

Williamson County Art Guild

Building Community Through Creativity

January 2009

Spotlight on.....

We are happy to present as this month's headliner our own Sonia-Marie. After her amazing one-man show, "The Predators' Ball" now showing at Framer's Gallery, (dont miss this), we knew we had to aim the Spotlight on her.

Rather than the usual questions, we will let Sonia tell you about herself.

"I am from a small Texas Town called Midlothian (The Cement Capitol of Texas no less), where being artistic was weird...so I read a lot of books (which fortunately, I suppose, did not make me any less weird). My parents used to draw with me, so I drew pictures all the time. This was what led me to long lasting friendships and eventually to the University of Texas at Austin where I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts. I focused on Oil Painting, Pastel, and Printmaking. After college, I married a Landscaper/Irrigation Engineer (Carlton Mathis) and moved to Georgetown. I worked in the stationery and invitations business for a while until the shop I worked for went out of business. I knew that I needed a creative outlet, so I thought I would try picture framing. To Hobby Lobby I went..and was exceptionally lucky to work with a creative an experienced group of framers. I continued to do some art as commissions, but nothing terrible creative.

Our son, Carson was born (too early) in Feb. 2004. Soon after that I started working with Fred Bolgen at the Framer's Gallery. Fred encouraged me to continue the creative process with my framing and we entered several competitions. Our first try, we took 2nd place in the annual PPFA regional competition. The same year, we received Best First Time Entry from their international competition.



In 2004, I started a show that combined the idea that the framing may be just as much a part of a finished piece of art as the art itself...and viola, the "Fly on a Wall" was born. It was a small group of pastel pencil sketches of various flies. They were framed within hand cut mat modules that were based on the abstract art of Mondrian. With the onslaught of the Oriental influence in home decoration, and the pure absurdity of the idea....the show was a success!. The rest of us sat in amazement....an art show consisting of pastel flies, sold out in Georgetown, Texas.

After our daughter Luna was born in 2006, I thought it was time to test the idea that the most ridiculous idea with the right amount of enthusiam and, of course, the right framing, could bring in the masses. I called upon the small and often overlooked creatures of the reptile kingdom, and came up with "The Lizard Lunch Show" in August of 2007. This forced exhibit forced you into a room where you viewed pastel sketches and journal entries of various lizards and the insects they might enjoy for lunch. The lizards were framed in hand cut matted landscapes, while the sketches of the insects were collaged into hand-made grassy papers. To really make the opening night a special moment with the art, I had platters of rice, veggie, and fruit stuffed grape leaves.

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Now while looking at lizards, you could eat like one!. Unfortunately, the munchies were not complete as the flavored insects did not arrive in time for the opening. Once again, we were amazed that over half of the show (about 10 pieces) had indeed sold the opening night.

At one point, I think my artistic goals remained the focus of each piece and each idea. But I have found that a lasting impression of a piece of art can come from our connection to the origin of the piece or the grand idea that inspired it. This often means the theme is explored through multiple pieces. I didn't get this or how to do this in college...I have found my way here, one surprising step at a time. I am inspired by every ridiculous connection I can make with the natural world around me, ancient ideals and art history itself. I often find myself laughing at a connection I have made. And while I do realize that I am the only one laughing at the time, a day may

come when I will share it in a way that will have others rolling along with me.

My son is developing a love of art or at least it's production and has an incredible intuition for color and line. His love of the process reminds me that making the art can indeed be the purpose of it!

I have been working with the WCAG for a couple of years now in their gallery space at The Framer's Gallery and I must say that it has been encouraging and inspiring to work with so many terrific and enthusiastic artists. I attempt to show as many artists' works as possible each month along with making monthly pleas to help fill the gallery.

