

November Meeting to Feature Floral Portrait Demo by Jude Tolar

Jude Tolar set aside mermaid drawings and college doodling for a psychology degree from Oklahoma State University. Art followed her, though, and led her to a graphic design and illustration career. She also wrote and illustrated children's books.

In recent years Jude has focused on fine art. She picked up pastels as a way to study color and work easily en plein air, and immediately loved the results.

Jude's art is lyrical and representational, and celebrates beauty and joy in the world. She's known mainly for her floral and tree portraits outdoors and reflective subjects indoors. She prefers to work from life, using mostly Terry Ludwig soft pastels on Art Spectrum ColourFix paper.

Her pastel paintings have won many awards, including five Best of Shows. She has juried into a number of national and international shows, including PSA, IAPS, and Pastel Journal's Pastel 100. She's won awards in PleinAir Magazine's PleinAir Salon competitions. She has also exhibited in invitational group shows and solo shows. Her work is in collections across the US.

Jude is a Signature Member of Pastel Society of America and Oklahoma Art Guild, and a member of American Impressionist Society, Oklahoma Pastel Society, and Stillwater (OK) Art Guild.

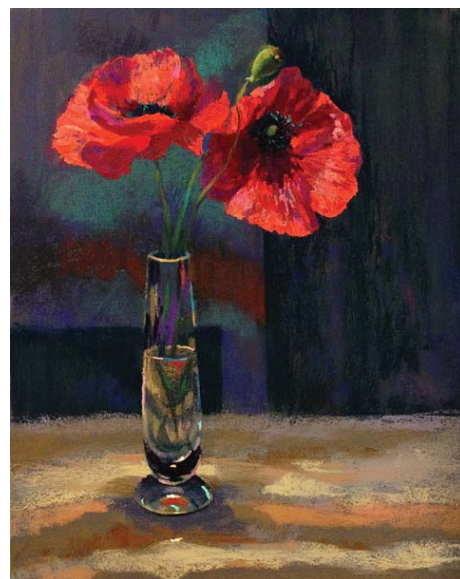
She has studied with Lorenzo Chavez, Alan Flattmann, Terri Ford, Debby Kaspari, Terry Ludwig, Clark Mitchell, Elizabeth Mowry, Mitsuno Reedy, Clive Tyler, Kathryn Walker Richardson, Becky Way, Todd Williams, and Mike Wimmer.

Jude demonstrates her pastel techniques to art groups. She also teaches pastel workshops on various subjects.

For our November meeting, Jude will do a demo on floral portraits.



Morning Begonias



Flanders Poppies

***Please note the OPS meeting will be held
at Dennis Parker's Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive!***

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Message from OPS President Lindel Hutson

Jude Tolar will share her flower-painting expertise at the OPS meeting Monday, November 14. Don't forget the meeting will be at Dennis Parker's art studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, in Oklahoma City. The studio is in a small strip center on the southwest corner of 122nd and MacArthur. (See map on page 6.)

Jude has returned to Stillwater from "an epic art trip in late September and early October." She first went to New York City for the opening of the Pastel Society of America's national juried show where one of her paintings was part of the 175 pastels chosen from nearly 1,500 entries. Her painting, "Catch Some Sun," was displayed during the show.



Jude Tolar poses with her painting, "Catch the Sun," which was one of the 175 pastels chosen for the Pastel Society of America's national juried show.



"I met a number of pastel artists, including PSA President Jimmy Wright, and Liz Haywood-Sullivan, the IAPS President," she says. The show was at the National Arts Club in Gramercy Park, and highlights included Richard McKinley's gallery talk at the Friday night reception, and the Sunday Awards Ceremony.

"In between, Jan Hutchinson and I ogled the Saturday Materials Fair and demos by Haywood-Sullivan, McKinley, and Nancie Mertz," she said.

From New York, it was on to France for a painting trip in Burgundy with five other pastel artists. "The other artists are friends from our west coast, east coast and Brussels, Belgium," Jude says. "We rented a country house near Macon, where we painted rolling hills and trees, quaint stone houses, and other beautiful French scenery. After a week there, I went south to St. Rémy-de-Provence. I spent a week there, painting vineyards and craggy mountains, quaint village architecture and beautiful French trees." The trip was capped off by a high-speed train trip to Paris "for a day and a half of walking and savoring that glorious, beautiful city." She flew home with 16 plein air pastels, a bottle of Cotes du Rhone wine and "nearly three weeks of wonderful memories."

