



The Paint Rag

Celebrating 65 Years of Friendship

March 2009 Volume 66 Issue 03
Non-Profit Organization #95-604775



Nan Rae

The work of artist Nan Rae reflects her power of creative concept. Asian in technique, her work is profoundly Impressionistic. Her deft, rapid Oriental brush strokes capture the viewer in a wonderful sweep of pure, free and energized freedom yet clearly contemporary, clean in form and candidly robust, often exhilarating. Art connoisseurs have often commented they feel as if they are entering the painting and becoming subjectively involved in it."

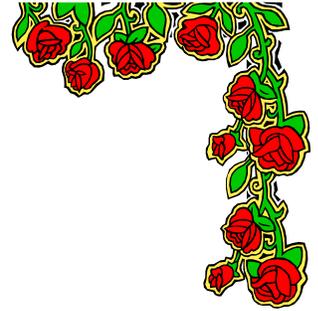
As a professional 'Western style artist', Nan Rae stumbled into Chinese Brush Painting after a trip in 1980 to Monet's home/garden. Seeing all of his collection of Japanese woodblock prints was an ahh haa moment for Nan and when she returned to the States Nan started painting in the Chinese manner and never looked back. The first year was extremely painful for Nan as she felt that she should be able to master the technique since she was a 'trained' artist. "Not a chance ..." says Nan.. "That just gets in your way."

Now, after teaching close to 3,000 students and having her book 'The Ch'i of the Brush' published by Watson Guptill, Nan can say that every one of her students does better their first day than she did in her first year. Why? Because Nan insists that they leave their critical parent outside and just enjoy the journey, respecting the work that they do. Nan never lets anyone throw anything away because that just ingrains frustration and defeat.

"An expert in Brush Painting, her works, from her Paris experience, sing with the joy of Impressionism." Nan Rae's brush painting combines the grace of the Literati style with an impressionist approach to color. The Literati style seeks to transcend the mere representation, of a subject to capture its ch'i, or life force, by using a minimum of brush strokes for maximum effect.

The NY Philharmonic chose Nan Rae's art for the logo for their historic 2008 trip to China and North Korea.

Nan Rae will demonstrate Chinese Brush painting at the March Meeting



Vice President's Message

March 2009

We artists are a sensitive group. As Lynn Gertenbach joked at the last meeting, "How many artists does it take to change a light bulb? Ten. One to change the light bulb and nine to tell him how good it looks."

We all want and need for our art to be admired. We all crave acceptance of our work. That is why there is always some anxiety when I enter any art show. I want to have my paintings accepted and, maybe even win a prize. I agonize over which paintings to submit, trying to read the judge's mind, even though I have no clue what that particular judge is looking for. I ask for other opinions as if one insight will somehow be better than another. I even look up the judge's biography and art to see if I can discover a way to divine his thought process. Despite all these efforts, the judging process is still a mystery.

Rejection is never easy. I know. Within the last two weeks, I have received three rejection letters. I deal with these rejections by realizing that there are as many opinions about my art as there are people and judges. After all, the judges are people. Each judge has different criteria, different priorities, different tastes. I have heard many stories about the crazy and varied outcomes from show to show. A friend who is an artist explained how one of her paintings was rejected from one show only to win an award in another. One story really demonstrates the randomness of it all. A judge told the artist that he picked his painting of a chicken for Best of Show because it brought back such fond memories of the judge's childhood on a farm. How can you account for something like that? You can't. There will always be that personal experience which touches one person but not another. Dealing with these crazy happenstances can make anyone want to pull out their hair. But don't. Realize that you can't please all of the judges all of the time.

Put it in perspective. I know that when I enter a show, my talent is important but chance is a big factor too. So I evaluate my work and I decide what I like the best. I enter those paintings that I am proud of and always remember that the judge is just one person. And in the end the most important opinion is my own.

S. Weaver © 2009

February Mini Show Winners



Miriam Thorin
1st place

Boz Bashori
2nd place

Anita Kedrowski
3rd place

Teri Dreyden
HM

Michelle Nosco
HM



Cute Sara as a child



Sara in her studio

Meet Sara Lou Coyle

She confesses that she loves chocolate ice cream with a guilty little grin. We are speaking about things that Sara loves. A true lover in every sense of the word, Sara has many loves. She is enthusiastic about nature, very enthusiastic, and children, art, writing, people, flowers, music, oh, and don't forget clouds. Clouds are very high on Sara's list, (No pun intended.)

