

Calendar:

February 9, 2012

Luncheon meeting: 11:30

Guest Speaker: Paul Pitsker

Exhibitions

Encino Terrace Center

February 15 to May 11

Designer Services Group

March 23 to April 19

(See prospectus in this newsletter)



illustration by Louis Gadal

President's Message

I was lucky enough to have spent part of the holidays visiting family and friends up North. And, I was even more fortunate to get to two wonderful art shows—the top event on my travel list after food. The city was San Francisco and the major museums had shows just to my taste.

The de Young had Masters of Venice, a collection of 16th century artists; to name a few on the list of many are Titian, Veronese and some of their most famous works - gorgeous! The Palace of the Legion of Honor was displaying a huge “Pissarro’s People” group of his figurative work. Hundreds of his sketches and

self portraits from his early career until just before he died were on exhibit. Being able to see these shows, despite the crowds, brought to my attention the fact that I rarely get to art exhibits here at home.

I know all of the excuses - bills to pay, filing to do, cooking, cleaning, children - even carving out time for my own art is a challenge.

I have managed to get to four or five venues of the Pacific Standard Time shows andWOW! I highly recommend that you look through the vast schedule of events and select a few before this rare opportunity disappears. They are a must see. I especially enjoyed the Getty Center, the California Design Show at LACMA and the Beatrice Wood Pottery at SMMOA. PST exhibits are on for a few more weeks, so don't miss out on seeing them.

Susan Rosman
WPW Co-president

February Speaker: Paul Pitsker

Our February luncheon speaker is the watercolor artist Paul Pitsker. His artist statement is so beautifully written that I'm using it in its entirety, as you will get a wonderful sense of his personality from it:

“When I was five years old, my family moved into a wildlife sanctuary run by the Massachusetts Audubon Society. From the dense wall of trees that edged our yard, thousands of acres of forest extended in all directions. Our only neighbor

on our side of the road was the sanctuary museum just around the bend. This was an old farmhouse with a collection of mounted bird specimens -- stuffed eagles, pheasants, herons, woodpeckers, and even long-extinct species like the passenger pigeon and Carolina parakeet were represented. I spent countless hours drawing these birds, and the museum director even allowed me to carry some of them outside, where I photographed them in lifelike arrangements with my cheap instamatic camera in natural light, so I could draw them at home later, which I did repeatedly.

My watercolor paintings today depict similarly staged dramas involving local urban fauna, often on a microcosmic scale. Though my subjects are small, they are presented considerably larger than life, frequently on an empty stage with melodramatic lighting fading into a dense, velvety darkness. My images are moody elegies that rely on humor and the familiar beauty of their insect or avian subjects to relieve the tension of contrived life and death scenarios.”

Paul graduated in 1985 with a BA in Mathematics from Pomona College in Claremont, CA. He is represented by Heather James Fine Art, Jackson, WY, Left Coast Galleries, Studio City, CA and Swenson Fine Art, Laguna Beach, CA. His website is www.paulpitsker.com .

Betzi Stein,
Program Chair



Paul Pltsker



Flutes



Left Shot



Clear

Exhibition News

Here it is February and time to prepare for our third exhibition of the 2011 – 2012 season. The shows at the Creative Arts Center in Burbank and the Schomburg Gallery at Bergamot Station were very successful and well attended. Congratulations to all of you.

Our next show will be at **Designer Services Group** in Los Angeles. The dates are March 23 through April 23. There is no theme. **Due to space limitations please submit pieces that measure 30" x 30" or less.** Take-in will be Monday March 23rd so you have plenty of time to prepare.

Next season is filled with exciting exhibitions in galleries we've never shown in. In July, we will have a show at the Laguna College of Art and Design in Laguna Canyon. We will keep you posted on dates and more events.

Exhibition Committee

Suki Kuss, Toby Salkin, Andrea Kichaven

Programs News

Portrait artist Don Bachardy, our January speaker, was warmly received by WPW as he gave heartfelt and forthcoming answers to questions about his life and work posed by the audience. While he brought no slides or original art, he graciously signed autographs of books, DVDs and programs brought by members. Betzi Stein, Kathy Sandel and Bonnie Sue Schwartz will sit for portraits in the near future.

Betzi Stein
Program Chair



Don Bachardy and Program Chair,
Betzi Stein



MEMBERS' NEWS

Nancy Lawrence

To submit your art events, send your information to Nancy Lawrence @ tearmyartout@mac.com. All submissions must be sent no later than the 10th of each month.

Janet Bothne is on the host committee for **Artworks for Healing** at the Skirball Cultural Center on Wed., Feb. 8, at 7pm. It is an art auction to benefit the victims of domestic violence. Tickets are \$75 and you can contact Janet at: janetbothne@mac.com or visit awbw.org for more information.

Susanne Belcher, Donna Geist Buch, Crystal Michaelson, Kuniko Ruch, Brenda Stone and Mara Thompson have their work in the Topanga Gallery Open Show, which runs through Jan. 29 with a reception on Sunday, Jan. 22 from 2 to 5 pm.

Betzi Stein's work was juried into "Explore This! 8," the international online show sponsored by the Colored Pencil Society of America. The exhibition can be seen for one year at www.cpsa.org beginning February 1, 2012 through January 31, 2013.

Debra Young's work is being shown in the following venues: Palos Verdes Holiday Art Show, through Feb 5; solo shows at Chez Melange Restaurant and Bouzy & Bar Comida, Redondo Beach; solo show in Norris Center of the Performing Arts "Upstairs Gallery" from Feb. 20 to April 9; and The District Gallery, Irvine.



