



March OPS Meeting to Feature Demo by Clive Tyler

Clive's demo at our March 13 meeting will be all about trees — foliage, shapes, values and colors, pine, oak and aspen.

Tyler defines himself as an impressionist. “In impressionism, you can say so much more by saying less,” he avers. His canvases reveal deft yet loose strokes, a strong sense of composition, and a tendency to depict atmosphere as an essential element. Whether capturing a valley of aspens, a wintry river scene, or moose hiding among the willows, the very air seems tangible in all of his landscapes. How does he create this effect? “I usually employ two or three foregrounds,” explains the artist, “six or seven middle grounds, and three or four backgrounds. It’s the challenge of taking the three-dimensional world and transferring it to the two-dimensional plane.” These carefully aligned spaces draw viewers into each canvas, conveying a strong sense of both place and presence.

Perhaps even more alluring is Tyler's bold chromaticism, heavily dependent on bright oranges. “When I under-paint,” he confirms, “I use a lot of orange. The color offers a beautiful sense of warmth—much more so than yellow.” In counterpoint, blues often retreat into the distance, whether in the sky or cool mountainous shapes behind layers of trees. “At this point in my career as a painter,” he adds, “I find complexity of color and form to be most fascinating, challenging, and stimulating.”

Tyler's painterly process usually begins outdoors. “I don't paint somewhere I haven't been,” he insists. “I go to a location and observe it, hike it, sit in it. Then I do some plein-air sketches and take photographs to inspire and remind me.” Back in the studio, Tyler renders a whole new drawing: “I create a design, balance, concept, and story—I draw it out first and then go into the painting process.” He notes that he enjoys “the drawing part” of using pastels, which he refers to as “oil paint without the oil.” He especially appreciates the tangible element of the medium: “You can put your fingers right on the paper, fill in, scribble, move sideways, and get into detail. And you can layer it, one color on top of the other.”



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Message from OPS President Lindel Hutson



Clive Tyler returns to OPS for a demonstration at Monday's meeting. Clive has included a stop in Oklahoma on his tour circuit the past few years and we've been fortunate to have him not only for workshops but also as a participant in our meetings. He comes to our Monday meeting after teaching a weekend workshop at Dennis Parker's studio. Let's hope some of the workshop participants bring their art to show at the meeting.

Clive is an Ohio native who now lives and paints in Taos, New Mexico. With strong composition and attention to lighting, each of his pieces imparts a unique emotional connection with the viewer.

"Up close my paintings may seem to have an abstract quality, but from further away they appear as if you are looking through a window to the world outside," says Clive.

The frame guy returns Thursday, March 23. He is Jesus Lopez, who has become a familiar figure to many members of the club. He will set up at Dennis Parker's studio parking lot beginning about 5 p.m. and he usually remains available until 8:00 p.m. or later. He offers quality frames at reasonable prices.

Another date to remember: April 10. That's the date of our next-to-last meeting of the year and our featured demonstration will be by noted local artist Dale Martin, a member of the Pastel Society of America. Among Dale's numerous awards are the Sennelier and the Art Times Awards from the Pastel Society of America, the Eileen McCarthy Award from the Salmagundi Club, and the Board of Directors' Award from Pastel Society of the West Coast. His paintings have been published in *Southwest Art*, *Oklahoma Today*, in *200 Great Painting Ideas for Artists* and other prominent magazines.

We are still working on a demonstration for the May meeting. If you have suggestions for an artist you would like to see please email me: lh0722@gmail.com.

We need to elect officers and appoint committee chairs at the May meeting. The current officers are president, Lindel Hutson; past president, Donna Branson (who has left the state); vice president; treasurer, Janie Schmits, and secretary, Donna Connelly. Let's hope Janie and Donna want to continue. You will need to elect a president. I've been happy to serve you the past two years but I think it's someone else's turn.

The people currently serving as committee chairs we hope will continue because of the excellent work they do. These are Linda Battles, show chair; Gary Sharp, webmaster; Jimi Layman, newsletter; Pam Brewer, workshops. The following are in the bylaws but currently no one is listed: refreshments, exhibitions, program, membership, publicity. Want to help your organization as an officer or committee chair? Send me an email: lh0722@gmail.com.

