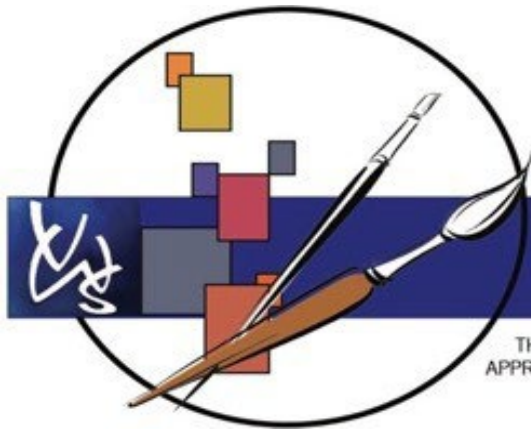




VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

THE PURPOSE OF THE VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY IS TO PROMOTE INTEREST, KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF WATERMEDIA THROUGH MEETINGS, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.

September 2025

CALENDAR

**GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
MICHAEL HOLTER AND SOCIETY
SHOW**

THURSDAY, September 11, 2025, 7PM

ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86705931761?pwd=4HZ3BwXiwcNtGSfTheSa3udzKBGMXI.1>

Meeting ID: 867 0593 1761

Passcode: 528854

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

**Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

SEPTEMBER WORKSHOP (via ZOOM)

**MICHAEL HOLTER –Sat- Sun
Sep 20 & 21, 2025, 9AM- 12 PM, 2 days
[\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180
for non-members**

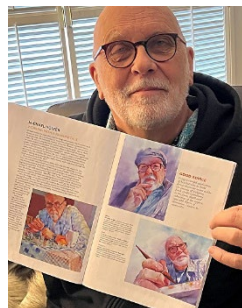
For 2025 Meetings & Workshops

<https://valleywatercolorssociety.org/events#!event-list>

PAINT-OUT (See page 3)

Currently suspended until further notice

September 2025 Demo Artist: Michael Holter



Michael Holter is an award-winning artist who works in watercolor and oil. Although Michael has been painting most of his life, his work experience spans a wide range of creative challenges. He has been an art teacher, creative director and businessman in both fine art and commercial art. Michael has owned and operated galleries and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education and an MA in Visual Communication.

Michael says, "My work is impressionistic. I like to represent people or places and allow the painting to evolve from the structure of what is recognizable. The challenge is to balance the care needed to make the representation interesting... and perhaps believable, with the freedom, looseness and painterly quality that makes painting so unique and expressive."

"I have been influenced by artists such as Charles Reid, Richard Schmid, Burt Silverman, Frank Webb, John Singer Sargent, Ted Nuttall and many others. Even though I have an art degree, most of what I put into practice is self-taught through studying the work of these distinguished artists and much painting."

<https://www.michaelholter.com/>



President's Message



Greetings Everyone,

Hope you had a good summer! Now it's time to start our new season. At the July Summer Luncheon we had over 50 members and friends got together to enjoy a great lunch and had a chance to visit with each other in person. This month we welcome Michael Holter, an excellent artist and great teacher. Michael will demo at the September meeting on 9/11 and will offer a 2-day on-line workshop on 9/20 and 9/21.

It's also time to get started on your paintings for entering the 2026 Annual Juried Exhibition which has been scheduled for March 2026 and entries start on December 1, 2025.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the meeting and demo on 9/11.

John Chapin, President VWS

Valley Watercolor Society 2026 Annual Juried Exhibit

The Valley Watercolor Society will hold its 2026 Annual Juried Exhibit March 3-27, 2026.

This will be an **in-person** exhibit for **active members** only at Thousand Oaks Community Gallery, 2331 Borchard Rd., Suite A, Newbury Park, CA 91320.

Prizes:

Top Honors:	First Place \$300.00
	Second Place \$250.00
	Third Place \$200.00
Special Honors (3):	\$150.00
Honorable Mention (5):	\$50.00

Entries open:	December 1, 2025
Entries deadline:	January 31, 2026
Acceptance notification begins:	February 13, 2026
Accepted Paintings Take-in	March 2, 2026 (10 AM - 12 PM)
Award Judging:	March 2, 2026
Exhibition dates:	March 3 – March 27, 2026
Take-down	March 28, 2026 (10 AM – 12 PM)
Reception and Awards Presentation:	March 8, 2026 (3PM-6PM)

Please click this link for prospectus; [VWS_2026 Annual Juried Exhibit Prospectus.docx-rev..rtf](#)

June 2025 Society Show Winners



1st
Debra Reynolds



2nd
Elizabeth Wagar



3rd
Garv Friedman



HM
Selina Cheng



HM
Debi McDonald

To enter the upcoming **September 11 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to **Selina Cheng**: selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM on **Wednesday September 10**.

The demo artist will select awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and two Honorable Mentions.

See all the entries from previous Society Shows here: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/society-show/>

Classes taught by VWS Members

There is a [Teachers page](#) on the VWS website for VWS members who conduct classes, hold workshops, or teach private lessons. If you'd like to be listed, just send an email to Newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org with your details. Please see our complete list of teachers online at <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/teachers/>

PAINT-OUT EVENTS

Don Ferre will be our coordinator for any organized paint-out events. He will provide dates and locations for any future meetings. Thank you Don for stepping in to help.

*** Welcome New Members ***

Terri Kamm, Maryland
Helene Marie Roylance, Fremont
Pamela Robertson, Culver City
Michelle Ross, Burbank
Anamaria Schmid, Ojai
Susan Jensen, Iowa
Diane Kinzer Brown, Thousand Oaks
Karen Gillingham, Studio City

We look forward to your participation. Please introduce yourselves during our next meeting.

VWS 2025-2026 Workshop Schedule



Michael Holter
September 2025



Milind Mulick
October 2025



Joe Cibere
November 2025



Joseph Stoddard
March 2026

Michael Holter –**Online** Sat Sep 20 -Sun Sep 21, 2025, 9am - 12pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Milind Mulick –**Online** Sat Oct 18- Sun Oct 19, 2025, 9am - 12pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Joe Cibere – **In-person/Online** Sat Nov 15 -Sun Nov 16, 2025, 10am - 2pm, 2-Days , [\[Register\]](#)

Online: \$140 for VWS members/ \$180 for non-members. **In-person:** \$165 for VWS member/ \$205 for non-member

Joseph Stoddard –**In-Person** Sat Mar 21, 2026 10AM-3PM, 1-Day [\[Register\]](#) \$90 for VWS members, \$125 for non-members

workshop Policy: The workshop fee includes a 10% non-refundable cancellation fee if a cancellation is made more than 30 days prior to the workshop. A 50% non-refundable fee if cancellation is made between 30 or 7 days. No refund will be made for a NO SHOW or a cancellation with less than 7 days of notice prior to the workshop. The workshop may be cancelled at the discretion of the Workshop Chair and the President if any of the following occur: there are less than 10 participants, the workshop is not at a financial breakeven point, or the demonstrator or location cancels. In this case, FULL refunds will be given. If for any reason your check or credit card payment is rejected by your bank, VWS will ask you for a reimbursement of any fine or charge assessed by your bank to VWS. After two incidents, membership will be revoked. Enroll in workshops online at <http://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events>. Just select the desired workshop and scroll down to the "Register Now" button.

Member Art News

Liz Blum

Liz has a painting showing at the Allied Artists of the Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore, July 12-Nov 9, at Santa Paula Art Museum, 117 N. 10th St, Santa Paula.



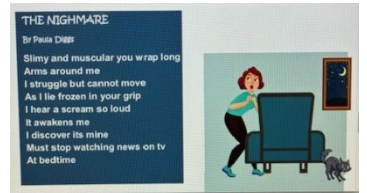
Selina Cheng

Selina's painting "Boy Fishing in Venice Canal" was juried into the 57th Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition held at the Hilbert Museum in Orange CA, Aug 23-Nov 29.



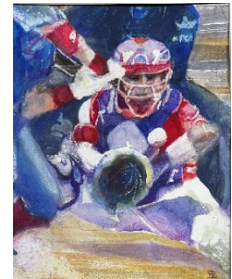
Paula Diggs

Paula's painting and poem appeared in the Valley Scribe August Issue, pg. 10.



Barbara Leitzel

Barbara's paintings "Ground Flower Study #610" and "97 mph" were selected for the Arts Council of the Conejo Valley Summer Open Show 2025. "Ground Flower" was awarded Honorable Mention.

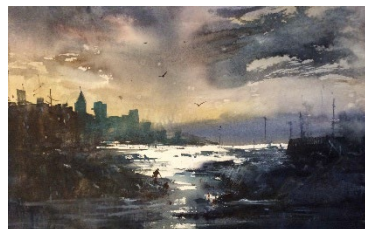


Barbara also has a painting "Here's Uncle" accepted into the 57th Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition held at the Hilbert Museum in Orange CA, Aug 23-Nov 29.



Gary Friedman

Gary's painting "Dawn Diggers" has been juried into the NWS 85th International Exhibition, Nov 8-Dec 1 in Bellvue, Washington.



Gary also has a painting in the 57th Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition held at the Hilbert Museum in Orange CA, Aug 23-Nov 29.

ART NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND TOWN



Watercolor West 57TH International Juried Exhibition
Exhibit date: Aug 23-Nov 29, 2025, opening reception: Sep 6, 5PM-8PM,
Hilbert Museum of California Art, 167 Atchinson St, Orange CA
Visit www.watercolorwest.org



NWS
NATIONAL WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

2025 NWS 105th International Open Exhibition
EVENTS AT THE NWS GALLERY



Live Demonstrations
Friday, October 10, 2025
11:00 AM - Michael Holter, NWS
12:30 PM - Ratindra Das, NWS-GM
2:00 PM - Bill Hook, NWS-M
\$30/Person (limited seating)

Meet & Greet Artist Event
Friday, October 10, 2025
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Awards Reception Ticketed Event
Saturday, October 11, 2025
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
\$28/ Person (includes light bites, drinks & more)

Please complete your registration with payment to reserve your place at the Awards Reception and for the Live Demonstrations

PLEINAIR SALON MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

<https://pleinairsalon.com/monthly-winners/> and go here for the rules:

<https://pleinairsalon.com/competition-rules/> This is run by Plein-air Magazine.

Online Juried Shows

www.onlinejuriedshows.com and CaFé www.callforentry.org for other calls for entry.

VWS FACEBOOK NOW LIVE!

The name of the VWS page is: **Valley Watercolor Society Community Service**

Enter the name in the **SEARCH** field of your FB page, then click on the name. Once it opens, click on the **LIKE** tab. Click link below for direct access:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=valley%20watercolor%20society>

You can then follow, comment, add your paintings or interesting exhibits you know of or participate in! We are always looking to grow our community . We need your help to do better!

Please contact Sandra McDuffie (sanellen1946@yahoo.com) if you have questions or need assistance.

Thanks
Sandra

REQUEST TO ALL MEMBERS

We encourage all members to actively invite fellow watercolor artists to become part of the Valley Watercolor Society. Together, let's expand our community and foster the growth of art in our localities.

Call for Submission for VWS October 2025 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the September Newsletter: Due on the 20th of September:

Did you get into an exhibit? Do you have a show coming up?

Are you teaching a workshop, giving a demo, or have you published a book?

What have you been painting during our at home time?

Or maybe you just want your website to appear in the newsletter.

If you have any news to share, send to: newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org.

NEW MEMBERS PLEASE SEND A SELFIE HEADSHOT!

We will post your picture under our New Member section to welcome you to the organization!

Especially now, since we are not meeting in person, nice to see a new face!

SUBMIT ART MATERIALS FOR SALE...!

Cleaning out your studio? Got an extra easel? Extra brushes, paints, paper? Post in our newsletter!

SUBMIT YOUR WATERCOLOR ART QUESTIONS & TIPS...!

If you have a watercolor discovery you want to share, or a burning question for our members...we want to know!

SUBMIT OPPORTUNITIES AND EXHIBIT VENUES, AND SHOWS YOU KNOW OF!

Where do you go to pique your artist inspiration? Websites? museums? galleries? And what opportunities have you seen for submitting for exhibitions? In galleries, online, don't keep it a secret, tell us!

Those of you who regularly send newsletter items, please send them along:

- Photos and any accompanying comments for recent VWS paint-outs
- Society Show photos & winners
- General Meeting Demo photos
- New members photos & names
- President's Message

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Submissions received by the 20th will be included in the following month's newsletter.
- Submissions received after the 20th will be included in the issue after the following month.

