Pittsburgh Watercolor Society’s
71st Annual International Exhibition
October 1-22, 2017

BEST OF SHOW: “Eyes Wide Open 3” by Michalina Pendzich
About the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society

The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society was founded in 1945 to “develop, encourage and maintain interest in watercolor painting.” From the original 20 founders, we have grown to over 200 members who pursue their passion for painting through our workshops, exhibitions, guest artists’ programs and demonstrations, news exchange, social media connections, volunteer opportunities and social events. We are an active, exciting group of artists committed to supporting one another and sharing our enthusiasm for watercolor with the community, locally and regionally. Potential new members are welcome and encouraged to submit work for screening either in the Fall or Spring. Visit our website for current information, members’ gallery, events, application process, and more: www.PittsburghWatercolorSociety.com.

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President’s Message

The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society presents to you the 71st Annual Aqueous Open International. As always, this is an exhibit of the best paintings by watercolor artists both regionally and internationally. This year’s juror, Pat Dews, is a nationally recognized artist, teacher and juror. Pat did an outstanding job both in her selection and in the awards to make this a vibrant and exciting exhibit.

As I reviewed all of the submitted images for this exhibit I was just enchanted and overwhelmed by the range of talent, technique, subject and color in these entries. This is truly the best show in town!

A big thanks goes to all the volunteers who made this show possible, both through donations and through hard work, especially to Suzie Sparks, our Vice President, dedicated 2017 Exhibition Co-Chair, our Publicity Chair and our successful PWS Fall Screening. Another big THANKS! to Leslie Baldwin for coordinating our 2017 workshop with Pat Dews. And again, a sincerely huge thank you to Cindy Fox for patiently and expertly producing this year’s catalog. Her catalogs are always magical keepsakes of our Aqueous. They are posted on our Pittsburgh Watercolor Society website thanks to Jan Pini, our expert computer queen – what would we do without her. Michalina Pendzich has been our membership chair for many years and works with Jan to keep membership information all computerized. Linda Kauffman also for many years has kept our finances in order, she does such a good job of it she can never retire. Also for several years, Deb Valentino persistently has collected award donations for our Aqueous exhibit. Katie McMichael sends out our e-blasts to keep you informed of recent events, Janet Hart is our secretary and records all of our board meetings, Carolyn Smith, new to the board last year, has done a simply fantastic job of providing refreshments for our exhibit openings. We are an all-volunteer organization and we depend on all of our members to help the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society to succeed. Please volunteer!

Congratulations again to every artist in this wonderful exhibition.

Phiris Kathryn Sickels
President, Pittsburgh Watercolor Society

Chair’s Message

As we prepared for the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society Annual Aqueous International Exhibition 2017, we worked diligently to make PWS and our region proud. PWS is one of only two regional artist organizations that hosts an international exhibit, and we have developed a reputation as a prestigious group of watercolor artists who provide quality exhibits and programs to the region.

And Aqueous 2017 is no exception. This year’s annual exhibition includes the work of 70 artists from all over the globe, including 28 artists from the greater Pittsburgh area and the other 42 from 21 states and 4 countries.

Pat Dews, the Juror for Aqueous Open 2017, has selected an incredible exhibit. Dews is a graduate of The Fashion Institute of Technology, NYC, a signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the National Collage Society and the New Jersey Water Color Society.

The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society was founded in 1945 to develop, encourage and maintain interest in watercolor painting. The original membership of 20 was one of the first groups to be affiliated with the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. The membership of the PWS has grown to more than 230 artists who enjoy the opportunity to explore and share their broad range of style and techniques. And we hope that we have done the organization, it’s mission and the current membership proud with this exhibit.

We are both delighted to have had the opportunity to work together to lead the team that made this wonderful exhibit happen. To paraphrase what some wise woman once said, “it takes a village to put together an exhibit of this quality.” We thank everyone who helped along the way, through all of the various stages and processes. It took a lot of time, effort, skill and dedication to make this beautiful exhibition come to fruition. We could not have done it without you!

Thank you all for helping and allowing us the opportunity to work with you. It was our pleasure

Phiris Kathryn Sickels, PWS President and Aqueous Co-chair
Suzie Sparks, PWS Vice President and Aqueous Co-chair
71st Annual Aqueous Open International

Juror of Selection and Awards
Pat Dews, AWS, DF, NWS

Juror’s Statement

I love the painting process. For me, the journey is the best part. Congratulations to those who are included in the show. Savor the moment. Artists not included, should not lose heart. Art is very personal and I must judge through my eyes. It is only one opinion. Paint what you love and know. With desire and hard work, great things are possible. Paint and try again!

I look for strong design, color and content. I look for technical skill. I look to see if a painting captures the essence of the subject. I look for work I would like to have painted. Sometimes, an honest effort from the heart can be more appealing, even with technical flaws.

Judging is always difficult. I try hard to have a balanced show. I view the images many, many times over the course of a week or weeks. Choosing the entrants and award winners can be difficult. In the end, I choose paintings that draw me in for a closer look.

I was honored to serve as Juror for the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society, Aqueous Open 2017. Thank you for selecting me and to all who made my job easier. I hope you enjoy the show.