My current show, "The Predators' Ball" consists of 10 animal portraits dressed in Baroque costumes. There are poems that describe each character at the ball as well as masks based on some of the characters. The idea is that the predators have invited their prey to the ball to eventually be eaten, of course. So, while the portraits of the predators are confident and exacting, the portraits of their prey are confused and scared. Combined with the poetry, the paintings are a whimsical expression of ourselves when thrown into competitive social situations. So laugh and enjoy....The "Predators' Ball" will at The Framer's Gallery through January",



Thanks Sonia



*With age, art and life
become one.*

Georges Braque

from the Program Committee

February's program will be artist Libby Peters. Libby Peters is a nationally recognized portrait artist whose work is included in the collections of legislators and families across America and England. She is a signature member of the Pastel of America and the Pastel Society of the Southwest and a member of the Portrait Society of American, Oil Painters of America, the Degas Pastel Society and Past President, Exhibition Chair and Webmaster of the Austin Pastel Society.

Libby's work has been published in International Artist Magazine, The Artist's Magazine, The Pastel Journal and the book, How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways to Paint People & Figures, Volume II. She has won numerous awards, including Best in Show in the 2005 Austin Pastel Society Exhibition.

A lifelong interest in art has combined with Libby's love of rural life in the Texas Hill Country. Libby teaches workshops and paints commissioned portraits in her studio on a 30-acre farm in Dripping Springs, Texas, just west of Austin. In addition to painting you may find Libby shearing one of her Angora goats, spinning on her spinning wheel or weaving on a loom made by her grandfather. Resident flocks of ducks, geese, chickens and hives of bees produce down for pillows, fresh eggs and honey and pockets of herbs in the limestone rocks are used for cooking and yarn dyeing.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Through January 2009 "Predators Ball" Sonia Mathis one man show on display in Framers Gallery

February 1 Last Day to enter St. David's Art Show Must be registered by Feb 1st to enter this show. See notice in News

February 3 General Meeting held at Winderg Art Center Social at 6:30 PM, Meeting begins at 7 PM. Program Libby Peters.

February 4,5 Gallery Change-Out Contact Sonia Mathis, Gallery Chair for information. (see notice below)

February 6 First Friday If you have work hanging in the WCAG gallery please attend this opening.

February 10 St. Davids Hanging Deliver paintings between 1:30 and 2 PM ONLY

from the Gallery Chair

We have a full gallery for January, WCAG! Thanks to all our exhibitors: Rudy Ximenez - photography, Liz Hobbs - oils, Carma Luker - watercolor and pastel, Connie Timko - oils, Violet Nicklen - acrylic, Lowana Carter - oils, Betty Lemley - acrylics,, Kathleen Hornyak - oil, Merijane Chalmers - multi-media, Jan Huntley - oils, and Janus Innes - multi-media.

Our Peoples' Choice Award this month goes to Jan Huntley for her oil painting "Rocky Creek". Congratulations Jan!

The Change Out for the February show will be Feb 4th and 5th at the gallery from 10am - 5pm. I have no one signed up for Feb. so if you would like to show, please let me know. First Friday was canceled by downtown for January, but you will all be pleased to know that everyone came to see our artwork! We had a full house. Thanks WCAG for your participation and encouragement. Let's keep it up! soniamarie.cm@netzero.com , 512-497-3035 cell, 863-2214 gallery (mornings)

Sonia Colonna-Mathis



ART QUIZ

Name of Artist? and in what period of his career were these two paintings completed. Be creative and informative and you will be published in the upcoming newsletter.

?????????



Kudos to WCAG Members!

Sonia Colonna-Mathis' solo show at the Framers' Gallery is entitled "The Predators' Ball". Her paintings and masks are up through January and should not be missed.

Pat Langley and Charlotte Sylvest are having a two-person show of their paintings at Franklin and Company Fine Jewelers until the end of February.

Sue Nosler Gray had a painting, *The Hitch-hiker*, accepted to the Texas Watercolor Society's 60th Annual Exhibition. The show, juried by Pat Dews, will be at the Witte Museum in San Antonio, March 6-22.

Please share information about any special recognition you or your friends have received recently — juried group shows you're in, solo shows you're having, prizes you've won, etc. Send your info to jackie_tarter@verizon.net.