Looking ahead to November, we have Paseo Art Space reserved for November of 2017 for small works, thanks to Jan Hutchinson. They will charge a commission on sales but they also will man the gallery during the hours they are open and handle sales for us. We will be there for first Friday in November so will want to have food for that. Small works have a good chance of selling before Christmas.

**See you on Monday, March 13th, 6:30 p.m.
at Dennis Parker's Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City!**



Spotlight on OPS Member Susan Owen

How long have you worked in pastel?

I am brand new to pastel. I want to learn more so I found the Oklahoma Pastel Society!

What drew you to that medium? What do you like about working in pastels?

I've always admired pastel paintings. I attend figure drawing sessions at Kasum Contemporary in the Plaza District and noticed other artists using pastels there. I had to give them a try and found that I love the buttery soft feel on the paper. I bought a set of Sennelier soft pastels and love using them.

What other mediums do you work in?

I have worked in acrylic, watercolor and ink.

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

I started drawing and painting about two years ago. I had always wanted to learn, but was busy with kids, jobs and life. Now I have the time and have enjoyed the learning process.

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

Most of my work now is illustration and sketching/watercolor. We travel a lot and I take my journal everywhere I go. I try to do a painting every day of something I've seen. I've filled quite a few journals now and also work on larger pieces outside of my journal. I absolutely love keeping a record of my life and our adventures.

What is your favorite subject matter to paint? What kinds of experiences trigger ideas for your paintings?

I really enjoy sketching and painting people and animals, but I enjoy architecture too. I love everyday interactions. People at the coffee shop, animals that we see on our travels, a window with blue curtains blowing in the breeze — anything really! I like seeing the humor in situations and most of my work leans towards the humorous side of things.

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

I was a Mammographer (Radiologic Technologist) off and on for 30 years. We moved around for my husband's job, so I found work most everywhere we lived. When we moved back to Oklahoma in 2007, I worked part time for Oklahoma Breast Care Center and also started my own business training dogs (Scout Film Company). We train both pet dogs and dogs for film work/videos. After a few years, I quit my mammography job and worked at my own business full time. We make videos for a local television show about dogs (Dog Talk) and produce adverts and class videos. I taught



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classes for a prison dog training program and raised and trained service dogs and therapy dogs. I teach private lessons and group classes. I am scaling my dog training business back now as we are planning to travel much of the time in the near future.

Then I began learning to draw and paint! I have a comic strip I'm developing (Tug Time Comic) and have sold two (2!) paintings!! I worked on a project of 10 illustrations for a UK grooming symposium presentation and have several people waiting for illustration work. It's so very exciting to start a new chapter in my life. I'm currently teaching a four-week art journaling workshop at the Choctaw library.

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

Yes, I was born and raised in Oklahoma City. Graduated from Northwest Classen High School in 1977. We have lived in Texas, West Virginia and in England for seven years with my husband's job.

Anything else you would like to share?

I love learning new things and taking classes/workshops and meeting new people. I'm very excited about the March Clive Tyler workshop. I have a week booked at the Cloudcroft Art Workshops in New Mexico this summer. I'm taking a drawing class this year.

What is something that very few know about you?

Probably that I was a very shy little kid. Now I can mostly talk (too much) to anybody :)

Who is your favorite artist – who inspires you?

Ahhh...my favorite artist is Inger Jirby. She has a gallery in Taos, New Mexico. I love her colors, her style and the absolute happiness that bursts out of her work. I could literally stand in her gallery and soak up the happiness for a very long time. There is an interesting background on her choice of colors! I would like to produce work like that. If someone looks at my work and immediately smiles... that is the best reward for me.

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?

Right now, because I'm developing my Comic strip, I'm reading "The Professional Step-by-Step Guide to Cartooning" by Ivan Hissey and Curtis Tappenden. I have many art books, none devoted to pastel yet as I thought I would enjoy doing this March workshop as a complete novice!

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

I've been married to my best friend Richard for 36 years. We have three grown sons ages 33, 30 and 29. No grandkids, but we have five grand-dogs! Richard works for FAA. We have four dogs who travel with us and bring us lots of joy :)

Richard has been in a lot of my Tug Time Comics as he has a dry sense of humor and seems to get into funny situations.