Pat Dews, a graduate of The Fashion Institute of Technology, NYC, is a signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the National Collage Society and the New Jersey Water Color Society.

Pat creates experimental works in watermedia on paper and canvas. She paints the abstract essence of nature. The shapes and textures of flowers, rocks, water, crumbled walls, rusty objects are translated into richly layered paint surfaces. Collage is often integrated. Dews skilfully juggles organic and geometric forms, transparent and opaque paint – all held together by a basic abstract underlying shape. It is this intricate dance, rendered in strong color and value which produces her award-winning paintings.

“Overpass” by Pat Dews
Christine Alfery, Lac du Flambeau, WI  
Peacock, 39"x40", $2,200

Lynn Angelelli, Bethel Park, PA  
Gossip, 21½"x21½", $1,500

Denise Athanas, Sandy Springs, GA  
Within Bounds IV, 22"x30", $3,800

Leslie Baldwin, McKees Rocks, PA  
Past Her Due Date, 18"x 14", $600

Judi Betts, Baton Rouge, LA  
Rusty Roof, 30"x 22", $2,500
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Robert Bowden, Pittsburgh, PA
Larimer Arches, 22” x 29”, $2,500

Steven Bower, South Williamsport, PA
Remembering St. Paul de Vence, 21” x 29”, $3,500

Lana Cease, Maryville, MO
Call Waiting, 20” x 16”, $1,390

Ronald Tan, Chye Tiong, Singapore
Kent Ridge, 10” x 15”, $1,200
Connie Clutter, Washington, PA
Far Away, 27” x 20”, $950

Andrea Correale LaNasa, Canonsburg, PA
Figs, 8” x 10”, $250

Kathleen Dugan, Monroeville, PA
Holy Pittsburgh, 14” x 20”, $225

Sarah Dugger, Dover, OH
Sit At Your Own Controls, 36” x 42”, $1,100
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Michael Ericsson, Belmont, NC
Going Up, 16" x 20", $900

Terry Evers, Tucson, AZ
Genesis, 41" x 29½", $6,000

Carol Frye, Lakeland, FL
In Knots, 28" x 20", $1,800

Susan Gale, Laguna Woods, CA
Interstice, 20" x 26", $1,100

Esther Garfinkel, Longboat Key, FL
Pittsburgh Hillside Neighborhood, 22" x 28", $900
Peggi Habets, Pittsburgh, PA
Hello, My Name is John, 29” x 33”, $2,100

Bro Halff, San Diego, CA
Late Summer Fields, North Dakota, 12” x 16”, $900

Janet Hart, Wheeling, WV
Demitasse, 21” x 22”, $165

Annie Heisey, Pittsburgh, PA
Remember, 22” x 12”, $800

Carol Hubbard, Monroe, CT
White Lie, 20” x 27”, $2,500

Sandra Humphries, Albuquerque, NM
Santa Fe October, 22” x 30”, $1,200
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**Michael Jacques**, Blawnox, PA  
**Coho**, 18” x 24”, $500

**John James**, Virginia Beach, VA  
**Balancing Act**, 24” x 18”, $1,500

**Gary Johnston**, Olmsted Falls, OH  
**Winter Stream**, 9½” x 13½”, $500

**Gina Judy**, Richmond, OH  
**Lacing Interlacement**, 34” x 28”, $800

**Sara Kahn**, San Francisco, CA  
**Dawn at the Forgotten Coast**, 22” x 15”, $950
Alice Kayuha, San Diego, CA
And All That Jazz, 19”x 19”, $500

Marguerite Kazalas, Pittsburgh, PA
Mandala, 20”x 18”, $1,200

Renee Keil, Pittsburgh, PA
Lacrime Azura (The Blue Teardrop), 8”x 10”, $250

Loisanne Keller, Tucson, AZ
Desert Colors, 24”x 38”, $1,200

Tina Lake, Pittsburgh, PA
AR. in the Rearview (For Maya Angelou), 20”x16”, $250
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Kianchoong Lee, Singapore
Paradise Hiatus Series, 18”x 27”; $2,380

James Lefebvre, Eaton, OH
Storm Coming, 21”x 29”; $1,500

Heidi Lowell, Austin, TX
New Skin, 16”x 20, $1,200

Yue Luo, Guangzhou, China
Juvenile Series IV, 20”x 24, $3,000

Calvin Lynch, Confluence, PA
Horse of a Different Color, 22”x 30, $2,000
Frances Marze, Pittsburgh, PA  
Niagara Fun, 19” x 14”, $400

Anni Matsick, Boalsburg, PA  
Third Floor Walk-Up, 13” x 12”, $1,350

Ben Matthews, Munhall, PA  
Cafe In Colmar, 14” x 11”, $1,200

Jeannie McGuire, Pittsburgh, PA  
Studio One, 30” x 22”, $5,900

Katie McMichael, Westerville, OH  
Good Morning Sunshine, 20” x 22”, $800  
Valerie #3, 30” x 22”, $1,000

Gary Nemcosky, Boone, NC
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Jeannie Nickolls, Elizabeth, PA
Reflection, 12" x 8", $425

