



# Perspectives

## *State of the Art Studio Nears Completion!*

As I write this, the final stages of construction are being completed for my new studio which is an addition to our home. I am tremendously excited! It will give me 1000 square feet of working and gallery space with a spacious storage loft for all of my supplies. The work area has north light windows soaring 18 feet high. Almost everyone who has seen the project has commented "I can't wait to see your first painting done here!" Now that's intimidating! But I am anxious to get in there and get to work - it's truly a dream come true.

At the beginning of the construction last January Allan and I were regaled with horror stories of the pitfalls of small construction and certainly we were aware of how low in priority this type of work can

be for builders. But the gods were with us and throughout it all we were blessed with the most wonderful people who worked on the project - considerate, polite, conscientious, who took great pride in their work.

In fact, once I get settled in we're going to have a party for everyone who worked on it from the architect, Richard Cherry, to Cortez Construction and all the subcontractors, their crews and families. It'll be a lot of fun and give them a chance to see their finished work.

Although you're welcome to visit the studio at any time—and I hope you will—we'll be having a grand opening reception in the Fall. Invitations will be sent, of course. I would like to have it sooner but summer is so busy and a lot of folks are away. Besides it'll give me some time to complete new work. While the construction was exciting and fun, it drastically cut into my painting schedule and concentration.

## *Random Thoughts*

- Nobody sees a flower—really—it is so small it takes time to see. We haven't the time. And to see takes time, like to have a friend takes time.

• *Georgia O'Keefe*

While browsing through some art books recently, I came across a quote from Juan Gris, "You are lost the moment you know what the result will be". And I saw the truth in that. In the past when people asked me if I could see how the painting would end, I felt the answer was yes. I saw it and painted it to that end. But no longer. Now I let the painting paint itself, let myself become a channel for it to emerge. Even though I

have a subject before me, either in a photograph or en plein air, it simply provides a jumping off point for me. What freedom and joy painting can be when I detach myself from the result and take pleasure in the simple act of putting down the paint or pastel, manipulating it, creating exciting color and value patterns, and letting my love of it all come through.

## International Award



"Bicycle Path" Pastel

In May I was honored to be inducted into the Masters Circle of the International Association of Pastel Societies at their convention in Raleigh, N.C. At the Saturday night banquet I, along with 13 other artists, was presented with a gold medallion for my work in the medium of pastel.

Although I usually attend all of the IAPS semi-annual conventions, I had not planned to attend this one. But when the

President of IAPS called to tell me of the award and encouraged me to be present, Allan was on the phone that night to book our flight! It was a very exciting few days. My painting, "Bicycle Path", pictured at left was the painting that earned me the final point for inclusion into the Masters Circle. The painting is now on exhibit at ArtSource Gallery in Raleigh, N.C.

The keynote speaker at the banquet, Stephen Doherty, Editor-in-Chief of American Artist

Magazine, gave a talk describing the painting trips he, together with Forbes Magazine, organized in previous years to bring together selected artists to paint in very special parts of the world. I was happy to see images of me projected on the screen painting at the enormous Forbes Ranch in Colorado and at the Forbes Chateau in Normandy, France.

## Lemonade From Lemons

It's been nine months since I had rotator cuff surgery on my left shoulder and I'm grateful that my recovery was very successful. I'm left-handed and the initial inflammation was caused by the repetitive motion of painting—palette to easel, easel to palette over and over for long hours at a time. The tendonitis became a full tear with a simple act of lifting a box to a high shelf. The surgeon told me I wouldn't be able to paint for 3 to 5 months and that posed a terrible dilemma for me.

How could I not paint for that long? I couldn't. So I started some simple, small studies of skies with my right hand. I figured they could be loose and unstructured. That turned out fairly well. Then on to some basic landscapes, again loose and free. Getting a little better. It seemed in no time I was completing full paintings with my right hand and was utterly amazed that there seemed to be no difference in those painted with my left hand and those

with my right hand. Three weeks after surgery with my arm still in an immobilizer, I painted and delivered a diptych to Rich Designs, a gallery in Colorado Springs. Now I'm a true switch-hitter and am comfortable painting with either hand. When one gets tired, the other takes over. What fun! However, I still haven't mastered the skill of using both at the same time!

I simply look at what the universe has to show me, and use my brush to give an account of it.

Claude Monet

## Exhibits

In January, my painting "Adobe Retreat" took first prize at the Pikes Peak Pastel Society show in Colorado Springs.

One painting was included in the International Association of Pastel Societies exhibit at ArtSource Gallery in Raleigh, N.C. for the month of May.

Five paintings, oils and pastels, will be shown at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, Pueblo, Colorado, in their exhibit "Representing the West". This show will run from September 22 through October.

Three pastel paintings are being shown at the A.R. Mitchell Museum's First Street Gallery in Trinidad, CO from June 3 - June 12 as part of the Pikes Peak Pastel Society's Members' Exhibit.

One pastel painting will be included in the Degas Pastel Society Members' Exhibit in New Orleans, LA in September.

In April three oil paintings were juried into an exhibit of Women Artists of the West show in Newhall, CA

Thanks to so many of you who have supported me over the years, either by collecting my work or with your encouragement, advice and enthusiasm. I always enjoy hearing from you!

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