Photographs (send a pic of your painting for your member news!):

- Photographs should be high-resolution images of at least 600 pixels across.
- You may submit photographs as email attachments, in a *.zip file (or via [WeTransfer](#)).
- Photographs sent directly by email **must be submitted as attachments**.
- **Please do not send photos within the body of the email.**
- On a Mac and unsure how? [Check out this link](#).

DVD Library

VWS maintains a lending library for members consisting of professional instructional videos from various watercolor and water media artists and recordings of previous VWS guest artist demonstrations.

See the updated list on our website.

VWS DVD library is available to all current VWS members via mail. VWS will pay mailing fees to send DVDs to members in a reusable envelope; renter pays return postage using the reusable envelope, return address label will be provided. DVDs are loaned for one month; the maximum is 2 DVDs per month.

Contact Susie Tse: sytse210@gmail.com to order. Links to lists of DVDs is available on our Web site: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/dvd-library/>

Member Websites (to access website, press CONTROL then Click link)

Rosemary Altshuler — RosemaryAltshulerwatercolors.com

Liz Blum — lizblum.com

Selina Cheng — selinachengart.com

Sue Cohen — suecohenfineart.com

Sylvia Crosbie — SylviaKCrosbie.com

Julie Crouch — juliecrouchart.com

Gary Friedman — garyfriedmanart.com

Caren J. Gafni — artistcarenjgafni.com

Mardilan Lee Georgio — mardilanleegeorgio.com

Dafna Gilboa — dafnasart.com

Jan Godachy — jangodachy.com

Cris Gordy — artspirationforall.org

Omar Noorzay — northridgeartstudio.com

Mary Zangerle — maryzangerleart.com

Judy Heimlich — judysartstudio.com

Fatemeh Kian — 14kian.com

Michelene Laski — michreedlaski.artspan.com

Martha Inman Lorch — marthainmanlorch.com

Sandra McDuffie — sandramcduffie.net

Susan L. Meisel — slm-designs.com

Shirley Peppers — ShirleyPeppersArt.com

Iuliia Pozdina — iuliapozdina.com

Midge Reisman — midgereismanart.wixsite.com

Debra Reynolds — debraadamsreynolds.com

Deborah Swan-McDonald — deborahswan-mcdonald.com

Brenda Swenson — swensonsart.net

To list your website, please email:
newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org

Reprint your Watercolor Paintings with Northridge Art Studio (Omar Noorzay)

Hey Watercolor Artists! Turn your paintings into vibrant, high-quality Giclée prints with our Epson SureColor P9570 at Northridge Art Studio. Affordable, stunning reproductions, with options like canvas or watercolor paper. **Why Us:**

- **Vibrant Colors:** Your work will pop with color, just as you imagined.
- **Preserve Your Originals:** Share your art without touching the original.
- **Prints That Last:** Long-lasting quality, made to endure.

Call 818.465.8222 or visit our website to get started!



Visit the [Valley Watercolor Society](http://www.valleywatercolorsociety.org) website (www.valleywatercolorsociety.org). Here you can see the latest announcements, renew your membership, or register for workshops online. Check out our new membership area. Catch up on previous communications here: [Newsletter Archive](#)

2024-2025 VWS Board of Directors

Officers

President — John Chapin
1st VP Programs — Debi McDonald
2nd VP Membership — Edina Russack
3rd VP Exhibits — Sylvia Crosbie
Secretary — TBD
Treasurer — Debbi Saunders

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Workshops — Alanna Chandler
Newsletter — Selina Cheng
Parliamentarian — Barbara Leitzel
Hospitality — TBD
Student Awards — Dorothy Lee

Committee Chairs

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Facebook -- Sandra McDuffie
Drawings/Raffle — TBD
DVD Library Coordinator — Susie Tse
Paint-Outs — Don Ferre
Society Show — Selina Cheng
Photographer — Veronica Stensby
Nominating — Barbara Leitzel
Lifetime/Honorary Memberships — Marie Burdick

Email any VWS board member at
Admin@valleywatercolorsociety.org

WWW.VALLEYWATERCOLORSOCIETY.ORG

You are receiving VWS Newsblasts as a member of Valley Watercolor Society.

Our mailing address is:

Valley Watercolor Society
San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center PO
Box 17192, Encino, California 91416

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