Elaine Nunnally, Leesburg, VA
Going Home on the Interstate, 22" x 15", $800

Kit, Paulsen, Washington, PA
Midway, 27" x 33", $950

Ann Pember, Keeseville, NY
Dinghie Trio, 21" x 14", $1,000

Michalina Pendzich, Pittsburgh, PA
Eyes Wide Open 3, 20" x 27", $2,000

Pamela Price, Monroeville, PA
At the Louvre, 26" x 22", $1,200

this is out of alpha order
Donna Perkins, Pasadena MD
So Very Pretty, 10½’x 7”, $600

Roc Prologo, Freedom, PA
The Victory, 15’x 20”, $1,200

Nicole Renee Ryan, Mercer, PA
We’d Remember Pieces of That Night, 26’x 40”, $3,800

Ruth Richardson, Carnegie, PA
Impossible, 29’x 27”, $900

Hong Shan, Qingdao, China
Beyond, 29’x 21”, $5,000
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Patty Shields, Pittsburgh, PA
A Jamaica Welcome, 17” x 21”, $250

Alma Shoaf, Gainesville, FL
Basilisk, 12” x 9”, $180

Phiris Sickels, Pittsburgh, PA
Flipped Her World, 30” x 22”, $750

Carolyn Smith, Valencia, PA
The Endless Commute, 11” x 14”, $1,200

Thomas Sorrell, Sylvania, OH
Northern Nexus, 18½” x 25”, $1,200
Nela Steric, North Hollywood, CA
Wolf Series, WW7, 19” x 25”, $900

Kathryn Strutz, Mars, PA
Ibis #1, 30” x 38”, $1,500

Eileen Sudzina, McKeesport, PA
Turn Left at Second Redlight, 26” x 20”, $1,200

Dashuai Sun, Elmhurst, NY
Musician, 22” x 22”, $5,000

Ron Thurston, Coraopolis, PA
Lucky Percentages, 19” x 25”, $1,700
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Lena Thynell, Port Matilda, PA
Old Stone House, 19” x 23”, $500

Debra Valentino, Gibsonia, PA
With Robert, 30” x 30”, $1,700

Frank Webb, Pittsburgh, PA
Lobstah, 22” x 30”, $1,400

Maria Witmer-Rich, Chagrin Falls, OH
Phalaenopsis Blooming, 13½” x 19½”, $900
Awards

BEST OF SHOW
The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society Award of Excellence
Michalina Pendzich, "Eyes Wide Open 3"

SECOND PLACE
Yae Luo, "Juvenile Series IV"

THIRD PLACE
Christine Alfery, "Peacock"

CAD SCARLET AWARD
In memory of Linda Fruhwald
Carol Hubbard, "White Lie"

PRESIDENTS’ CHOICE AWARD
Awarded to a Pittsburgh Watercolor Society member
Denise Athanas, "Within Bounds IV"

FRANK WEB AWARD
Judy Betts, "Rusty Roof"

Baltimore Watercolor Society Award
Frank Webb, "Lobstah"

AWARDS OF MERIT
Lana Cease, “Call Waiting”
Carol Frye, “In Knots”
Susan Gale, “Interstice”
Peggi Habets, “Hello, My Name is John”
Jeanie McGuire, “Studio One”
Gary Nemkosky, “Valerie #3”
Elaine Nunnally, “Going Home on the Interstate”
Patty Shields, “A Jamaica Welcome”
Eileen Sudzina, “Turn Left at Second Redlight”
Dashell Sun, “Musician”
Ron Thurston, “Lucky Percentages”

Special Thanks

The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society thanks these dedicated members, friends and volunteers who have helped make this exhibition a success:

Lynn Angelelli
Jake Bachorski
Leslie Baldwin
Tina Blake
Connie Clutter
Cindy Fox
Peggi Habets
Janet Hart
Michael Jacques
Linda Kauffman
Fran Marze
Katie McMichael

Jeannie Nickoll
Jan Pini
Michalina Pendzich
Spinning Plate Gallery
Kathy Shaheen
Kathy Sickels
Carolyn and Randy
Smith
Suzie Sparks
Eileen Sudzina
Debra Valentino
Kathleen Zimbicki

The Pittsburgh Watercolor Society would also like to thank our sponsors for their generous support:

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The Spinning Plate Gallery/Artist Lofts

5720 Friendship Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
(at the intersection of Baum Blvd., Friendship Ave. and East Liberty Circle)

The Spinning Plate Artist Lofts, formerly the Constantin Pontiac car dealership, is a 37 unit live/work apartment building designed to meet the needs of low income artists and their families. It includes 7 efficiencies, 17 one bedroom, 11 two bedroom and 2 three bedroom apartments, and each one has a workspace within. A community gallery space coordinated by a resident gallery committee is available free to residents.

The Plate began life in 1927 as an elegant art deco Hupmobile auto dealership designed by renowned local architect Maximilian Nierlinger. Its sweeping lobby, staircase and balcony, lobby and exhibition space terrazzo floors and industrial windows are reminders of its glamorous past. The Spinning Plate is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.