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JOE CLEARY — SCULPTOR, ILLUSTRATOR AND PAINTER
 Guest Artist for May 12 General Meeting, 7:30 PM

We are pleased to have Joe Cleary as our Guest Artist at the May 12 meeting.

Joe will highlight his career background and will feature a special slide presentation on the design, sculpture technique, and installation of his famous Mother River Sculpture – a 30 foot sculpture located on the Mississippi riverfront in downtown New Orleans

Joe grew up in Oakland, California, studied art at San Francisco State College, Mills College, and graduated from California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland. For several years he taught at California College of Arts and Crafts, Academy of Art in San Francisco, Mills College, Oakland, and Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

His works have been shown at the De Young Museum, San Francisco Museum of Art, and the San Francisco Palace of Legion of Honor. He has been awarded two first prizes at the California State Fair Art Show. He was an official U. S. Air Force Artist, member of the San Francisco Illustrators Club and the Bohemian Club. His illustrations have appeared in many major national magazines.

Major collectors of his work include: Smithsonian Institute; Standard Oil Corporation (now Chevron); Fred Turner, Chairman of the Board, Mac Donald's Corporation; Sir Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia; Bohemian Club San Francisco; Sidney Burnham (California); Robert Allen (Texas); Preston Philhower (California); Nicholas Holt III (California); Donald Miller (California); and Van Brady (California).



MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Danville Congregational Church Social Hall, 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville

LAST MONTH'S ARTIST – TOM HUGHES

At our April General Meeting, we welcomed artist Tom Hughes, who chose to show us a portrait in oils, using member Fran Chuba as his model. He shared numerous tips and ideas with us as he worked, and admitted he'd done a self-portrait just that morning to rev up.

Tom said he has been training himself to use a severely limited palette of just seven colors, and when doing a portrait, works hard to get those all-important warms and cools of the face, paying special attention to the values of each shape. Yes, he does a very abstracted design: "the whole thing is abstract." And he said, "Leave the details, like eyes, for the last." Also "Each face has the whole spectrum of colors, so just pick a few to work with."

Tom set up his model with a "Contra-Jour" effect, (severely back-lit) and put his canvas next to his sitter, moving back and forth to see if his new strokes were the right shape, value, and color, just like John Singer Sergeant used to do. Tom holds his palette when doing portraits, though admits that it sometimes feels a bit awkward. He started on a toned canvas because of the size he was using, but cautioned us to keep it pale to avoid making the portrait too dark.



When asked what kinds of brushes he prefers, he said he likes the big rounds, but admitted to using anything that would make the mark he wants. He gets so impatient to paint, he sometimes doesn't even sketch first, but will "put a few things down, and trust that something good will happen." Since he hits the canvas hard, he clamps it down securely on the easel, and though he usually uses masonite for it's smoothness, he also loves to paint over old pictures after some new preparation. He sands the old work down, then underpaints white or a tone with varnish. He admitted that as the years go by he has constantly fewer (stifling) preferences, sometimes feeling as though he knows less than he used to. (I've heard it said another way: as you learn more, you come to understand how much more there is to learn.) We all appreciated his candor.

Tom wisely reminded us that our painting will work better if we can "get in the mood" and let it happen. Why paint something that doesn't appeal to you in some way, and struggle to render some subject you just don't care about? Art is about showing your viewer how you feel about a subject, showing some emotion, either positive or negative, so you need to feel something to do that. He also shared: "Drawing is about placing a right shape and size next to another right shape and size. I think it's more apt to happen on a toned surface, and works much better with a strong light source." He said, "You go from the general to the specific, but take care to get the general things RIGHT."

He also told us not to dwell on just one thing for too long, because "It gets to where you can't see it anymore." He mentioned how students are always asking him to share "the great secret" and laughed: "There isn't one!" Just keep painting, and just keep growing. Vary everything that you do, try every brush and thing to 'make marks'. What are we afraid of - the white canvas? Tone a bunch of them and keep a backlog of sizes to use, so you relax. Try to do stuff when you aren't feeling alarmed about it. So many suggestions to help us be better painters; all we need to do is take his advice, and put it to work, right?

ADAS members and friends truly enjoyed our interesting evening with demonstrator Tom Hughes, and we all want to thank Program Chair Wanda Kemper for bringing us such informative artists!