She returned home just in time for the Oklahoma Homegrown show at Acosta Strong Fine Art in Oklahoma City where she has 14 pastel paintings in the group show, which runs through Sunday.

This will be our last meeting of the year. The next meeting will be January 9, 2017, again at Dennis Parker's.

We open 2017 with club members Jan Hutchinson and Gary Sharp sharing their knowledge on making your own surfaces for pastels.

Says Jan, "If you have ever wanted to try making your own surface for pastels, the January OPS meeting will give you a golden opportunity to experiment with various grounds on gator board in our first ever 'Make and Take' session. We will provide the boards, brushes, rollers, and ground materials. All you need to do is come and participate in what promises to be a fun and educational evening. And you can take home new surfaces to use in your paintings."

If you haven't paid your dues, please do. The organization survives on dues and what little is left over from visiting artist workshops.

Jesus Lopez of J&J Frames from San Diego will be selling frames out of his truck at Dennis Parker's art studio on Thursday, November 17. He is expected to arrive about 4 pm and usually stays until 8 pm or until there are no more customers. These are quality frames at decent prices.

**See you on Monday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.
at Dennis Parker's Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City!**

Jude Tolar photos from her adventures in France.



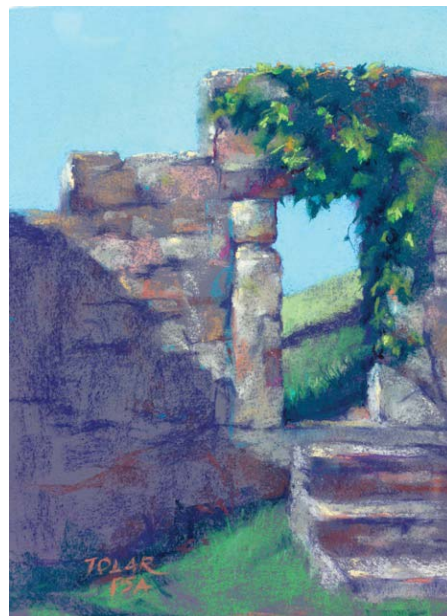
My fellow pastel artists/friends. Five span the U.S. — one lives in Brussels, Belgium. The nearby tiny village of Montmelard has a famous and delicious restaurant, Restaurant Le St. Cyr. People come from all over to eat here. Including us!



Our beautiful country home in Burgundy for the week.



Painting in Burgundy.



Loved painting in St. Remy-de-Provence the next week. Pastel worthy subjects everywhere in the village and in the countryside.



Spotlight on OPS Member Marie Kash Weltzheimer

How long have you worked in pastel?

As far as working seriously in pastel, 30 years. My husband bought me a large set of Rembrandts in 1986 as a Christmas gift. They were amazing to look at in that box, just like when you would get a new set of crayons as a kid! It was at that point that I started working in pastel like it was an obsession.

What drew you to that medium?

I was always partial to the drawing medium and did so to pass the time as a child. My mom kept me supplied with drawing pencils and charcoal. The first try with pastels was with an inexpensive set my mom had given me when I was 7. I continued to use that set in high school and college on an occasional portrait of someone. I guess my attraction was that it is a drawing medium that is also a bridge into using color.

What do you like about working in pastels?

I have always liked the immediacy of pastel with no brushes or priming, and most of all, no cleaning of brushes. I also like having my hands directly involved without anything else but the color between myself and the surface.

What other mediums do you work in?

I LOVE working in oil! I sometimes use watercolor or acrylic as an underpainting for my pastel works, but these are loose and not a mastery of the medium by any means.

Have you always pursued painting or is this something that came about more recently?

I have always made art. It's like breathing.

Do you work on only one painting at a time or do you have several projects going at the same time?

I have a large easel and a small French easel always set up in my studio. I usually have something larger going on as well as a small piece, usually a 6"x6" oil, on the small easel. The small pieces I use in making items for my Etsy shop, Artist's Holiday.

What is your favorite subject matter to paint?

I would have to say that I have always been fascinated by people's faces, so portraits are a favorite.

What kinds of experiences trigger ideas for your paintings?

I love the outdoors and am inspired many times by nature. Basically, I'm in awe of the beauty that God has created, whether it be the landscape, a person's face or a simple piece of fruit.



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What is or was your career path, where did you work, and for how long?

My college (UCO) major was graphic design, in the old days of paste-up and amberlith. My first job after graduation was for a food wholesaler in their advertising department, designing grocery ads. After that, I worked for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board as a graphic media artist, where I helped design printed material as well as some minimal drafting duties. It was during this time that I decided to follow my urge to paint full-time and try to make a living of it.