Harriette Lahana and Franklyn Liegel at
January luncheon (Crystal Michaelson in
background)

LETTER FROM CAROLYN UHRI TO THE FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

It was a little over twelve years ago that ideas for starting VIVA began to flourish. I can only imagine the enthusiasm and excitement that went into creating a gallery that many years ago. A collective vision came about, and it grew into a well-recognized cultural center where artists and locals could share a common love of art.

That was then, and this is now. VIVA has come full circle. The last few years have been turbulent ones, and I think we all wondered if VIVA could weather so many storms. The board of directors worked hard as the economy changed and made our plight even more difficult. I guess you could say that we did our best to keep the ship afloat and carry on in spite of the fact that we were facing the reality of our own demise.

Everyone involved with VIVA has the right to remember it as they choose, but my hope is that each of you won't forget all the good times VIVA provided. I can still remember the excitement I would feel walking through the door to view a newly hung exhibit and be absolutely blown away by the art. Some of VIVA's exhibits are indelibly etched in my mind...the creativity, the talent, the imagination that made up those exhibits were awe-inspiring. These were no ordinary artists that brought their art to VIVA...these were artists who were sharing a very personal part of themselves through their chosen mediums.

VIVA paved the way for artists and their art on so many levels. I'm sure that many of you can select a piece of your own art...one that challenged you, maybe even made you curse while you worked on it...one that made it onto a wall at VIVA and made you proud. Remember all the camaraderie, the excitement of a sale, exchanging your views of art with a stranger, the festive moments that came from a reception and the creative air that filled VIVA's walls.

Just because VIVA is gone doesn't mean that our connection to one another is gone. We still face challenges ahead and we all need to work with one another to keep the vision alive. I want to thank each one of you for your support and friendship throughout the years. As art organizations, you will always be the pillars that lifted VIVA up, and as artists you will always remain our most cherished friends.

All the best,

Carolyn Uhri
VIVA President

**Great Thanks to all the Newsletter Staff
Contributors**

Managing and layout editor: Nancy Lawrence;
Feature articles: Susan Rosman, Betzi Stein,
Caroline Uhri, Suki Kuss; Photos: Nancy Lawrence;
Kathy Sandel; Mailing: Mathilde & Dan Lombard



WOMEN PAINTERS WEST

Now Accepting Applications for Membership
Applications due by March 31, 2012

Founded in Laguna Beach in 1921, WPW is the largest organization of its kind on the west coast. Their 200-plus membership includes professional and award-winning artists utilizing innovative and conceptual approaches to art in all mediums.

WPW exhibits about four times a year in galleries, art centers, museums and universities throughout the Los Angeles area. A monthly Luncheon Guest Speaker Program features renowned artists, gallery owners, directors and others from the Los Angeles art world. WPW also offers its members exclusive tours of well-known **artists' studios, art galleries, private art collections and museum exhibitions**. As a non-profit organization, philanthropy, outreach and scholarship programs are meaningful objectives.

Members are chosen by juried selection. Applications from artists, art students and instructors are welcome.

Applications are due Saturday, March 31, 2012
Annual Membership Jurying is on Thursday, May 3, 2012.

For application forms and more information about WPW

Please visit: womenpainterswest.org.

To download an application, Click "join"

Questions??? Please Contact:

Diane Karpel, Membership Chair at
membershipchair@womenpainterswest.org

(If you wish to talk to me, please include your
telephone number in the email)



PROSPECTUS

Spring Exhibition
March 23 - April 19, 2012
Designer Services Group (DSG)

JUROR OF SELECTION AND AWARDS to be announced

DSG - 4943 McConnell Ave. Unit N Los Angeles, CA 90066 310.306.3277

GALLERY HOURS - Monday - Thursday 8am - 5pm

AWARDS

Women Painters West Award - \$500 / 2nd Place - \$300 / 3rd Place - \$250 / 3 Honorable Mentions

GUIDELINES

- \$25 for two (2) entries ~ 30" x 30" and smaller only ~ Wall art only
- **DUE TO LIMITED SPACE, NO DIPTYCHS ALLOWED IN THIS EXHIBIT**
 - Work must be your original artwork only, not done under supervision and not exhibited in any previous WPW show
 - Work must be wired and ready to hang. Please wrap wire ends with masking tape.
 - No sawtooth hangers for work larger than 14"
 - No glass (only plexi) on pieces larger than 18" x 24"
 - Gallery quality frames with neutral mats in good condition
- The artist agrees to permit WPW to reproduce the exhibited artwork for the purpose of limited WPW publicity and documentation ~ Commission on sales is 30%
- Please see Exhibitions Rules in your directory, page 22, for the complete guidelines regarding your entries

IMPORTANT DATES

Take-in of entries	Monday, March 19	Noon to 1:30 pm
Pick up of unaccepted work	"	3:00 to 4:00 pm
Reception Awards	Friday, March 23	6:00 to 8:00 pm 7:00 pm
Pick-up at end of show	Monday, April 23	Noon to 2 pm



Nancy Goodman Lawrence
3642 Coolidge Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Luncheon Meeting

February 9, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.

At:

Monterey at Encino Glen
16821 Burbank Blvd.
Encino, CA 91436

Program:

Guest speaker: Paul Pitsker

Menu:

Tuna, chicken and egg salad trio
Steamed veggies and baked potato

Cost:

\$24 (to be paid when you check-in at the door)

Board Meeting:

10:00 a.m.

Reservations must be received by 12 NOON on Friday, February 3, 2012

Please e-mail or call for reservations:

Telephone: Mara Thompson (310) 399-7519 Please speak clearly
E-mail to: lunchwpw@earthlink.net

Please leave your name if you are bringing a guest(s) and please spell the name.

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

Member's Name _____

If you are unable to attend after making a reservation, please call Mara before the deadline, or you will be held financially responsible for the cost of the luncheon.