.....Submitted by: Cassandra Antkowiak

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Elaine Fry
Danville 925-820-4962
elainefry@pacbell.net

Zsuzsa V. Nagy
Concord 415-272-3322
s.v.nagy@att.net

MEMBER NEWS

Robin Purcell is exhibiting "Mount Diablo Summer Sunset" as part of the juried exhibit, SACRED MOUNTAIN: IMAGES OF MT. DIABLO AND MT. FUJI, at Hearst Art Gallery, Saint Mary's College, Moraga May 2 - July 3, 2009.

Exhibit information: www.stmarys-ca.edu/arts/hearst-art-gallery/exhibits/sacred-mtn

Wanda Kemper is currently exhibiting at her one person show at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore, California. Wanda has over 25 works of art on display. Her show runs through May 29th

Robin Purcell, Stephen Sanfilippo, and Charles White have been accepted into the Carmel Art Festival, May 14-17, 2009. More information is at <http://www.carmelartfestival.org>

Judy Chamberlin, Michael Thornton, and Chris Ellingson had a joint exhibition at the Lesa Johnson Gallery in Lafayette in April.

Wanda Kemper was selected by the Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art for the Salon International Exhibit. Her painting "Basket of Apples" was selected for the Jury's Top 50.

Stephen Sanfilippo was selected by the ADAS Board to operate the ADAS Pioneer Art Gallery. Stephen is currently evaluating possible locations.

Sherri Kelcourse is currently exhibiting her one person show at Retzlaffs' Vineyard Boutique in downtown Livermore through June 30. It is located at Blacksmith Square, 25 So. Livermore Ave., (corner of So. Livermore and Railroad Ave.)

Jane Taggart was named 2008 Artist of the Year by the Las Juntas Artists' Association

CALL FOR ARTISTS – “ARTISTS AT WORK” JULY 7, 2009

Let's get together for a fun day of demonstrating and exhibiting our art in the Danville Museum parking lot.

On Sunday, June 7th, from 11 AM to 5 PM we have a wonderful opportunity to display our art, as well as demonstrate our artistic techniques to the public. *This date coincides with the Museum of the San Ramon Valley 10th Anniversary events on that weekend.*

The community of Danville and surrounding areas can save on gas and time by viewing many of the artists from last year's Open Studios event, in one central location.

We have a limited number of 10' x 10' spaces available for this event, so please sign up as soon as possible. Artists will be required to be actively demonstrating their art.

There is an entry fee of \$20 which will go towards advertising this event. We will send you an invoice prior to the event. A 10% donation to ADAS for art sales is requested.

This should be a fun experience for all, and give ADAS Members and Open Studio participants an excuse to get together.

Please send an email to ADAS-Shows@sbcglobal.net or call 925-683-1066 if you are interested.

..... Tom Lemmer, Event Coordinator

CIRCUIT NEWS

ADAS members – please patronize our circuit sites. These are our current locations:

- Bagel Street Café – Alamo (Alamo Plaza)
- Bagel Street Café – Danville (at the Livery)
- Bagel Street Café – San Ramon (off Bollinger—near Target)
- Bagel Street Café – Walnut Creek (2975 Ygnacio Valley Rd.)
- Chow Restaurant – 445 Railroad Ave., Danville
- Danville Town Offices – 510 La Gonda Way
- Muir Primary Care – 1505 St. Alphonsius Way, Alamo (next to Alamo Plaza)
- Rose Garden Shopping Center—730 Camino Ramon, Suite 180, Danville

We really need new circuit sites! Please call Diane Ringwood (925-314-3034) or any member of the Circuit Committee and we will follow up with a presentation

ADAS PIONEER ART GALLERY

A New Gallery for ADAS?

The ADAS Board of Directors selected **Stephen Sanfilippo** as Director of the Pioneer Art Gallery. We signed a lease proposal with the owners of the Danville Hotel to lease a large building (formerly Celia's Restaurant) located on Railroad Avenue, across from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. However, we have determined that the building is in such disrepair that we could not occupy it.

Stephen is currently evaluating another building on that property.