"NOTICE ABOUT ART SHOW AT ST. DAVIDS GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL"

All work must be delivered to the hospital between 1:30 and 2:00 PM on Tuesday Feb 10th. The show will be hung right away and will run till March 5th. Bring up to three large pieces or four smaller ones. All work must be picked up at 1:30/2:00 PM on March 5th. There no entry fee for this show, a list will be made up with the selling price and your contact info for any sales. All work must be ready to hang with wire and a card affixed on the back with your information.

NOTE: If you come before 1:30 or after 2PM no one will be there to help you. Please do NOT bring art if you have not registered below. If you cannot be there on time to pick-up your art you will need to make other arrangements as the hospital has a limited time frame allowed. The delivery and pick-up times are very critical so please adhere to them.

You also must register you works with Joyce Seebock so she can print the labels ahead of time. by Feb. 1st. Her e-mail is jseebock@verizon.net.

Thanks

Fred

Christmas Party at Fran Sinas Home



Why
was
I
not
invited



Our thanks to Fran Sina Young and husband for hosting our Christmas party in December. It was great fun with good food and friendship shared by all.

Events, Shows, Classes & Other

Windberg Art Center Life drawing classes will be held Monday evenings from 6 to 8:30 PM. This is an open class with live models. Cost \$10.00 for model. Windberg is offering many other classes. Please contact them at www.windbergartcenter.com or 512.868.8183.

Texas National 2009 art competition and exhibition -- The Department of Art at Stephen F. Austin State University announces a call to artists for "Texas National 2009", held April 4 - May 17, 2009 at the Cole Art Center @ The Old Opera House in Nacogdoches, Texas. Awards: 1st - \$3000; 2nd - \$1000; 3rd - \$500; Honorable Mentions. Illustrated catalog. Juror: Mel Chin. Open to all artists working in the United States. Works may be of any medium (except video or performance). All works must be original and completed in the past two years. No previously submitted works will be accepted. All works must be available though the entire run of the show. Do not submit works for jury that might be sold before or shown during the Texas National 2009 show time-frame. \$35/first three images, \$5 each for additional images. Deadline: January 30, 2009. Apply online at www.callforentry.org. Questions? Contact Christian H. Cutler at texasnational@sfasu.edu or (936) 468-4418.

"18th National Art Exhibition & Sale" - The Artists Association of Northern Colorado announces a call to artists for its "18th National Art Exhibition & Sale", held April 4 - May 8, 2009 at The Lincoln Center, Fort Collins, Colorado. More than \$6500 in Cash and Merchandise. Juror: Arleta Pech (<http://www.arletapech.com>). All original media produced in the last two years and not previously entered in any AANC shows (maximum width of 72"). No installations, no Giclees, no prints. All entries must be submitted for sale. Prices may not be changed after entry submission. Entries may not be removed before the end of the exhibit. Digital image entry online or CD. \$35 by check, \$37.50 using paypal through the club's website. Deadline: January 31, 2009. Download Prospectus (pdf format) or send a SASE to: AANC, PO Box 1039, Fort Collins, CO 80522. Questions? Please contact Helen Cook at info@artistsassoc.com or call 970-223-8297.

NWWS 69th Annual Open Exhibition - The Northwest Watercolor Society announces a call to artists for the "69th Annual Open Exhibition", held April 13 - May 15, 2009 at the Mercer View Gallery, Mercer Island, Washington. \$10,000 in cash & merchandise (\$2,000 first place, \$1,250 second place, \$750 third place). Juror: Mike Svob. Artists must be 18 years or older and residents of the US or Canada. All entries must be original works of art, entirely the work of the entrant executed within the last two years that have not been exhibited in any previous NWWS show. Entries must be water media paintings on natural or synthetic paper or paperboard. No stretched canvas or Clayboard will be accepted. Computer generated work will not be accepted. Collage materials of original water media paper or other media may be used but the aqueous medium must constitute the major portion of the work. Collage materials must be original watercolor paper. View prospectus for complete details or send a SASE to: PO Box 50387, Bellevue, WA 98015. \$30 for NWWS members, \$40 for non-members. Deadline: Feb. 2, 2009 midnight. Questions? Please contact Linda Rasp at in2art@comcast.net or call 425-455-3793.

