



**Art Happens Here**

**AFFILIATED GROUPS**

NCA (NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ARTS, INC.)

WASH (WATERCOLOR ARTISTS OF SACRAMENTO HORIZONS)

**GALLERY HOURS**  
TUESDAY - FRIDAY, 11AM-3PM  
SATURDAY - 11AM-5PM



5330-B GIBBONS DRIVE  
CARMICHAEL, CA 95608  
NONPROFIT ORG. 501 (C) 3

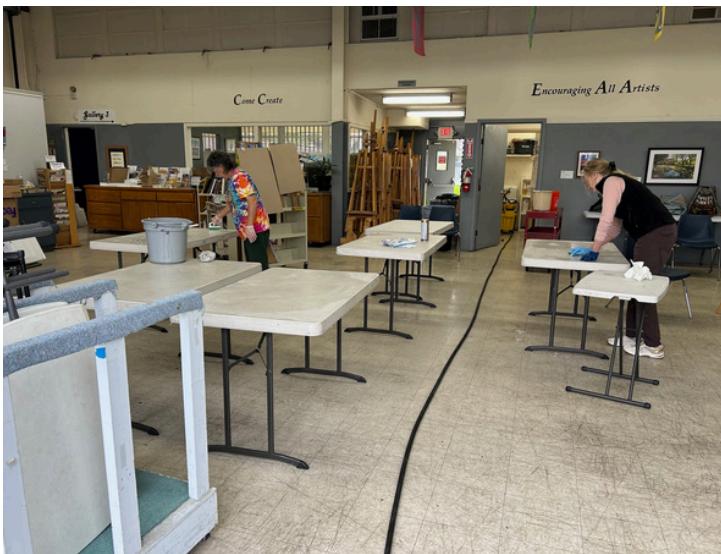
(916) 971-3713 TELEPHONE  
WWW.SACFINEARTS.ORG  
INFO@SACFINEARTS.ORG

**Our Mission is to encourage the creation and presentation of original visual arts, to support the cultural life of the community, and to encourage all artists to fulfill their potential.**

## FACILITY DAY *Angelia Gordon*

The building has been long overdue for several of the tasks we took on. You might have noticed paint build up our tables and counters. You may have noticed the galleries were in desperate need of a fresh coat of paint. The list truly has no end. We are very fortunate to have our center is so busy on a daily basis, but that means it has become extremely difficult to find the time and space to do so many of these projects.

On November 24 volunteers really showed up for our center. We had people in every room cleaning, painting, and fixing just about everything. The amount of people that showed up meant we were able to accomplish a large amount of stuff in a short amount of time. We hope all of our artists will help us take care of the building in the new year.



### **Volunteers**

Kirk Rosenkranz

Matt Zidar

Sally Durante

Susan Giles

Carl Henriet

Shannon Garrison

Dana Meinders

Jon Cofer

Phyllis Brady

Cyndy Spita

Pam Avery

Sandra Torguson

Judy Blazun

Victoria Harris

Vanessa Bondon

Sally Durante

Evelyn Adams

Connie Frank

Laurel Slosky

Bonnie Bell

## 2026 BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

MIKKI BAKO SORENSEN  
PRESIDENT

RENEE GOULARTE  
VICE PRESIDENT

DONALD MACKO  
TREASURER

PAMELA MARES  
SECRETARY

JANICE HIRONAKA  
DIRECTOR

KIRK ROSENKRANZ  
DIRECTOR

BJ TAYLOR  
DIRECTOR

DON TAYLOR  
DIRECTOR

SUSAN GILES  
DIRECTOR

PHYLLIS BRADY  
DIRECTOR

SALLY DURANTE  
NCA VOTING LIAISON

VACANT  
WASH LIAISON

ANGELIA GORDON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VANESSA BAO  
BOOKKEEPER

HALEY JUSTIN  
GALLERY ATTENDENT

JAZMIN LEDESMA  
GALLERY ATTENDENT

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT THE ART OF ART

*Mikki Bako Sorensen*

As 2026 sits before us with whatever unique gifts and challenges it will provide to us at Sac Arts, I want to share some thoughts. We will miss having the steady hand of Mary Hargrave at our helm. Her many years of experience running non-profits has been a major driver in turning Sac Arts into the professional organization that it is today. I have loved being her Co-President and will miss my “partner-in-crime” as I move forward as President for 2026.

Sac Arts has been really fortunate in having the creative, talented, patient, hard-working Angelia Gordon as our Executive Director. Without her by our side, the work Mary and I did as Co-Presidents would not have had the same level of success. She will be the lodestar that keeps Sac Arts on a steady path of professionalism and service to our artists and our community.

We also were gifted with some really wonderful Board members over the past few years while Mary and I served as Co-Presidents and we truly couldn't have done it without their generous support and willingness to do whatever was needed to make Sac Arts shine. A special thank you to: Dana Meinders, Sally Durante, Renee Goularte, Phyllis Brady, Donald Macko, Don Taylor, Susan Giles, B. J. Taylor, Pamela Mares, Paul Dessau, Nancy Wedick, Joan Hall, Patty Larsen, Elise Reilly, Jerry Jaggers, Janet Regan, Jo Kopp, John Nichols, Peggy Columbo, and last and most affectionately, Jean Walker.

I am looking forward to meeting with our 2026 Board members as we plan for an exciting year for Sac Arts: Renee Goularte, Susan Giles, Don Macko, Pamela Mares, Phyllis Brady, Sally Durante, B.J. Taylor, Janice Horanika and Kirk Rosenkranz.

We have some interesting new shows, including an auto art show that will be accompanied by an actual auto show and also our 40th Anniversary celebration coming in April. We also will continue with our technology workshops, quarterly meetings with information on issues of interest to our members (if there is something you would like to learn about or hear about, let Angelia know), Ars Gratia Artis, Art Poetry and Jazz and so much more.

As we use this time to look back and look forward, I want to share something I have been thinking about lately. I was attending a monthly demonstration by NCA and my attention was drawn to a couple women sitting behind me. They seemed to be so excited about the demo and what was being shown, but when they learned that the instructor had drawn the subject beforehand, they both sat back, dejected, and said, “well I guess that leaves us out.” They couldn't draw.

# NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT THE ART OF ART

I often talk with non-artist people about art and what strikes me is how often their response is that they just don't have any talent, or they wish they could do something artistic but they don't know how and it looks so hard. As someone who used to feel this way throughout my entire childhood and well into my 60's, I feel a desire to educate people about the reality that anyone can make art and get all the pure joy out of creating that other artists do. Art is a creative mindset as much as a technical skill set.

I didn't get a chance to turn around and speak to the two women at the NCA meeting. They were gone when the demo ended and I could turn around. I would have explained that everyone is an artist and if there is a particular skill they want to acquire, talk to their club or Angelia about classes at their level that might help them and also encouraged them to talk more with the instructor as she might well teach them how to draw. I also would have told them about things like using tracing paper to copy images from your own photos so that you can enjoy learning to paint without fearing the pencil.

I know NCA is bringing back their Aspiring Artists show in 2026 for those who are making art but have never shown their work in any type of a juried show. It's a wonderful concept and addresses artists who have made art, but just not shown their art - they haven't taken that fearful step of declaring publicly that they think of themselves as an artist.

I vividly remember that feeling. After getting into a few shows, I had to face the fear of writing an artist's statement and even worse, the fear of getting business cards that told the world I thought I was an artist. It almost made me sick to my stomach. When I look back at that version of myself I want to chuckle ... how is it that something so beautiful and joyful as making art can cause so much fear?

I remember being at a legal conference for one of the top 50 corporations in the US and the presenter asked the 500 or so lawyers there to raise their hands if they were an artist. No one did. Not even me. I almost raised my hand, but looked around and feared I'd be thought foolish, so I kept it down - even though I was madly doodling through the whole conference and his presentation.



# NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT THE ART OF ART

He said, if he'd asked this same question of second graders everyone would raise their hands. Why the difference? When did we replace the joy with fear? When did art become more about being critiqued and less about self-expression?

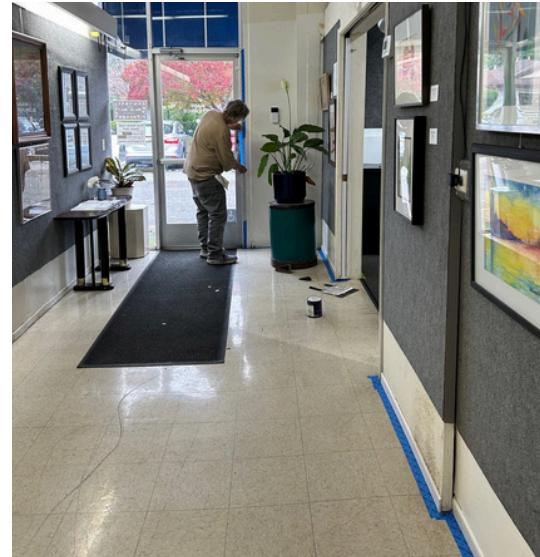
I feared art at an early age. I remember not enjoying art class in elementary school because I just couldn't "do" it. I couldn't make things look the way I wanted, figured I had no talent, and spent the following decades loving to look at art, but never making any art.

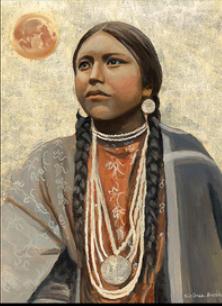
Why does that happen? My mother was a very good artist though she was never formally educated in art. She encouraged us to draw and color and make things, but I kept on the fringes of our art activities. The absolute freedom, lack of boundaries and limits other than what our imagination can conjure up seemed frightening. When I colored, I always was careful to stay between the lines. There was some technical satisfaction, but none of the joy of the free play that is ART.

When I finally agreed to attend some art classes at Michael's with a friend, it was only because I was trying to find time in my busy life to spend with her. After a few months a transformation occurred. I began to see that I could do it ... I could make art that didn't look half bad. After a couple years, I was in love with ART and began exploring my own self expression. Now, I cannot imagine my life without art.

I have not just become a better artist, I am a better person because of art. I am healthier and happier. I feel a deeper connection to my self and to others because of art and my involvement in the community of artists.

As I've pondered all this, I find myself wondering if we can come up with a way to reach out to people who are fascinated by, but afraid of art. How do we spread the word that anyone and everyone can make art? How do we encourage people to play with art as an exercise in mental and emotional health. Art is the freedom to be yourself and express yourself and it is deeply satisfying at every level at which you perform. It makes the world a better place.





## VICTORIA BROOKS IN GALLERY 3 — FEBRUARY 2026

After earning Best of Show for *Magnum Opus* in April 2025—and as a longtime member and former instructor of fifteen years at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center—Victoria Brooks returns with a new solo exhibition opening February 3, 2026.

Collectors and admirers across the world know Victoria for her ability to capture intimate moments with sincerity and depth. Her paintings create a quiet, personal dialogue with the viewer, striking an emotional chord that lingers. This sensitivity is especially clear in her portrait work, where she conveys mood and inner character with uncommon clarity.

Victoria's Solo exhibition will not only feature her traditional figurative beach paintings but will include her new series of Native American women.

Victoria is deeply committed to her new series of portraits of Native American women. Drawing from black-and-white photographs dating to the late 1800s and early 1900s, she works with a limited palette to preserve the dignity and historic tone of these images. With the addition of silver and 22k gold gilding, she brings a renewed presence to each figure—honoring their strength and illuminating their spirit.

Through this series, Victoria hopes to encourage greater awareness of the ongoing crisis surrounding missing Native American women, who continue to disappear at disproportionately high rates. To learn more, visit [NIWRC.org](http://NIWRC.org).

Victoria is a Signature Member of the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society (NOAPS) and the American Impressionist Society (AIS), and an Artist Member of the Oil Painters of America (OPA) and the California Art Club (CAC).

Website: [www.Vbrooks.com](http://www.Vbrooks.com)

Facebook: @victoriabrooksfineart

Instagram: @victoria\_brooks\_artist

Reception:

February 14, 2026 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Sacramento Fine Arts Center

# RENAISSANCE DRAWING WORKSHOP: WITH GINA TORELLO

## "MASTERING CHIAROSCURO ON TONED PAPER"

" Renaissance Drawing Workshop - March 14-15 , 2026 from 10:00am-4:00pm

In this workshop, students will explore the timeless Renaissance drawing method using black and white media on grey-toned paper. You will learn the classical principles of chiaroscuro—the powerful interplay of light and dark that defined one of the most influential periods in art history.

Guided by an instructor classically trained in Florence, Italy—the heart of the Renaissance—with 35 years of teaching experience, you will develop a clear understanding of light, shadow, and values. Through step-by-step instruction, you will learn how to create convincing three-dimensional realism on a two-dimensional surface.

This course is designed for all levels and supports every artistic style and medium. The skills you gain here will enhance your drawing practice and elevate your overall artistic ability. Gina will present an online live zoom demonstration lesson for all that are interested on Friday January 16th at 8:00pm.

Join us for this transformative workshop and discover a new way of seeing and rendering the world around you with Gina Torello from LightScapes Studio Fine Arts Educational Center. SAC will offer her upcoming workshop on March 14-15, 2026 10:00-4:00pm at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center.

Renaissance Drawing Materials list:

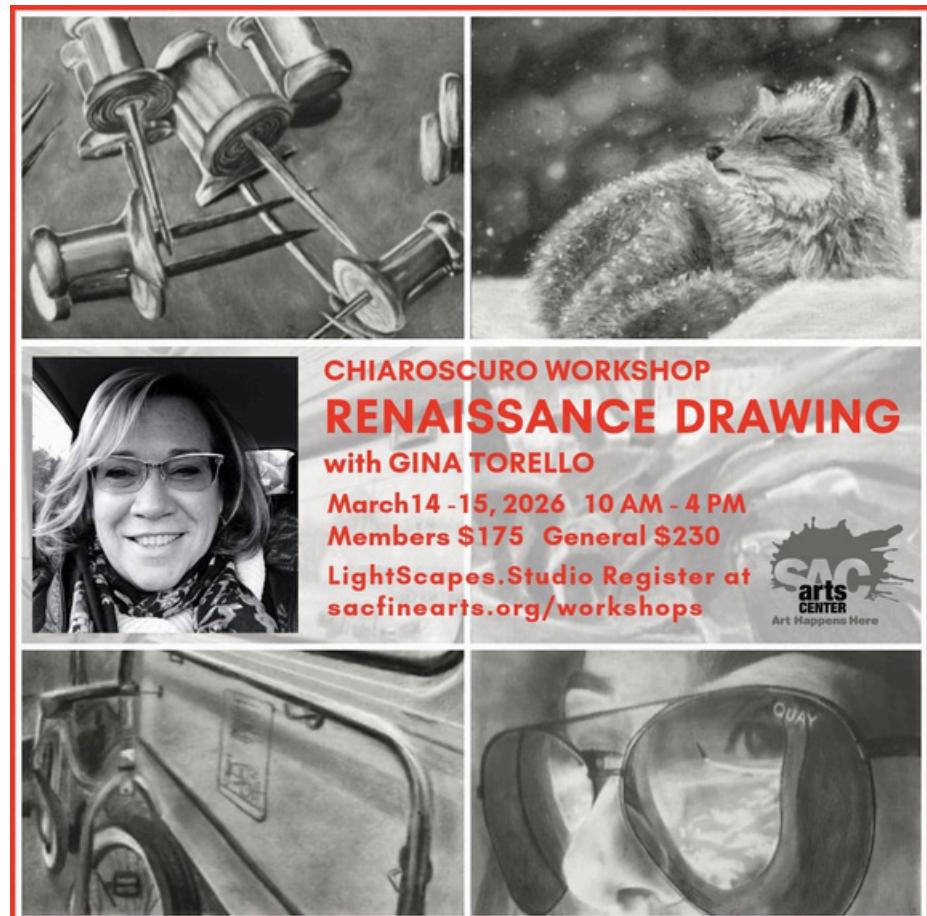
- Black Charcoal Pencil
- White Charcoal Pencil
- (Or General's Charcoal Pencils set blacks and white with kneaded eraser)
- Kneaded Eraser
- Rubber Eraser
- Tombow mono zero eraser pen
- Generals compressed charcoal white
- Soft Vine Charcoal or Extra Soft Vine Charcoal
- Strathmore Gray Toned 400 series 8x10 or 9x1sketchpad
- hand held Pencil sharpener

### JOIN MY FREE ONLINE DEMONSTRATION-

"Chiaroscuro on Toned Paper Online Demo"

January 16 at 8:00pm

Demo Zoom Link 1/16/26 at 8:00pm PST <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6940914928?omn=88036021603>



# WELCOME VANESSA BOA

Vanessa is a senior at UC Davis majoring in Managerial Economics and minoring in accounting. Her experience in art stems from sketching for many years, and a novice understanding of acrylics and digital art. She works as a bookkeeper at Sac Fine Arts.



## PLACES TO VISIT 2026

One of the few museums that includes a house in its art collection. The programs and events have a show biz theme.  
<https://www.psmuseum.org/events/programs-events>

The Getty Center Los Angeles  
**How to Be a Guerrilla Girl**  
presents the inner workings of  
the anonymous feminist art  
collective

<https://www.getty.edu/visit/center/>

Getty Villa

**Greek & Roman Art**

<https://www.getty.edu/visit/villa/>

**Politics of Civil War**  
**monuments** - Through May 3  
**Diary of Flowers** through March  
1, 2-26

Museum of Contemporary Art

(Los Angeles)

<https://www.moca.org>

**Happiest Place on Earth: The**  
**Disneyland Story**  
Through May 2026  
Walt Disney Family Museum  
The Presidio San Francisco  
<https://www.waltdisney.org/visitor-information>



*Take Your Art To The Next Level with*

***Andrea Morris***

**Artistic Expression**  
**Through Exploration**

SACRAMENTO FINE ARTS CENTER

5330 GIBBONS DRIVE SACRAMENTO, CA

EACH MONTH WE WILL COVER A DIFFERENT ASPECT OF CREATING UNIQUE AND COMPELLING ART PIECES WITH YOUR OWN VOICE AND STYLE OPEN TO STUDENTS AT ALL LEVELS IN ACRYLIC OR OILS



To Register  
Contact Andrea

“ THESE CLASSES HAVE CHANGED MY PAINTING PROCESS AND HOW I THINK ABOUT CREATING ART THAT IS AUTHENTIC TO ME ”  
.....Linda Ball

email - [andreamorrisart@yahoo.com](mailto:andreamorrisart@yahoo.com)  
phone - 209.329.5099  
Materials List will be provided upon registration

**Students will have the opportunity to apply the techniques learned each month to their personal paintings in class**



## LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS FOR SANDRA & BOBBIE

*Angelia Gordon*

Every year the Sac Arts Board of Directors selects an individual for a Lifetime Membership Award. This award is given to members and volunteers who have given their time to betting our center.

There is a very long list of extremely well deserving people. So it is difficult for our board to members to narrow down the nominees and select a winner. This year may have been more difficult than usual.

This years top nominees are partners in crime. They run the centers most popular program, Friday Morning Figure Drawing. In addition to be well organized and thoughtful, they make every person attending their program feel welcome. They create an environment that keeps people coming back and has drawn several new members over the years.

The two of them make a huge impact in our center. We are beyond grateful for all of the work they have done. So it was extremely difficult to choose between the two. Which is why we didn't. Sandra Torguson and Bobbie Lou Hunt are both receiving a Lifetime Membership.

## PLACES TO VISIT 2026 (CONT.)

Jack Kirby: Heros and Humanity (Captain America, Hulk, Avengers etc.

Skirball Museum - Los Angeles  
Through March 2026

<https://www.skirball.org/museum/jack-kirby-heroes-and-humanity>

Museum of Glass - Tacoma WA

Chihuly inspired museum with active demonstrations of glass blowing on large stage of kilns.

<https://www.museumofglass.org>

Lucas Museum of Narrative Art - Los Angeles

Opens - September 22, 2026

11-acre campus in Exposition Park dedicated to the art of storytelling in all its forms — illustration, comics, photography, film, murals and more.

<https://www.lucasmuseum.org>

## FIGURES IN ACTION OIL PAINTING CLASS BY KAREN CAHILL



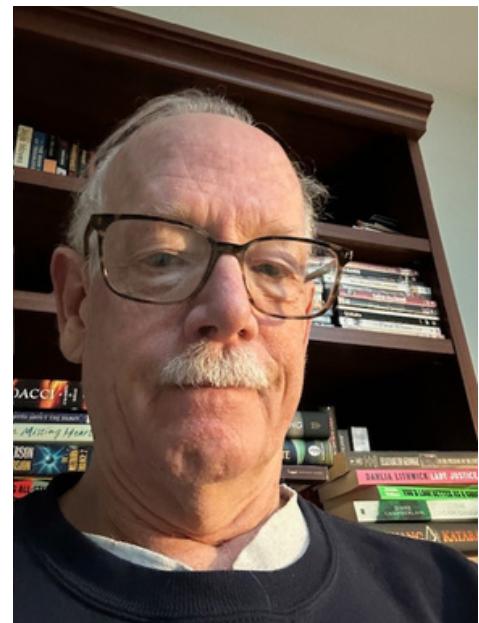
**Date: January 8th – January 29th**  
**Day: Thursday**  
**Time: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Sacramento Fine Arts Center**  
**5330B Gibbons Street, Carmichael, California**  
**Instructor: Karen Cahill**  
**Cost: \$160 for the month (check or cash only)**

**What You Will Learn:**

- How to paint dynamic movement with accuracy
- Capturing dramatic poses and gesture
- Using light and shadow for realism and impact
- Painting clothing in motion
- Step-by-step coaching during class

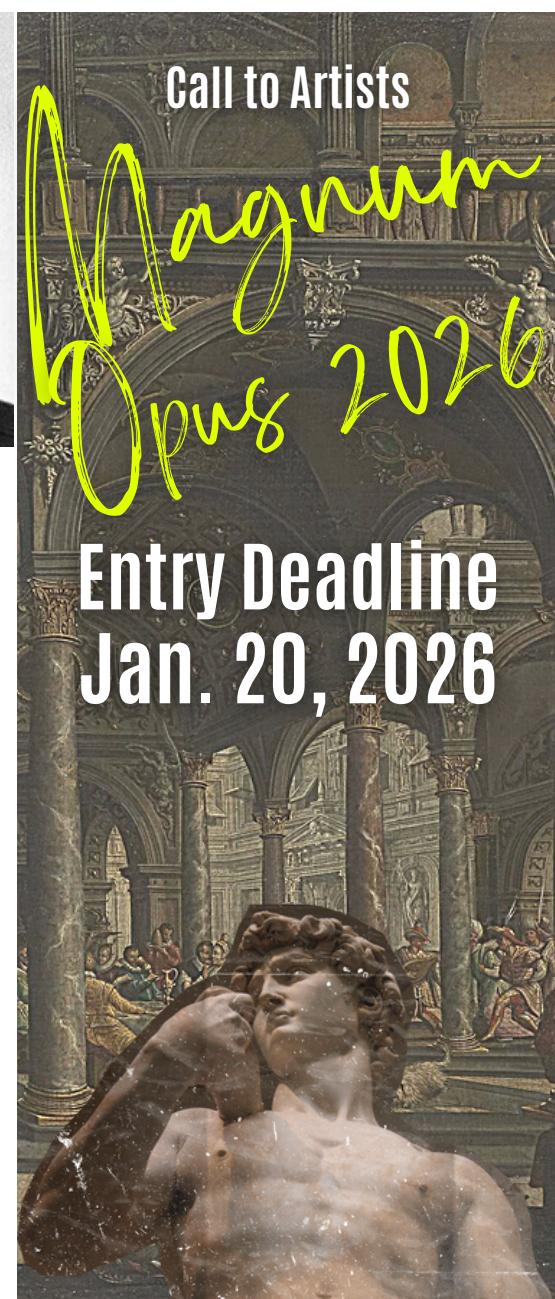
# WELCOME NEW SAC ARTS BOARD MEMBER KIRK ROSENKRANTZ

I've been painting (acrylic on canvas) for more than forty years. The vast majority of the work's subject matter is nature-centric (animals, flowers, landscapes, etc.). I was introduced to the Sacramento Fine Arts Center a year or so ago. I immediately knew that the Sac Arts is an organization that could not only provide me with a chance to grow as an artist, but provides that same opportunity to many, many other people. "The Arts" are incredibly valuable to our society and supporting them through the SFAC is one way to add value to the lives of the folks that use the Center to channel their artistic goals, or provide an opportunity to publicly show their work, or socialize with like-minded folks. I want to support the Sac Arts as much as I can and being a member of the Board gives me an opportunity to do that.



## Juror Biography

Richard Yang grew up in Guangzhou, China in 1960. He graduated from the Oil Painting Department of the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in 1987 with a bachelor's degree. In 1992, he entered the San Francisco Academy of Fine Arts for further studies as MFA in Graphic design. He has been engaged in photography for 20 years and continues to paint. He explores in the practice of impressionism and realism, seeking natural expression and the beauty of oil painting language. Over the years he has toured and painted throughout California, participating in exhibitions and becoming a member of several art organizations, such as the Oil Painters of America, the Professional League of American Artists, the California Art Club, Yolo Art, Blue Line Art and the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. Won many awards in Yolo Art and California State Fair art competitions. He likes to paint a wide range of subjects, including characters and indoor and outdoor life scenes, capturing the light and color of California nature. Describe mountains, rivers and oceans, record those dazzling moments with passion and concentration, and create a poetic mood.





*Renovation photos from 40 years ago.*

## Platinum

### Members

Jeanne Reilly  
Jo Kopp  
Mary Hargrave  
Mikki Bako Sorensen  
Richard Ashby  
Vanessa Bondon  
Zachary Mandell

## Business

### Members

Alice Horst  
Megan  
Michelle Ramirez  
Ron Byrne

## Lifetime

### Members

Jan Miskulin  
Margaret Pollan  
Skip Lee  
David Peterson  
Joan McMurray  
Sally Durante  
Bobbie Lou Hunt  
Sandra Torguson



## Platinum

### Members

Jeanne Reilly  
Jo Kopp  
Mary Hargrave  
Mikki Bako Sorensen  
Richard Ashby  
Vanessa Bondon  
Zachary Mandell

## Gold Members

Barbara Marshall  
Marleen Merchant  
Michele Mowrey  
Marie Dixon  
Paula Cameto  
Sally Bostley

## Follow Us on Social Media!



[facebook.com/sacfineartscenter](https://facebook.com/sacfineartscenter)

[instagram.com/sacfineartscenter](https://instagram.com/sacfineartscenter)





## NCA Board of Directors

**President** Edward Reus  
**1st Vice President - Programs & Workshops** Janice Hironaka  
**2nd Vice President - Public Relations & Marketing** Andrea Higginbotham  
**Secretary** Barbara Marshall  
**Treasurer** Elise Reilly  
**SFAC Liaison** Sally Durante  
**Past President** Sally Durante  
**Members Show Chair** David Peterson  
**Newsletter Editor** Ashleigh Anderson  
**Website/Internet Technology** Shannon Garrison  
**Membership Chair** Susan Giles  
**Bold Expressions Chair** Gregory Smith  
**Bold Expressions Co-Chair** Paul Dessau  
**Hospitality** Evelyn Adams  
**Raffle** Kathi Bristow  
**Courtesy** Bobbie Lou Hunt  
**Featured Artist Coordinator** Paul Dessau  
**Artist Standing Chair** Paul Dessau  
**Historian** Diana Holt  
**Member at Large** Connie Frank  
**Aspiring Artist Show Chair** Vianne De Santiago

## NCA Contact Information

Email [info@norcalartsinc.org](mailto:info@norcalartsinc.org) or call NCA at 916-750-1968

# NCA Newsletter

## January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.  
Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

### President's Message

#### A Thank You to ...

As 2025 closes, I'd like to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new year. NCA and SacArts volunteers help to make our year successful. So, first, I'd like to thank all the volunteers throughout the year that helped make NCA successful. All of you that volunteered to help with our art shows (receiving, setup and takedown), helped with organization events and awesome outreach, and have helped in smooth running of the SacArts center. It's great to see all of you that participate at our events, all of you are what make NCA a great organization. Thank you.

Next, I'd like to thank NCA board members that have served over the past year and are stepping down. Thank you Ted Hopkins (Newsletter), Vanessa Bonden (Raffle Coordinator), Kirk Rosenkranz and Jyenny Babcock (Treasurers), and Erin O'Brian (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President).

Thank you to members stepping in to fill these NCA board roles. Janice Hironaka (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Elise Reilly (Treasurer), Ashleigh Anderson (Newsletter), Kathi Bristow (Raffle Coordinator and who has already been in this role), Connie Frank (Member at Large), and Barbara Schneider (assisting with NCA's member show).

Thank you to our continuing board members. Andrea Higginbotham (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Susan Lee Giles (Membership), Sally Durante (SacArts Liaison and past president), Shannon Garrison (Website), Evelyn Adams (Hospitality Chair), Diana Holt (Historian), Vianne De Santiago (Aspiring Artist), Gregory Smith (BoldEx Chair), David Peterson (Members Show, and a bunch of other stuff), Paul Dessau (Artist of the Month, Artist Standing and BoldEx Co-Chair), Bobbie Lou Hunt (Courtesy), and Barbara Marshall (Secretary).

Finally, we already have our Members Show and Bold Expressions shows lined up. Also, SacArts shows, tons of weekly events at the center and outreach events next summer.

**Edward Reus, NCA President**





# NCA Members Newsletter

January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.

Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

## Upcoming Events

### Second Chances

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Jan 2-24

Reception: Jan 10, 5:00-7:00 pm

### Magnum Opus 2026

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Feb 17-March 14

Reception: March 14, 5:00-7:00 pm

### Mira Loma High School IB

#### Student Show

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: March 17-28

### Second Hand Art Supply Sale

Sac Fine Arts Center

March 28, 10am-1pm

### NCA Members Show

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: April 28-May 16

Reception: May 9, 5:00-8:00pm

### NCA Aspiring Artist

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: June 1-30

Reception: June 13, 5:00-8:00pm

### All-Club Holiday Party

WASH put on a fantastic holiday party on Dec 8 at Sac Fine Arts. The evening included potluck holiday dinner, music, art-inspired hat contest, wonderful company, and Santa! Much thanks to all who helped make the event successful. NCA members Sandra Torguson and Bobbie Lou Hunt received Sac Fine Arts' Lifetime Membership Award for their outstanding contributions to the organization.





## Call to Artists

### Magnum Opus 2026

Sac Fine Arts

Deadline: Jan 20th

### NCA Members Show

Sac Fine Arts

Deadline: April 11th

# NCA Members Newsletter

January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.

Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939



**Join Us,**

**Show with Us!**

**Online Entry Ends**

**April 11, 2026**

**[norcalartsinc.org](http://norcalartsinc.org)**

**Show dates:**

**April 28-**

**May 16, 2026**

**at Sacramento**

**Fine Arts Center**

## Northern California Arts, Inc., Members Show

Call to member artists for the 2026 Northern California Arts, Inc. Members Show at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. Entries due April 11, 2026. Enter online at [www.norcalartsinc.org](http://www.norcalartsinc.org) using Entrythingy. Online judging begins April 13. Notification by April 18. Receiving, Friday April 24, 1-5 pm and Saturday April 25, 11 am-3 pm. A maximum of 3 artworks per artist may be entered for selection by the judge to be considered for this exhibit. Only 2 artworks per artist will be exhibited. Each member is guaranteed to have 1 artwork accepted. There will be Cash and Gift Awards. Exhibition Dates are April 28-May 16, 2026. Second Saturday Reception and Awards Presentation is the evening of May 9, 2026. Our 2026 judge for acceptance and awards will be **Ronald Peetz**. Show Chair is **David Peterson**, 916-716-595, assisted by Barbara Schneider.

Judge **Ron Peetz** was born in Pendleton, Oregon and moved to Sacramento when still in grade school. In local schools he gained a real interest in making art. This interest led him to attend American River College and then on to graduate from California State University at Sacramento with a teaching credential. After graduating Ron was hired to teach art the San Juan Unified School District until his retirement. Today, he continues to work in one of his two art studios built on his property in the rural countryside outside of Lincoln. A founding member of Axis Gallery in Sacramento, Ron is known for his conceptual and surrealistic artwork that uses humor and wit to make commentary and observations on the human condition. His exhibitions include: Artspace gallery, b. sakata garo, Sacramento City College, American River College, CSUS, Axis Gallery, and Crocker Museum.



## Guest Artist Demonstrations General Meetings

Artist demonstrations, a part of NCA General Meetings, bring expressive artists and NCA members together for creative growth. NCA General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7-9 pm, except July and August.

**Wed, January 14th**

*Dave Manousos*

**Wed, February 11th**

*TBD*

**NCA Event Calendar:**  
<https://norcalartsinc.org/schedule>

# NCA Members Newsletter

## January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.

Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

### January 14th Guest Artist - Dave Manousos

**Artist Statement:** Dave Manousos is a fine artist originally from Oakland, CA, currently residing in Northern California Gold Country. His artwork is regularly showcased in various regions including the San Francisco Bay Area, northern California Sacramento region, and Southern California, including Las Laguna and San Diego.

Additionally, he has exhibited his work in numerous locations on the east coast as well as in Palma, Spain and Zurich, Switzerland.



Specializing in acrylic medium painting, Manousos is best known for his "Big Eye Collection." This collection seamlessly combines his illustration and painting techniques, prominently featuring an oversized eye on one side of the face.

His artwork is characterized by vibrant colors, textured layers, and abstract shapes, all of which work together to depict nostalgic imagery of individuals from his own life. Manousos seeks to capture fragmented moments and preserve history through his art. Drawing inspiration from memories of past relationships, family members, and significant life events, his paintings serve as narratives of profound interpersonal connections.

---

### New Year Resolutions for the Artist 2026

By Sally Durante

Every January I like to start the new year with a wish list of sorts - a list of resolutions to try new things and change old ways for the better in the year ahead. I have found when I take the time to write these resolutions down on paper its more likely to happen as a new habit or practice. Thought I'd share my hopes and intentions for this coming year.

- Spend more time in nature
- Keep a journal
- Redecorate
- Appreciate your family
- Learn a new craft
- Spend time looking at art
- Read more books
- Adopt a pet
- Embrace minimalism
- Express yourself creatively



## Artist of the Month



**Kelly Rylander** was selected November Artist of the Month



**Linda Ball** was selected December Artist of the Month

# NCA Members Newsletter

January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.  
Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

## November 12th Guest Artist - Michelle Scott

Master watercolorist, Michelle Scott, presented some of her amazing watercolor pieces that feature realist closeups of nature that double as abstracts. Michelle showed her watercolor techniques for producing these amazing images. She was assisted by her daughter.



Northern California Arts

You're invited to  
**NCA's**  
**New Member Tea**

SUNDAY  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**  
NOON TO 2:00 PM

AT THE  
SACRAMENTO ARTS CENTER  
5330-B GIBBONS DR.  
CARMICHAEL 95841

New members and members  
who have never attended  
our tea are invited!

We are looking forward to  
meeting you and sharing, food,  
fun, ART and information  
about our NCA activities and  
events with you.

RSVP by February 1, 2026  
Susan Lee Giles, NCA Membership Chair  
Email: susanlee Giles@att.net  
Text: 916 251.6057



# NCA Members Newsletter

January-February 2026

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.

Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

## Member News

NCA Member **David Peterson**, 'Aquacolorist', will be showing unique abstract watercolors of the world we live in, January 3-29, 2026, at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center, 9020 Elk Grove Blvd. Suite 101 Elk Grove, CA.

NCA Member **Matt Zidar** took 1st in the fine arts category at the Lodi Sand Hill Crane art Exhibit held November 7-9, 2025, as part of the crane festival. Festival link <https://lodisandhillcrane.org/art-show/>



As outgoing NCA Newsletter Editor, this is my last newsletter. I have used my time as newsletter editor to help connect with other artists and organizations to further my journey as an artist. Thank you to all who have helped.



Ted Hopkins, Newsletter Editor  
email: [twhop@protonmail.com](mailto:twhop@protonmail.com)

## We Want To Hear From You!

- Have you been accepted in a show?
- Where are you showing your artwork?
- Are you teaching a class or workshop?
- How can NCA help you learn and grow?

Send a text or email to Susan Lee Giles, Membership Chair. Our newsletter is published every two months and we want to include your ART news in future publications.

Email: [susanteeegiles@att.net](mailto:susanteeegiles@att.net)

Text: 1-916-251-6057



## Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

### WASH Newsletter      January/February 2026

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Happy New Year.

Thank you all for having the confidence in my ability to lead this great team for the next two years. While this will be a new experience for me, I think I have the passion to lead us into two years of fun, great art and a sense of belonging to a great organization.

I want to thank the people who are leaving the board for their years of service, Chris Knopp, our former president, Sally Bostley, our membership chair, Susy Soulies our show co-chair. We hope to see you all at the general meetings and the great new art you will now have time to do.

One of the first challenges in taking on this job is to find new volunteers for the vacant positions. I hope that those of you who have not volunteered take the time to see where you can help out. This is an all-volunteer organization. It has been successful because of you and can only continue with your continued help. I look forward to talking with you all, and seeing where you can help us stay vibrant in the future.

Again, Happy New Year!

BJ Taylor- President of WASH

The following WASH members were accepted for the upcoming CWA International:

- ★ Barbara Kempe
- ★ Jo Kopp
- ★ Steve Stein
- ★ Steve Walters
- ★ Anthony Rogone

Congratulations, all!

Membership has it's benefits! Did you know that [MerriArtist.com](http://MerriArtist.com) gives us a 10% discount? I've purchased supplies from them in the past, and delivery was really fast, considering they're in Oregon...not South Carolina. Simply use the code WASH at checkout.

Get 10% off anytime!



As a thank-you for your support, MerriArtist gives all WASH members 10% off!

## HOUSEKEEPING:

*Note from your Newsletter Editor: The WASH newsletter is published and emailed to all members in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The deadline for the March/April newsletter will be **February 20**. Photos are especially appreciated. Thank you!*  
 ronnierector@yahoo.com

Be sure to send any **address, phone** and/or **email changes** to Membership Chair **NOLA SMITH** at [knit2n@gmail.com](mailto:knit2n@gmail.com).

Follow us online at:

Website: <https://washesfac.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WASH.WatercolorArtistsofSacramentoHorizons>

Instagram: @wash\_sacramento

## YOUR 2026 OFFICERS:

President	BJ Taylor
Secretary	Teresa Edwards
Treasurer	Cordi Sogge
Program Co-Chairs	Alyssa Gorman Rose White
Membership Chair	Nola Smith
Show Chair, Interim	Kristi Warren
Workshop Chair	Steve Stein
Newsletter Editor	Ronnie Rector
Webmaster	Chris Triplett
Media Coordinator	<b>Help Wanted!</b>
SFAC Liaison	<b>Help Wanted!</b>
Scholarship Co-Chairs	BJ Taylor, David Kalbach, Tom Adams, Chris Knopp

## BECOME A MEMBER!

<https://www.sacfinearts.org/membership193bc6ca#join>

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please welcome our newest WASH members:

**MYRA RAMOS CHAVEZ**, Colusa

**NOLA SMITH**, Carmichael

**SANDRA WARNE**, Carmichael

Happy New Year! I would like to introduce the new WASH Membership Chair, **NOLA SMITH**, who just joined WASH October first. You Please stop and introduce yourselves when you pick up your name tags at the meetings.

Artist Stella Canfield will be presenting the demonstration for our January meeting. You can find out more about her from her website, <https://www.stellacanfield.com/> To the right is just one of the many pieces included on her website. Come in person or via ZOOM!

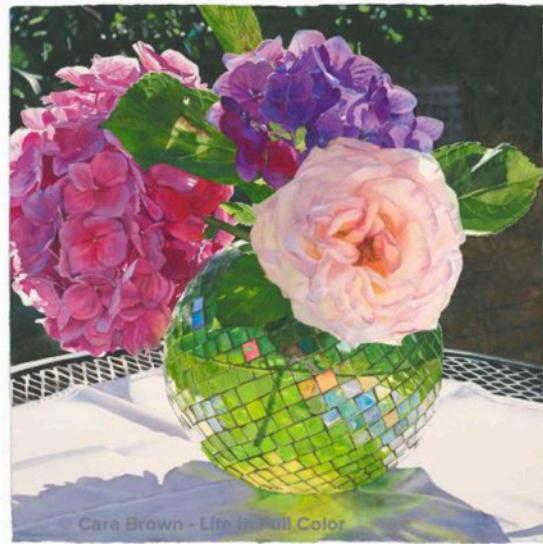


## WORKSHOP NEWS

Workshop Chair Steve Stein provided the following for Workshops:

We have an incredibly talented set of guest artists scheduled for workshops in 2026. By registering now you will have an opportunity to work hands-on with nationally recognized artists to explore plein air painting, learn techniques to infuse your work with luminous light, and improve your expressive use of lost and found edges.

Full details, including pricing and registration are available on the [Coming Workshops](#) page of the WASH website.



“Fascination,” By Cara Brown



“A Summer Place,” by David Savellano

### **Cara Brown Workshop**

\$245 Members/\$265 Non-Members  
“Watercolor Basics and Beyond”  
January 25 and 26, 2026  
10 am – 4 pm each day

About the Workshop: Cara has curated a special 2-day session based on her [Watercolor Basics and Beyond](#) workshop. In this interactive studio workshop, Cara will share her techniques for creating soft edges, fuzzy backgrounds and luminous light. Students will be working from their own photographs and there are no specific subject matter assignments. Paint what you are inspired to paint! It is recommended that the main subject in your source photo be illuminated brightly with some strong contrast between foreground and background. Be sure to bring all of your usual painting supplies but the most important one is good paper. Cara’s methods are best on 300 lb. paper.

**David Savellano Workshop**  
\$245 Members/\$265 Non-Members  
Two-Day Plein Air  
April 16 and 17, 2026  
9 am – 3 pm each day

## WORKSHOP NEWS, CONTINUED



**"Morning Bug," by Geoff Allen**

### About the Workshop:

Skill level: Open to all levels, although artists with at least some basic plein air painting experience will benefit most.

In this plein air workshop, David will share his methods for mastering watercolor timing—knowing when the paper is wet enough but not too wet, or when it's the right moment to add the next wash, and mixing colors directly on the paper, so that they melt into one another. We

will begin with a half-day demonstration in the SFAC studio and then move to a nearby location (TBD). The second day will be entirely on location and wrap up with a critique of your work. Students will receive personalized feedback and tips tailored to your skill level, helping you develop your own voice in watercolor.

### **Geoff Allen Workshop**

3-Day Studio Still Life - \$365 Members; \$395 Non-Members

May 19-21, 2026

9 am to 3 pm

### About the Workshop:

Join award-winning watercolorist Geoff Allen for a three-day still life workshop focused on painting fruit and flowers from life. Each day begins with foundational lessons in watercolor handling, including the relationship between brush mixture and paper moisture, and the expressive use of lost and found edges.

This class is designed for students with some watercolor experience through intermediate level. Through a combination of demonstrations and hands-on exercises, students will explore color mixing, contour drawing, and brush handling while observing natural forms and light firsthand.

Geoff emphasizes an impressionistic approach to watercolor, encouraging spontaneity and expression through techniques like wet-on-wet, wet-on-dry, dry brushing, lifting, splattering—and, most importantly, knowing how to use water itself as a creative tool.

Geoff's goal is to help you grow as a painter—and to see the beauty of light, form, and nature in a whole new way.

***Class size is limited so sign up early to become a better painter in 2026!***

## MEMBER NEWS:

David Peterson will be hanging art January 3-29, 2026 at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center, with a First Saturday Public Reception on January 3, 4-7 p.m., featuring an artist talk and live music. David Peterson, NCA MP, has paintings in private collections across the country. Since 2002, he has been accepted into dozens of state-wide juried shows and has won over 100 awards. He portrays the familiar scenes of our neighborhood in a humorous and enigmatic way. David shows you California landmarks, including urban scenes, the American River, and our neighborhood differently, simply and in a unique manner.

The Center is located at 9020 Elk Grove Blvd. Suite 101 Elk Grove.

Shown below are two of his pieces, "Riverside," and "On the Road."



## EXHIBIT NEWS:

### AWASH WITH COLOR

Watercolor Artists of Sacramento Horizons

#### 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Members Exhibition – Important Dates:

Friday, January 9th, 5:00 pm	Online Registration Ends
Monday, January 12th, 12:00 pm	List of Accepted Paintings Posted to Web
Friday, January 16th, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Receiving
Saturday, January 17th, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Receiving
Tuesday, January 27 <sup>th</sup>	Show Opens
Saturday, February 14th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm	Reception/Awards
Saturday, February 14th, 7:30 pm	Pick Up Paintings Following Reception

## PAINTING OF THE MONTH

6



There were nine paintings on display for the November Painting of the Month. Steve Stein won the vote with his "Blake Gardens," which was on display at the gallery throughout the month.

**NEW for this year** (through November 2026), there will be a \$100 award for the winner of Painting of the Month!

Rules follow:

### How to Enter Painting of the Month:

Bring your framed, signed, original watercolor painting to the monthly WASH Meeting.

### Who can enter?

Only current WASH Members may submit a painting.

The cash award is limited to one per calendar year per artist.

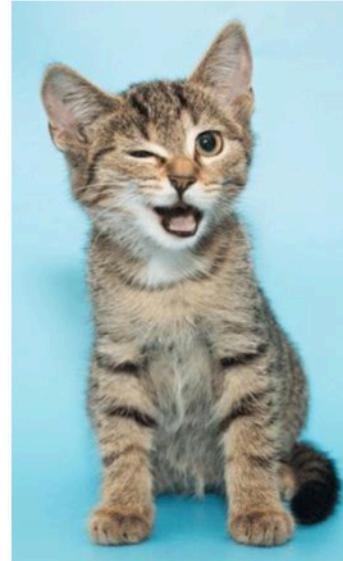
### Artwork Requirements?

Paintings must be original watercolors.

Any size is welcome.

The painting must be framed and ready to hang in the SFAC Gallery.

Must be available to hang until the next WASH General Meeting.



### Voting?

Voting takes place during the monthly meeting. All present may vote.

1st place award is \$100

If there is a tie, there will be two \$50 awards

The winning painting will be featured in the SFAC Gallery for one month, and will be featured on the WASH Website and WASH Newsletter.

## ART SELF-HELP BOOK REVIEW

Feeling that dreaded Artist's Block lately? You're not alone. Both AlysLynn Lemke and your Newsletter Editor have been fighting it. We were chatting about the problem, and she highly recommended a couple of books she has downloaded to her Kindle audio list. I bought the first one in hard-cover and have found it very useful. Then my family bought me 9 new books for Christmas, including "Mona's Eyes," so I've been reading about art instead of creating it. Oh well.

*The WAR of ART – Break Through the Blocks and Win Your Inner Creative Battles*, by Steven Pressfield.

AlysLynn says "Pressfield is a famous writer who fought writer's block for years and was able to conquer it by pushing through it, eventually becoming a historical expert and writing the novel and movie "Bagger Vance." He talks about the block as a spiritual part of you he has labeled "resistance," that will do anything to stop you from doing what you want to do. It's a quick read and I would recommend it to everyone. Now I need to do what it says to do - sit down and paint. I did three pages of a sketch book so far, I can't commit to a painting. Even writing this email would be considered "resistance!" OK, now I have to get to the studio, even if I just clean up."

Another audio book AlysLynn highly recommends is "*The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade that Gave the World Impressionism*," by Ross King. She says, "It's a crazy good historical account of artists between 1850 and 1900 in Paris, comparing the most acclaimed artist of the day, Ernest Meissonier, to the struggling Edouard Manet and the other impressionists as they entered the Paris Salon. Very interesting politics involved and when listening you feel like you are there. Ross King also wrote a book about Claude Monet and the water lily paintings and one on Michelangelo, but the Judgement of Paris is my favorite."