After many requests on my part, Sara agreed to share her story with me. And what a story it is. Sara was born in Moline Ill. where her Grandmother owned a restaurant. While her parents worked in the restaurant, Sara slept nearby in her baby buggy, which is where she probably developed her love of chocolate ice cream. Her love of nature and of art came later.

As a little girl she made paper dolls and doll clothes, an early step into art. In eighth grade she was writing articles for the school newspaper. One of her teachers found her work so exceptional, she told Sara, "Your writing will be a great book of the times."

When her family moved to California, Sara attended UCLA where her minor was art. It was a time when her talents for writing and her appreciation of nature began to fall into place.

"I believe that life is about learning," said Sara, and so she became a teacher. She held the position of art co-coordinator, at various schools around the Valley, where she taught classes from kindergarten to third grade. About this time, Sara began writing and illustrating children's stories. The children loved her stories where she used music and puppets to stimulate their curiosity. "They didn't notice that I couldn't carry a tune," she giggles. Sara made a strong connection with the children who loved her easygoing sense of humor. Once when she was monitoring lunch, a little boy opened his lunch box and a frog jumped out. "I was gonna share it," he explained. Sara smiles when speaking about the happy times she had with the kids, creating the panels for the auditorium out of tissue paper, string, leaves and other elements from nature. "The world is full of wonderful things," states Sara. "We just have to open our eyes. Beauty is all around us"

This philosophy of life and art was passed on to Susan, her daughter. Sara and her husband Frank took their little girl to museums, art shows and art fairs. The result is that Susan became a commercial artist, a career she enjoyed for eight years, and is an accomplished quilter who has taught art classes in San Jose.

The value of learning has always been important to Sara, a view of life that helped propel her into many workshops and classes where she refined her skills in watercolor. Her paintings are the envy of all who view them with her swirling clouds and swaying trees. One of her teachers told her to, "Give your work pizzazz," and that is exactly what Sara has done. Sara's paintings of rocks and reflections in lakes are moving, emotional statements. Her favorite artists are Monet, Van Gogh and Marilyn Haber.

When she is not painting or writing poetry, Sara loves films especially old musicals with Fred and Ginger. She is drawn to foreign films and on TV. It's the History channel or PBS that get her attention. But one of her most beloved activities is attending the SFVAC meetings and events. "I love being with the other artists, hearing their stories and being inspired by the guest artist." Sara tells us. She gives her own piece of advice to all aspiring artists at every skill level. "Sketch everything, take classes, be more observant and try to learn everything." What a joyous view of the world Sara offers us. Who can resist?

Looking for Demonstrators

Sharon Weaver, our Vice President, is on the hunt for great demonstrators for our monthly meetings. If you know of an artist that we might be interested in, call Sharon Weaver and let her know.

Plan Ahead to Attend our Tuesday meetings - Future Demonstrators

Date	Media	Artist	Time	Location
March 3	Watercolor– Chinese Brush Painting	Nan Rae	6:30 PM	Encino Community Center 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California
April 7	TBD	TBD	6:30 PM	Encino Community Center 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California

Our February club meeting was outstanding with Lynn

Gertenbach demonstrating oil painting. She gave quite a few points on working with warm and cool colors to show luminosity in paintings. Thank you Lynn for showing us how.



Midge Reisman is the lucky winner of Lynn's demonstration painting.

Attention Artists, Member, and Guests. SFVAC IS GOING GREEN. The Paint Rag is now being sent by e-mail if you requested it. For those of you who still want a hard copy sent to your home it is still important to let Marian Fortunati (membership) know your email address if you have one. We often send out announcements about CALLS FOR ENTRIES or Paint Outs or other fun events. **DON'T MISS OUT!!**

More Member News

Member **Tommy Hollenstein** and a whole bunch of Rock Musicians collaborated on a joint painting. Tommy did a painting, then Tommy then invited some of the Rock stars to add their hand prints and signatures to the work. The painting was Auctioned off at Neiman Marcus Topanga on December 4 to benefit Shane's Inspiration and Canine Companions. Some of the folks who helped Tommy were Slash and drummer Matt Sorum (Velvet Revolver and Gun n Roses), Doug Fieger lead singer/guitarist (The Knack), Jerry Cantrell Lead Singer/Guitarist (Alice in Chains), Dallas Taylor Drummer (Crosby, Stills, Nash), Denny Siewell Drummer (Paul McCartney and The Wings) and many more. How exciting.

A Special Club Activity "An Afternoon at the Museum"

The **California Art Club** invites you to join Gold Medal artist and SFVAC member Ernie Marjoram for a special tour of the *98th Annual Gold Medal Juried Exhibition* at the Pasadena Museum of California Art on Saturday May 2, at 2pm. A panel of museum professionals and top artists selected art from more than 160 artists working in a variety of genres including landscape, figurative, still life and sculpture. The recently created artwork represents the highest level of quality and tradition that is the cornerstone of the California Art Club's mission. The Pasadena Museum of California Art is located at 490 East Union Street, Pasadena. Contact Sharon Weaver at 818-769-2688 for reservations and carpool information. Group admission (20 or more) is \$3.

Art Around Town

Date of Art Show	Organization Hosting Show	Location	Contact Information	Last Date for Entry	Brief Description
March 10 - April 1, 2009	Santa Paula Society of the Arts	Blanchard Library 119 N. 8th Street Santa Paula, Ca. 93060	P.O. Box 788 Santa Paula, Ca. 93061-0788 Phone: 805-525-1104 www.theSPSA.com E-mail:	March 5 (Thursday) & March 7th (Saturday)	72nd Annual Art and Photography Show
March 15- April 11, 2009	Westlake Village Art Guild	Thousand Oaks Community Gallery 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury park, Ca 91353	Chuck Mead at (805) 388-0192 www.wvartguild.org	March 15 take in	2009 Annual Open Juried Show \$3000 in cash prizes
Dec 2009 Artist Magazine issue	The Artist Magazine	Winners will be featured and finalists' names will be published in the December 2009 issue of The Artist's Magazine	MAIL ENTRIES TO: The Artist's Magazine Annual Art Competition 700 E. State Street Iola, WI 54990 or Enter online see: www.artistsnetwork.com/annualcompetition/	May 1, 2009	The Artist Magazine 26th Annual Art Competition 35 mm slides or digital images accepted. Go one line to see prospectus
May 2, 2009 2:00 PM	SFVAC and The California Art Club	Pasadena Museum of California Art 490 East Union Street, Pasadena	For reservations and car-pool information contact: Sharon Weaver at 818-769-2688 .	NA	special tour of the 98 th Annual Gold Medal Juried Exhibition
May 9, 2009	Simi Valley Art Association	Simi Valley– Cochran Street, between Galena & Sequoia Ave .	Michelle Adler, President Simi Valley Art Association Phone :805-526-4599	May 8	2009 Artwalk \$15.00 for members and non members. Artwalk on grassy shaded area. Bring your own display stands
June 12– 14, 2009	Art Alliance of Idyllwild	The Rainbow Inn 54420 South Circle Drive, Idyllwild	877-439-5278 Lon Mercer Rainbow Inn Bed & Breakfast "Naturally Comfortable" PO Box 3384 Idyllwild, CA 92549 951-659-0111 www.rainbow-inn.com	NA	8th Annual Idyllwild Plein Air Art Festival
2009 Schedule April, June, October	California Art Club	Various locations.	California Art Club www.californiaartclub.org or call 626/583-9009.	Limited to 16 students per workshop. Register now	Master Artist Workshops– Go to CAC website for list of Master Painters offering workshops

MEMBER NEWS

Ken Fermoye sold his photo "Trestle" in the Topanga Canyon Gallery Open Juried show during January. Many SFVAC members have driven under the trestle on the 101 Fwy in Ventura, but few probably have looked through it to see lights of a train coming from the other side. Ken was thrilled to be juried into this prestigious exhibit, really thrilled to make the sale.

Meli Calkins soft pastel painting "Montana de Oro" also sold in the same show. The real pleasant surprise was that the same person purchased both Ken's photo and Meli's painting.