Are you originally from Oklahoma? If not, what brought you here and how long have you lived here?

I was born in Akron, Ohio and because of my dad's job, my parents moved to Ardmore, Oklahoma when I was very young. I have now lived here for 50 years!

Anything else you would like to share?

My favorite verse in the Bible is Philippians 4:8. Some might call it, "focus on the positive". It says, "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things." This is what I'm interested in achieving in my painting.

What is something that very few know about you?

When I first started college I was a music major. I wanted to be a professional trumpet player! Music is still important to me, and plays a vital role in the creation of my art.

Who is your favorite artist – who inspires you? I really can't pick just one. [William Adolphe Bouguereau](#), John Singer Sargent, Mary Cassat, Everett Raymond Kinstler are favorite figurative painters. Maynard Dixon, Albert Bierstadt, Curt Walters are some favorite landscape painters.

Are you reading any good pastel or art books right now and, if so, what is the title and the artist and what specifically do you like about the book?

I'm not really reading but "using" a book right now that I like on how to break down lessons in drawing. It's called "Drawing For the Absolute and Utter Beginner", by Claire Watson Garcia. I like it because it contains information and exercises that are useful for the beginner as well as those who are more seasoned at drawing. I'm using it as a reference to build a syllabus for a Drawing 1 class that I will be teaching as an adjunct professor for Southern Nazarene University as part of their Graphic Design program, starting in January.

Family history – spouse's name and occupation, children, grandchildren, pets, etc.?

I've been married to my husband, Ron Weltzheimer, for 32 years, who is a civil engineer for Olsson Associates. We have 3 children, Jordan, Jonah and Jacqlyn which range in age from 16-21. In our pet family we have our Schnauzer, Wolfgang Weltzheimer. Wolfgang (or Wolfie) is "owned" by our two cats, Mr. Miyagi (large Siamese) and Bunny (Japanese Bobtail), their breed being our best guess as they were all rescues.

What do you do for relaxation other than paint?

For relaxation we enjoy spending time together as family. I also enjoy hiking, birdwatching and scrapbooking.

Upcoming Events & Workshops

IAPS 2017 Convention: Registration for the 2017 IAPS Convention in Albuquerque opened on October 11. For a preview of the convention, go to http://www.iapspastel.org/convention17_preview.php.

Marla Baggetta – PSA, IAPS, MC

June 9, 2017 – “Navigating Your Trouble Zones”
June 10, 2017 – “Poems Not Novels”
Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact IAPS for information.

Doug Dawson – PSA, Master Pastelist, PSA Hall of Fame

June 10, 2017 – “Working with Color Thumbnails,”
Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact Susan Webster,
susanwebster@verizon.net.
August 7-12, 2017, Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Contact Jan Rasch, 575/491-7208.

Jan Evenhus – PSA-MP, NPS-DP, IAPS-MC, PSWC

May 2017, St. Louis, Missouri; June 2017, Albuquerque,

New Mexico; October 2017, Dallas, Texas – “The Beauty of Perfection”

Albert Handel

March 12-18, 2017, Sedona, Arizona
April 24-28, 2017, Bastrop, Texas
June 6-11, 2017, IAPS, Albuquerque, New Mexico
For information, call 505/983-8373, alberthandel@msn.com or www.alberthandel.com.

Barbara Jaenicke, PSA, IAPS/MC, AIS, OPA

June 8-11, 2017, IAPS, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Demos – June 8 & 9; Workshop – June 11

Mike Mahon – PSA, PAPNM, PSNM, APA

February 16-19, 2017, Canadian, Texas (Portrait)
March 30–April 1, Weatherford, Texas (Portrait)
For information, call 505/795-4639, www.mmahon.com

Member News

The Member News column is your opportunity to brag a little about what you've been up to in the world of art and pastel painting. Let us know about awards you've won, shows you've entered, classes you may have taught or plan to teach, resources to share with other members, etc. So, let us hear from you!

Jude Tolar is in the Oklahoma Homegrown show at Acosta Strong Fine Art in OKC. Six Oklahoma artists' work fills the entire gallery, including fourteen of her pastel paintings. The show runs through NEXT Sunday, November 13. It's a great show, well-worth seeing. Acosta Strong Fine Art, 6420 N. Western, OKC, <https://www.facebook.com/acostastrongfineart/www.johnbstrong.com>.

[facebook.com/acostastrongfineart/www.johnbstrong.com](https://www.facebook.com/acostastrongfineart/www.johnbstrong.com).

