my subjects take on meanings other than the accustomed ones. They are more than still life and landscape; they are comments on thinking and seeing.

I am a graduate of the school of the Art Institute of Chicago. On an Art Institute fellowship, I studied in Europe with the Expressionist painter Oskar Kokoschka, winning the top award for my work. Later, I left Chicago for life in rural Wisconsin, a move that took me out of the "art world", but left me free to work and develop in isolation. More recently, I began spending winters in New York City, and found friendships and acceptance for my work there. I have participated in shows at the Art Institute of Chicago, Milwaukee Museum of Art, Wustum Museum in Racine (WI), Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio, El Paso (TX) Museum and many others. My work has been in over 450 regional and national exhibitions. It is in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum and the British Museum Library and has recently been acquired by Harvard and Yale libraries.

CARI RAYNAE JACOBSON

Virginia Creeper

Watercolor, 5x7 | \$40, unframed

This vine seems to always turn red, and lately I've seen it attached to many trees. This particular one-right in my yard.

High 5 dog selects a tree

Watercolor, ink, 8x10 | \$80, unframed

I love this sculpture, and had fun photographing it with it's "High 5" paw touching objects in Phoenix park.

Autumn Crabapple

Watercolor, ink, 8x10 | \$80, unframed

This tree in my front yard gives me a beautiful view year round. The multitude of colors in the leaves in autumn are especially deserving of a painting.

Pablo Portal

Watercolor, ink, 12x12 | \$125

This unique sculpture allowed me to make the Pablo Center building the focal point. The rough textured logs with their angles pointing to the center of the painting, and the contrasting smooth black metal of the circle all help to make the Pablo the star.

My creative career started when I began designing and sewing clothing for myself in junior high school. I graduated from UW-Stout in 1978 with a degree in Interior Design. Now retired after 30+ years of creating residential and commercial interiors, I have time for creating watercolors, acrylic paintings, collages, eco-dyed prints, and unique greeting cards. I grew up in Eau Claire, and now share a century-old farmhouse with my husband. We've enjoyed remodeling it one room at a time.

HOLLI JACOBSON

Sturgeon Rocks

Acrylic on Canvas/Plein Air, 12x12 | \$375

Phoenix Natives

Acrylic on Canvas/Quick Paint Plein Air, 14x26 | \$125

This is my first attempt at plein air painting. I chose a spot dear to my heart near my childhood home in Jim Falls. Each summer around June, we would hike a trail to the dam on the Chippewa River to view the sturgeon congregating in the river. Giant black bodies would rise to the surface and excite us and fill us with wonder. Now as an adult, I enjoy bouldering around on the rocks and looking for new challenges for climbing. Go Paint encouraged me to stop and look closely at the variety of rock color and texture along with the lichen growing on the surfaces.

Holli Jacobson is a painter and mixed-media artist working in studio 121 of Banbury Place in Eau Clare, WI. Her semi-abstract paintings represent the beauty of earth and sky, but utilize colors and brushstrokes alerting the viewer to underlying chaos. The paintings are inspired by researching climate change and nature photography and man's effect on the Earth. Holli's work can be viewed in various locations around Eau Claire, including Artisan Forge Studios, 200 Main Art and Wine and by appointment in her studio. Visit her website www.hollijacobsonart.com for more information.

LESLIE JOHNSON

Owen Park, Eau Claire, WI

Black Ink Sketch on Watercolor Paper, 10x9 | \$30

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

Black Ink Sketch on Watercolor Paper, 9x11 | \$30

CAITLYN KVIZ

In My Backyard

Gouache on watercolor paper, 11x15 | \$25

River Prairie Stream

Acrylic paint, 16x20 | \$50

River Rocks

Acrylic paint, 8x10 | \$25

Wilson Park Flowers

Gouache on watercolor paper, 11x15 | \$25

I enjoyed using this painting festival as an opportunity to explore areas of Eau Claire that I hadn't previously been to, or even things just outside my window that I've overlooked as a source of inspiration. Combining my surroundings with my own artistic style allowed me to capture things in a new and different way.

Caitlyn Kviz is a junior at UW-Eau Claire studying graphic design. She finds inspiration from the outdoors, especially her time spent rock climbing and hiking. Notable past exhibitions include the Confluence of Art Annual Exhibition 2019 at the Pablo Center and the Juried Student Art Show in the university's Foster Gallery in Sep. 2020. She enjoys experimenting with different mediums and seeing where they take her.