24th Chelsea International Fine Art Competition 2009 -- Agora Gallery (Chelsea, New York City) announces a call to artists for The 2009 Chelsea International Fine Art Competition, August 14 to September 2, 2009. Awards valued at \$38,000 distributed as follows: exhibition at the Chelsea gallery, cash awards, Internet exposure and publicity in ARTisSpectrum magazine. Juror: Mr. Ira Goldberg. Open to all visual artists over 18 years of age. \$35 entry fee. Deadline: March 10, 2009. For more info, visit http://www.agora-gallery.com/competition/art_contest_main.aspx. Questions? Please contact Evelyn at Evelyn@Agora-Gallery.com or call 212-226-4151

If you are interested in entering the many national and state art and photography shows, <http://www.artshow.com/juriedshows/index.html> for more show and exhibit information. For posting in this category, please send any local items or classes available to www.snoslergray@yahoo.com. Thanks

**On
Creativity**

" In spite of everything, I shall rise again. I will take up my pencil, which I have forsaken in my discouragement and I will go on with my drawing"

VINCENT VAN GOGH

Williamson County Art Guild Membership Application

ANNUAL DUES are payable on or before June 1, the beginning of the WCAG fiscal year. Cash or check payments: no credit cards, please.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Windberg Art Center in Georgetown. Benefits of membership include newsletters, monthly general activity meetings, opportunity to hang work in WCAG Gallery, opportunity to participate in WCAG led community art shows and social functions, ability to join with WCAG artists in numerous networking situations and meet some outstanding people.

To join, please complete the application below and return with payment to:
Williamson County Art Guild, P. O. Box 1158 Georgetown, TX 78627

WILLIAMSON COUNTY ART GUILD Membership Application

Please Print

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cel _____
Email _____
Website Address _____
Birthday (optional) _____ Today's Date _____
AMOUNT _____ How Paid _____ Ck # _____

Select Membership Category

Individual \$30 _____
Family \$35 _____
Student \$18 _____
Senior \$20 _____
Sponsor \$50 to \$250 _____
Sustaining \$250 _____
NEW MEMBER _____
Renewal _____
Member Since _____

I would like to help out on the following committees

Exhibits _____ Membership _____
Gallery _____ Newsletter _____
Show _____ Program _____
Hospitality _____ Publicity _____

Please be sure an give us your email and correct phone. You will be contacted by the appropriate person.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Fred Bolgen

512.863.2214 fredbolgen@suddenlink.net

Exhibits/Show Chair - Diana Einwich

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Gallery Chair - Sonia Mathis

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512-863-7949 craftdreams1@suddenlink.net

Assistant Secretary - Wes Odell

512.863.8283 wesodell@gmail.com

JOIN THE ART GUILD

You are invited to join the Art Guild by dropping in at the Framer's Gallery on the square or by sending a membership form & check to:

**Williamson County Art Guild,
P.O. Box 1158
Georgetown, TX 78627**

Membership Fees

Individual	\$30
Student	\$18
Senior	\$20
Family	\$35
Sponsor	\$50-\$250
Sustaining Mbr	\$250

We welcome new members. Copies of the membership form are available at the Framer's Gallery and online at www.wcartguild.org.

Contact membership chair Susan O'Connor for more information about joining. suberdoo@hotmail.com

www.cartguild.org

Committe Members

Newsletter: Assistant Editor, Jackie Tarter, Jane Goosby

Membership: Joyce Seebock, Lowana Carter

Hospitality:

Kim Hoerster, Fransena Young, Martha Hooper, Dana Kelly, Delyce Ruyle

Shows:

Nick Ramos, Ed Kessel, Joyce Seebrock, Diana Einwich, Floyd Riley, Chuck Roush and Fran Sina Young.

Program:

Jane Goosby, Linda Figg, Jean Hestand,

This list will be added to monthly as our committees expand.

**Thanks to all of you
for volunteering to help!**

Williamson County Art Guild

P. O. Box 1158

Georgetown TX 78627

512-863-2214