She has two paintings juried in the Pastel Society of New Mexico's national show. The show is at Expo NM in Albuquerque, and runs through November 27.

Also, one of her floral portraits has received Honorable Mention in the Pastel Journal's Pastel 100 competition. One hundred pastel paintings were chosen from more than 2,000 entries. Her painting, “Flanders Poppies,” will be published in the April 2017 issue of Pastel Journal, along with the 99 other winning paintings.



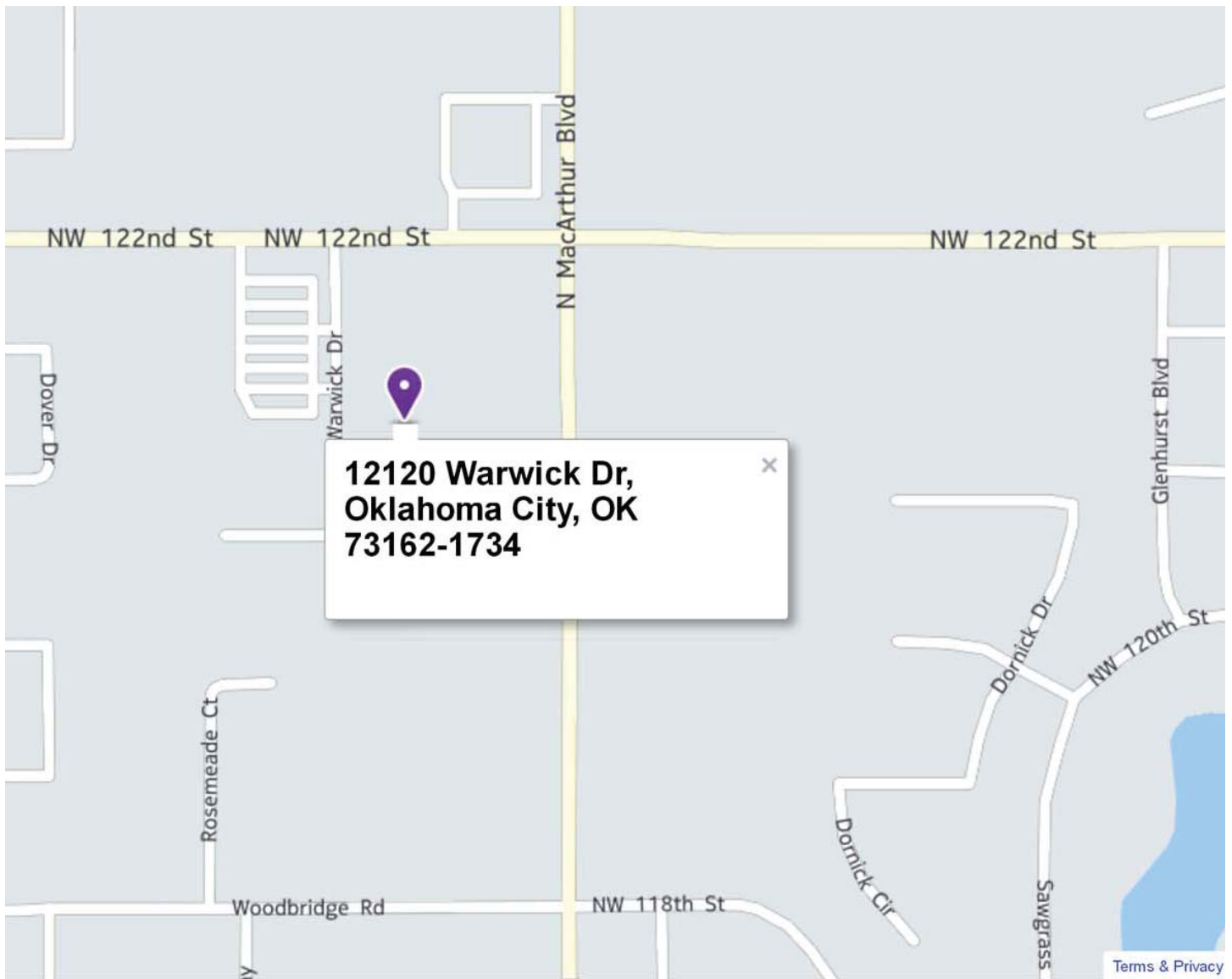
Thanks to Jan Hutchinson, Sue Ann Rodgers and Janie Schmitz for providing refreshments for our November meeting.

We need volunteers to provide refreshments for

January, February, April & May.

Let Lindel or Jimi know if you're interested.

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Dennis Parker Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City.