SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS

Art and the Animal

63rd Annual Members Exhibition
SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS, INC.

63rd Annual Exhibition & Art and the Animal Tour

(Check with venues for public hours of admission.)

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Oglebay Institute
Stifel Fine Arts Center
August 12 – October 28, 2023
Wheeling, West Virginia
304-242-7700 | www.oionline.com

TOUR

The Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum
November 18, 2023 – February 10, 2024
Oradell, New Jersey
201.261.0012 | blauveltartmuseum.com

Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum
March 1 – May 27, 2024
Logan, Kansas
785.689.4846 | www.hansenmuseum.org

The Chicago Academy of Sciences
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
June 15 – September 2, 2024
Chicago, Illinois
773.755.5100 | www.naturemuseum.org

Front Cover Art: Peregrine and Wave, Robert Bateman
Back Cover Art: Night and Day, Dan Chen

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SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS

ART AND THE ANIMAL
63rd Annual Members Exhibition

PREMIERE
Oglebay Institute
STIFEL FINE ARTS CENTER
Wheeling, West Virginia
August 12 – October 28, 2023
Society of Animal Artists

The Society of Animal Artists is an association of painters and sculptors working in the genre of animal art. Subject matter is open to the entire spectrum of the animal kingdom. Beginning in the 1950s, a group of nine artists began meeting to exchange ideas and to enjoy the camaraderie of their peers. In 1958, they mounted an exhibition titled *Animals in Bronx Zoo*, sponsored by the New York Zoological Society. The enthusiastic public response to their exhibition inspired Patricia Allen Bott and Guido Borghi to form the Society of Animal Artists. Today there are over 500 members residing in 25 countries. The Society is dedicated to the portrayal of our living heritage and its preservation through demonstrations, seminars, lectures, and exhibitions.

### Officers

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**Executive Board**

- James Coe
- Jhenna Quinn Lewis
- Bob Mason
- Terry Miller
- Michael McGregor
- David Rankin
- Jocelyn Russell
- Suzie Seerey-Lester
- Cathy Sheeter
- Rachelle Siegrist

- Heather Soos
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- Sherrie York

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- Doug Allen
- Allen Blagden
- Guy Coheleach
- Leslie Delgyer
- Jay Johnson
- Dale Marie Muller

**Staff**

Wes Siegrist, *Executive Director*
The Society of Animal Artists is thrilled to have our opening hosted in West Virginia for the first time at the Stifel Fine Arts Center, a place recognized for gathering artists and engaging the community in creative pursuits.

I would like you all to welcome two fresh faces to the Society’s Board. Suzie Seerey-Lester and Amy Bartlett Wright are an addition to an already engaged dynamic Board that I have the utmost pleasure to work with during the year. Our Board is high energy filled with intense passion, and fueled with enthusiastic possibilities, all in the interest of furthering the success of the SAA and our artists.

Jim Coe, our Jury Chairman, is always responsible for selecting the jurors for our annual exhibition. This year’s annual jurors were an exceptional group of artists that also included one of our Master Signature Members. Thank you to Carel Pieter Brest van Kempen, Dan Chen, Andrew Denman, Kim Diment, Nancy Howe, Roger Martin, Diane Mason, Elwin van der Kolk, as well as our alternates Terry Miller and Jim Coe, for taking on this difficult task. It is always an honor to be among those selected for this exhibition, congratulations to all the artists. These jurors’ duties also included selecting the artwork for the covers of the catalog, from the artwork included in this show. Their choice of Robert Bateman’s “Peregrine and Wave” and Dan Chen’s “Night and Day” pieces are perfect and make for a breathtaking catalog.

Special thank you to all our award sponsors which are listed on page 9. I am pleased to say we have added quite a few new awards this year in addition to all the previous awards. We have one new purchase award which makes for a total of three, and seven extra monetary awards.

The Bott-Borghi-Bransom Award recognizes and honors someone that has contributed significantly to the SAA. This special award has only been given to a handful of people. I am honored to be the person that has the privilege to bestow this award upon the esteemed Dr. David J. Wagner. Thank you for all the years you have worked diligently to help so many of our SAA artists, but mostly for the procurement of all the sensational venues for our “Art and the Animal” tour.

Wes Siegrist, our executive director, makes the SAA run smoothly. Behind the scenes, he constantly does extra helpful work for our
artists, and future members, to make their tasks a bit less demanding. Thank you, Wes, for all the unseen extraordinary things you do daily, working with you is a pleasure.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank you, the members for having the faith in me to guide such a remarkable group of artists, all seeing the animal kingdom from their own unique perspective and translating that vision into works that are thought-provoking, inventive, philosophical, and even sometimes whimsical. May your creative spirit be inspired and the juices flow freely.

Enjoy the magnificent 63rd SAA Annual Exhibition!

—Reneé Bemis
President, Society of Animal Artists
SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS PAST PRESIDENTS

Guido Borghi & Patricia Bott, Co-Founders
1960

Elisabeth Rungius Fulda
1st President SAA - 1960
Sister of famous animal painter,
Carl Rungius

Paul Bransom
1961-1976

Albert Earl Gilbert
1977-1983

Joseph Vance, Jr.
1984-1994

Charles Allmond III
1995-2000

Francis Sweet
2001-2003

Leslie Delgyer
2004-2008

Diane D. Mason
2008-2013
This year, the Society of Animal Artists’ Annual Exhibition is hosted by Stifel Fine Arts Center of the Oglebay Institute in Wheeling, West Virginia. In 2006, I had the pleasure of touring Art and the Animal there from the Society’s 45th Annual Exhibition. So it is a pleasure to return to Wheeling after all these years. I wish to express my appreciation to Rick Morgan, Director, Brad Johnson, Director of Exhibition/Visual Arts and Lisa Rasmussen, Curator of Exhibitions for making this return possible.

Following the premiere of The Annual Exhibition, the 45 paintings and 15 sculptures that constitute Art and the Animal will tour first to Oradell, New Jersey, for display at The Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum. Under the leadership of James Bellis, Jr., the Blauvelt has hosted The Annual Exhibition and the resulting traveling Art and the Animal exhibit year after year, in addition to making regular purchase awards from the Society of Animal Artists Annual Exhibition. I wish to recognize Jim Bellis, