

2026 Ohio Watercolor Society Workshop

Watercolor by Design
Ratindra Das

Canticle Center – Lourdes University
5335 Silica Dr, Sylvania, OH 43560

Tuesday, July 21 — Friday, July 24, 2026

Design is a deliberate choice, a thinking process that leads to creating a vision of your painting's subject, not just rendering a visual copy or pretty picture. Those who are ready to step beyond their standard way of working will benefit most from this inventive workshop.

The design process will explore a number of topics:

- Shapes and their relationships and placement on the paper.
- Learning how to use drawings and photographs in a creative way.
- Exploring values and knowing the difference between “nature’s light” and “artist’s light”.
- Learning to use conceptual and ambiguous lights and value relationship with colors.
- Exploring color in design and how color dominance can achieve unity in a painting.
- Adding energy to your painting by movement, flatness, calligraphy and bold colors.



The workshop will have discussion and demonstrations every day with audiovisual aids and illustrations. Guidance will be given to students during hands-on painting along with critique sessions. Painting subjects will be from the objective world seen in a personal way: primarily landscape in a broad sense (anything that touches land) and not figures, portraits or animals.

Register online: <https://www.ohiowatercolorsociety.org/workshops>

Preregistration fee: \$50 (non-refundable—pay by June 1, 2026)

Fee (total): Members: \$350 / Non-members: \$375

Early Bird discount—pay by May 15, 2026: Members: \$325 / Non-members: \$350

Final payment must be made by July 1, 2026. No refunds after July 1.





Ratindra Das is an award-winning artist whose journey into fine art grew steadily alongside a successful career in architecture. While working full-time, he studied painting at the American Academy of Art in Chicago, eventually turning his full energy toward the expressive world of watercolor—a medium that allowed intuition and atmosphere to take center stage.

As a professional artist he is a Dolphin Fellow of the AWS, more recently a Gold Master in NWS, a Distinguished Master in TWSA, holds a Master Membership in San Diego Watercolor Society and Watercolor West. He is a member Emeritus of the American Institute of Architects.

His paintings have received national recognition and have been featured in prestigious exhibitions, including the 1st Shanghai Zhujiajiao International Watercolor Biennial, the International Watermedia Masters, and the Taiwan World Watercolor Competition. He has published two books, "Watercolor with an Eye for Design" and "Watercolor Beyond Obvious Reality – A Workshop in a Book."

Das is also a passionate educator and mentor. He regularly serves as a juror for national exhibitions—including the American Watercolor Society—and has conducted workshops and demonstrations throughout the U.S., Mexico, Canada, Italy, Singapore, and China. Whether standing before a class or a blank sheet of paper, he believes in painting not just what we see—but what we feel.