ARTIST DAYS AT TAO HOUSE—MAY 7 THROUGH MAY 10

Artist program at the O'Neill National Historic Site

This program, now in its 12th year, offers artists a place to create works of art for extended periods of time twice a year, over five hours per day for four days in a row, to make works of art at the O'Neill National Historic Site. Eugene O'Neill used his Nobel Prize to build Tao House, now a National Historic Site, in the hills above Danville because the location so inspired him. The former O'Neill estate borders the Las Trampas open space with spectacular views of the San Ramon Valley, Las Trampas Ridge and Mount Diablo. The program is sponsored by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service. There is a \$5 per day charge.

For reservations call 925 820 1818 and note your contact information.

Artists will meet at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley at 8:45 AM each morning from Thursday, May 7 through Sunday, May 10, and stay until 2:45 PM each afternoon.

Pick up 8:45 am depart MSR/V for Eugene O'Neill;
Depart 2:45 pm Eugene O'Neill for MSR/V.

Artists must bring everything they need that they can carry onto a bus full of other artists and their gear and create art for the 5 hours, for example, easels and umbrellas, water and food, sun protection and extra clothing. Artists who want to paint with oil paints or other "messy" media are advised to bring a tarp. Any wet and/or messy materials are forbidden in the house, but dry clean media (pencil on paper for example) have been permitted in the past and permission is at the discretion of the NPS staff. On site there are bathrooms, tables in several areas and water.

The artists are must spend all day on site, however, at the discretion of the NPS, they may return to the MSR/V with any early tour vans.

ART IN THE PARK—OCTOBER 3 & 4

The 11th annual Art in the Park, October 3 & 4, 2009, in Danville, on the Town Green, Front Street Park, in front of the Danville Library. This is ADAS's big fund raiser for Art in the Schools. Booth fee for 10' x 10' space is \$70 for ADAS members and \$85 for non-members, plus 10% commission for the schools. Beautiful location—the Town Green in front of the Library, great fine arts, appreciative public!



Applications received by May 1st are being reviewed and notices will be sent out soon. We will definitely have to close the Jewelry category and possibly Photography. Further applications will be filled on a space available basis. Information: Norma Webb 925 828-9170 or normawebb@comcast.net. The application is still available at <http://www.adas4art.org/ArtinthePark2009Application.pdf>

MEMBERSHIP DUES

ADAS dues for the 2009-2010 are now due and will be considered late as of June 1. Dues are \$40 per individual or \$45 for family. You may send a check made out to ADAS to Roseann Krane at 1923 Green Valley Road, Alamo California 94507, or wait for a PayPal email Invoice from Roseann, which will allow you to use a credit card for payment.

ADAS WEB SITE



As always, please let us know if your name is not bolded/blue on the "Members" section of our website; if your name is not bolded/blue, this means that we don't have any samples of your work, or a link to your own website, for our visitors to click on. Please email an image of your work or web address to: Roseann Krane, at rkrane@yahoo.com

Windsor Newton, 8x10 canvases STILL AVAILABLE at a bargain price

An art friend has over 800 Windsor Newton, 8x10 canvases that were purchased for an elementary art program. With the budget freeze the school can't pay for them now. They are \$2.00 apiece, stapled on the back and come 2 per pack. If you would like to buy some please contact Diana Marion at Diana@DianaMarion.com or call 925-785-1446.

ABOUT US

The Alamo-Danville Artists' Society (ADAS) was founded as a non-profit organization in 1977 by Beth Batchelor and Ida Farese. Our mission is to foster fine art appreciation and education within our communities and to provide the opportunity for artists to further their artistic development. In an effort to support art education, ADAS established an outreach program in 1992 and by 1995, this effort expanded into the Community Arts Education Program (CAEP) for the San Ramon Unified School District, which funds art grants on an annual basis.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Do we have your email address? About 25 of our members are not receiving all of the announcements that are sent to member emails. You email address will not be released or sent to anyone else. Send email to adasnewsletter@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter

Newsletter is available in color from ADAS Website: <http://www.adas4art.org/newsletter.htm>

Please let us know if you still want a black and white copy mailed to you.

To submit articles, announcements, and news for the newsletter, please send to

adasnewsletter@sbcglobal.net or call (925) 683-1066

Monthly deadline is the 15th of every month

ADAS CALENDAR

- **May 7-10** — Artist Days at Tao House
- **May 12** — ADAS General Meeting — Tuesday 7:30 pm
- **June 7** — Artists at Work at Museum of the San Ramon Valley
- **October 3, 4** — Art in the Park



P.O. Box 1034
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