RANDY PALMER

Grand Impressions

Acrylic gouache on canvas panel, 8x10 | \$450

Central Street Bridge-Duncan Creek

Oil on linen panel, 9x12 | \$450

Lazy River

Acrylic gouache on canvas panel, 8x10 | \$450

Dunnville Bottoms Trestle

Oil on linen panel, 9x12 | \$450

Man-made Falls-Altoona

Oil on linen panel, 9x12 | \$450

Randy began his adventure into world of plein air painting early this year while vacationing in southern New Mexico. The desert landscapes provided an interesting contrast to those of the Midwest. Returning home, he began painting scenes in the Chippewa Valley. He found that art and being outdoors were great combinations - moments

of escape in the shut-down world of 2020.

A Wisconsin native, Randy grew up near Wisconsin Dells in a rural area that overlooked pastures, marshes and swamps and with distant views of the Baraboo Bluffs. An early interest in art led to private lessons with a friend of his grandmother who studied under Scottsdale and Jackson Hole artist, Bill Freeman. Randy began painting land-scapes in oils at the age of twelve and oils have remained the primary medium for his work. He received an Associate of Arts degree at UWC Baraboo/Sauk County with advanced credits in Art. He wanted to pursue a career that encompassed both the love for nature and the outdoors with art and the field of landscape architecture seemed like a good fit. He completed his Bachelor of Sciences - Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Randy's work in "three-dimensional landscapes" culminated in a twenty eight year career as Grounds Manager / Landscape Architect at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. Simultaneously, he pursued a passion for sailing on Lake Superior where he and his wife, Sandy, cruised for over twenty years. After retiring and scaling back the sailing he has found a renewed interest in his art. Recently Randy took up the challenge of painting plein air, experimenting with oils, gouache and acrylic gouache. He hopes to build up a body of work so he can start showing and selling his paintings.

Randy and his wife now live near Chippewa Falls on a property with frontage on the Chippewa River.

JANICE ROBERTS

Haymarket Pose

Watercolor, ink on canson rough | \$105

Big Falls Crevasse

Walnut ink, watercolor on canson rough, 9x12 | \$65

Tendrils

Walnut ink, ink on arches rough, 16x12 | \$140

Heirloom Squash

Coffee, ink, graphite on strathmore rough, $15x12 \mid 140

Slotted Wheel

Watercolor on canson rough, 9x12 | \$85

Covid-19 and cooler temperatures made this year's Go Paint quite a different, yet still enjoyable experience. "Hay-market Pose" was done beneath the shelter of the Pablo Center's overhang and "Slotted Wheel", for a stint, was crouching beneath an umbrella at the Rod and Gun Park in Eau Claire. Both had inspiring views that make me want to return to draw them again and again. Dodging between several spurts of rain and sun, I was able to complete, "Tendrils" and "Heirloom Squash" in my back yard with minimal set up. Using coffee wash and homemade walnut ink wash allowed me to use nature's food products to provide the warm browns for painting the withering garden plants that I had watched grow all summer long. Nature once again provided a spot of beautiful sunshine in "Crevasse at Big Falls" to create dramatic shadows on the rocks at Big Falls. The emotional calm induced by the moving water and wind atop the rocks is what makes me love to join in the Plein Air experience.

Janice Roberts' work has been included in juried exhibits in Woman Made Gallery in Chicago, Wisconsin ArtsWest, Pablo Center at the Confluence, and the Banbury Art Crawl in Eau Claire. Her work has also been exhibited by invitation at the Heyde Center in Chippewa Falls, the Eau Claire Public library, and the Phipps Center in Hudson. As a retired art teacher, she continues to reside in Eau Claire.

ANDERS SHAFER

Big Falls

Watercolor on paper, 12x18 | \$250

Keezer's House

Acrylic on canvas, 8x10 | \$250

Rod and Gun Club

Acrylic on canvas, 8x10 | \$250

BARBARA SHAFER

Big Falls, September 2020

Charcoal and watercolor on paper, 16x22 | \$250

Rod and Gun Club, October 2020

Charcoal and watercolor on paper, 16x22 | \$250