Ken Fermoye's photo "Trestle"



Meli Calkins' "Montana de Oro in the Late Afternoon"

Paintings by **Marian Fortunati**, **Sharon Weaver** and **Diane Brookes** were juried into the Thousand Oaks Art Association 2009 Open Juried Show. One of Sharon's paintings "Morning on the Rocks" received an honorable mention and Diane's painting "Abundance" were recognized with awards. Marian's painting is called "Schools Out"



Diana Brookes with "Abundance"



Marian Fortunati's painting "School's Out"



Sharon Weaver and "Morning on the Rocks"

Beth Summers work is being shown at the High Studio Fine Art Gallery, 11 East High Street, Moorpark, California. The title of the show is "More Flowers and Dancers" The show is runs from Feb. 2 to March 4, 2009. This lovely gallery is just out the 118 Freeway from San Fernando Valley off Moorpark to High Street.

One of Beth Summers' paintings



San Fernando Valley Art Club offers venues each member artist may independently approach!

Artist Alley
Calabasas Tennis & Swim Ctr.
Contact: Kathy Milbrand
(818) 222-2782
23400 Park Sorrento
Calabasas
\$46.00 insurance fee from the city which they provide.

Aroma Restaurant
Contact: Moira
(818) 481- 5551
4360 Tujunga Blvd.
Studio City
No commission

Organic Coffee Shop
Contact: Emily
(818) 762- 0181
12508 Moorpark St.
Studio City

30% commission

Any member of SFVAC wishing to display their work at any of these venues should **first call the contact** at each location to arrange an appointment. At the appointment time please provide them with a portfolio or photos of your work and arrange dates for their next available exhibit.

To exhibit at **Lulus** contact **Marilyn Blutter.**
(818) 830-0825

To exhibit at **Emilio's** contact **Marie Petz at 818-341-6116.**

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Visit www.sfvartclub.org

Do you have your own art website?
E-mail Janet Snodgrass and we'll link to your site!
Member news? E-mail Jeri Christenson and get it
online. Check out workshops, news and much, much more!

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advertisers for your continued
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Membership Drive

**Win \$50.00 cash or
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member. Enter as often as you like. The
more new members you bring, the more
times your name will be entered. "Thank
you" to Steve Aufhauser, owner of
Continental Art Supplies, for his generous
help of providing gift certificates that we
are giving to new members.

Paul Moshay is at Advanced Photo Lab at
21831 Sherman Way, Canoga Park, CA 91303-
1941. Telephone is 818-347-4686 or 1-800-818-
IMAGE. Hours are from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Mon -Fri. Saturday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. All
photography is digital. Advanced Photo Lab is a
full digital lab with 25 years of photographic ex-
perience. Website is www.advancedphotolab.net

Rea Nagel, an outstanding water color artist, is
now teaching how to paint with water color at
the **VIVA Gallery**. Classes are on **Tuesdays**
starting at **12:30 PM to 3:30 PM**.

**Don't forget to read page 5 to learn about all
the local and national art shows that are call-
ing for artists to participate.**

Dori Marler and Boz Vakhshori donated their
Burbank Art Show sale proceeds to SFVAC.
Thank you for your generous gift to support the
club.

Board Members

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0226		
Paint Out Coordinator	Marilyn Blutter	830-0825

..# **Member news** for the April 2009 newsletter is
due by **March 18th**, 8:00 p.m. Call

..# Meli Calkins, Editor

..# **Telephone 818 366-9835**

Website Janet Snodgrass: phone 818-882-4897. Member
News Jeri Christenson: 818-645-9933

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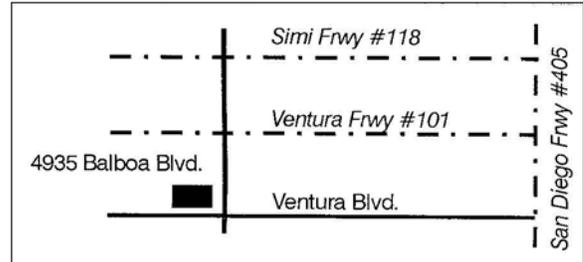
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The San Fernando Valley Art Club
 Meets on the first Tuesday of the month:
 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California
 Social time 6:30 p.m. - Program 7:00 p.m.
 Refreshments served.

The Public is Welcome
 Requested Donation: Members \$5.00
 Guests, \$6.00



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BOARD MEETING - MONDAY FEB 23RD
 Meeting time - 7:00 pm
Location:
 Tarzana Community Center. 19130 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana
 At the corner of Vanalden and Ventura
 Parking in rear

See what is new on the San Fernando Valley Art Club website www.sfvartclub.org

SFVAC Paint Rag
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