What do you do for relaxation other than paint?

I enjoy walking my dogs, hiking, swimming, traveling and having brunch with friends or family.



Mitsuno Reedy's Tips for Doing Portraits from the February OPS Meeting

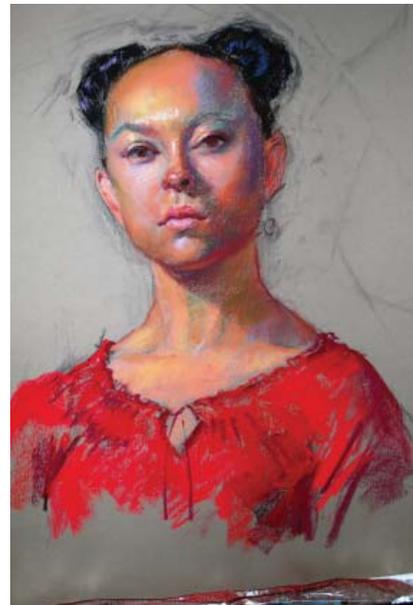
FIRST STAGE:

- Mitsuno uses vine charcoal to start. She uses a paper towel and kneaded eraser.
- Straight lines make for stronger compositions and better accuracy. You abstract the shape. Big shape first, then smaller and smaller.
- Composition is everything.
- How to abstract that line? What direction is it? Everything is connected.
- Take your time to start. Find the big shapes. Establish shadow side and light side in the charcoal stage.
- Think dotted line that connects parts.



SECOND STAGE – PASTEL:

- Medium brown for shadow side.
- Establishes the two darkest values first. Here it's the shadow side of her face, her hair & eyes.
- Then establish the lost and found edges. If you don't see a line, don't put it in.
- Start adding some dimension and some light values. Good notation at this point.
- When see a cool color in shadow, put it in, underneath local color.
- Nose is usually the warmest, because of the surface blood vessels.
- Cool color where the plane goes away from you. Important – it makes the farther area less intense.
- Need to know the anatomy, too.
- Sometimes the warm and cool color side by side will sing like a tapestry.
- Don't make a huge line where the top lip meets the skin.
- A lit ear has warm and cool.
- Lower part of face (jaw area) is cooler. Also side of face is cooler as it goes away from you.
- Sometimes put really, really red into the tear duct. This shows the duct area of the eye is really warm (blood vessels).
- Cool shadow still needs skin tone over it, to look right. Skin is relatively warm.
- Eyelid has a distinct shape.
- Cools – find the “ish.” Is it blue-ish, green-ish or purple-ish?
- Collar bone area has more yellow.
- Corners of the mouth are so important.



Upcoming Events & Workshops

Wagoner Arts Alliance, Wagoner Main Street Art Fair, April 22, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. There will be a pastel street art painting contest as well as music, art demos and food vendors. We are seeking artists to display and sell their wares. Please check out all the information and vendor forms on our Facebook page or at www.wagonerartsalliance.org.

IAPS 2017 Convention: Registration for the 2017 IAPS Convention in Albuquerque opens 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
August 7-12, 2017, Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Contact Jan Rasch, 575/491-7208.

Albert Handel, 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

Member News

News from OPS Member Jude Tolar:

1. One of Jude's pastel paintings, “Golden Provençal Hour,” was featured in the January 11 edition of Plein Air Today, in the section called “Why This Works...” Plein Air Today is the weekly e-newsletter for PleinAir Magazine. You can read the piece here: <http://www.outdoorpainter.com/why-this-works-masterful-use-of-color/>
2. She has three paintings in the Stillwater Art Guild Spring Show. One won Second Place, Advanced Pastels; and the other two won Honorable Mention, Advanced Pastels. The show runs through March 31, at Stillwater Community Center.

3. She won Honorable Mention in *Pastel Journal's* Pastel 100 competition. There were more than 2000 entries, and 100 paintings were chosen as the top 100 for the year. You can see them (including her “Flanders Poppies,” in Still Life/Floral category) in the current April issue of Pastel Journal.

