Juried Art Show & Auction

About the Artists
Biographies & Artwork

Friday, June 10, 2011
Betty Atkinson is an Alaskan artist working from her studio in Anchorage. Drawing and painting all of her life, Betty draws inspiration from the early California Impressionists. She paints the Alaska landscape because it is so compelling in its vastness and mystery. Most of her paintings are done on location (en plein air), and then finished in her studio. Betty has a degree in Fine Arts and is represented by Stephen Fine Arts in Anchorage and she also exhibits at the Artique Gallery in Anchorage.

What Betty wants to convey in her paintings is truth. The word truth may be translated into beauty, harmony, authenticity, soul, essence, purity, correctness, and on and on. She feels this is a tough search and a never ending journey.

3rd Place: “Conference in the Valley” Oil, Size: 22x30. The judges loved the humorous nostalgia of 1930s Palmer, as well as the beautiful brushstrokes.

“Hatchers Pass Mine” Oil, Size: 11x14

“Willow Creek” Oil, Size: 12x16
Richard Gaulke is a veteran and is a self taught artist who initially started drawing while stationed at Wheeler AFB, Libya in 1969.

With his family's encouragement, he is pursuing a career studying and creating pencil portraits.

“On the Prowl” is a graphite drawing of a Sharp-Shinned Hawk.

Douglas Girard has been painting since his childhood in South Africa. After receiving a scholarship and graduating with a BFA with distinction in Illustration from the Art College of Design in California, Douglas worked as a freelance illustrator creating book and magazine covers, and posters. He is an award winning artist and his work is in many national and international collections. He is presently represented by Stephan Fine Arts in Anchorage.

Douglas lives in Palmer where he paints the dramatic landscapes that surrounds his home. He likes to capture the beauty and mystic qualities he sees in nature.

“Dance of the Clouds” Oil, Size: 16x20
Patty Halley is an Army Veteran and has been painting seriously over the past ten years. She is a member of the Valley Fine Arts Association and the Valley Arts Alliance, and has had her work exhibited throughout the Valley. When she is not subbing as a nurse for the School district, she paints and enjoys doing pet portraits in pastel. Patty likes to show emotion in her paintings through the use of strong contrasts and splashes of color.

First place:
“Remembrance”
Oil, Size: 24x30
In this painting Patty wanted to create an abstract of flowers by using the Andrew Pollack technique of throwing paint. Besides wanting to convey a feeling of nostalgia, at the same time she wanted to show that the past has a vibrancy that lingers on. The judges liked her use of color, the composition and her use of negative space.

“Sangria” pastel, Size: 10.5x14.5
Rose Hendrickson was born and raised in Alaska and currently lives in Palmer. She studied drawing and art principles intensively since early childhood and expanded that knowledge throughout High School and attendance at UAA. She became a graphic arts tech in the Air National Guard. Since then she has worked in advertising and does commission portrait work.

Rose’s current passion is creating works depicting “Modern Madonnas.” She uses color and light to capture a moment.

Second Place:
“Madonna and Beer”
Pastel, Size: 19x20

The judges loved the artist’s technique and composition.

“Tattoo Madonna”
Pastel, Size: 19x17

The judges were impressed by the way the artist captured a moment. They couldn’t help but smile while looking at this painting.
Lou Anne Person has lived in Alaska for 45 years and studies art at UAA. After college, she channeled her creativity into a career in Interior Design. Upon selling her firm and retiring, she has again immersed herself in art. Lou Anne is inspired by the beauty of flowers and works to capture their essence with acrylic on canvas.

“Unfolding” Acrylic, Size: 30x40
The judges liked the composition and how the eye moves around the painting.

Ilene Paulsen Ilene’s grandparents settled as Colonists here in the Valley in 1935 and she has lived here over 15 years. She loves expressing her God given talent through her art and her work has been shown throughout the Valley. Ilene enjoys capturing the beauty that abounds in Alaska, and our world, through watercolors and acrylics.

Honorable Mention: “Ice Scoopers” Acrylic, Size: 12x24

“Dachshund at Defeet” Watercolor, Size: 12x30
Earl Rider is a self taught artist who was born and raised in Michigan and moved to Alaska in 2004. He spent his first year living in a secluded cabin, which he built by hand, on 15 acres near Point McKenzie. Living out in nature with only a wood stove and a lantern changed his perspective on the beauty of everyday objects that we usually take for granted. In his paintings, Earl concentrates on mood, color, light, and shadow.

Earl now works out of his studio in Anchorage and is currently the Vice-President of the Alaska Artists guild.

“Blue Bowl” Oil, Size: 11x14
The Alaska Veterans & Pioneers Home would like to thank the exhibiting artists, businesses, contributing organizations and individuals for their hard work and dedication in making this project a wonderful success.

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