4. Jude has two upcoming pastel workshops:

Trees, Flowers, Light, 3-Day workshop, Ponca City Art Association, April 5–7. Contact Kathrine Spena, spenamd@hotmail.com

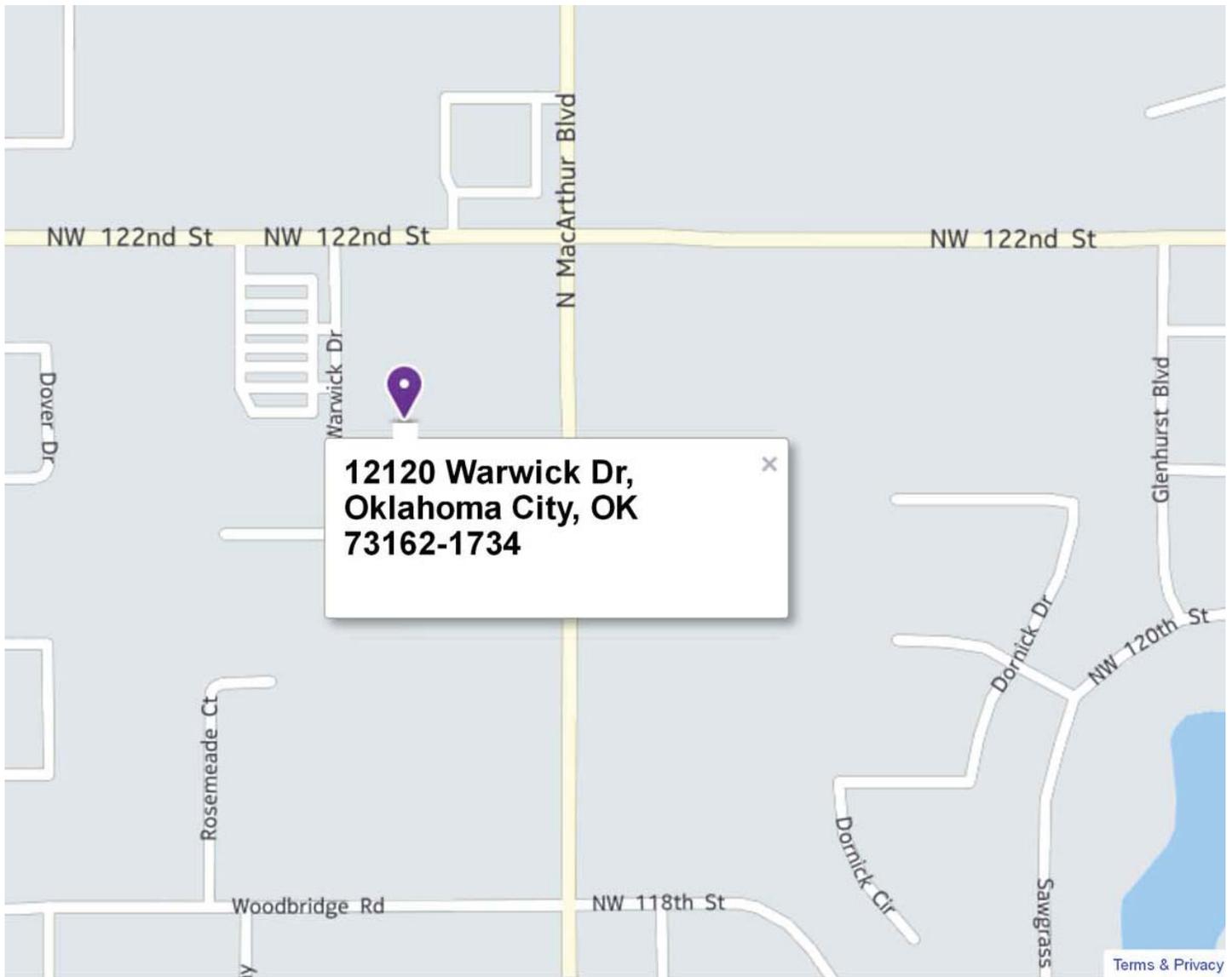
Techniques in Soft Pastels, 2-Day workshop, Muskogee Art Guild, May 2–3. Contact Becky Lucht, synzan@yahoo.com



Thanks to Linda Battles and Jan Hutchinson
for providing snacks for our March meeting.

We need two volunteers
to provide refreshments for April & May.
Let Lindel or Jimi know if you're interested.

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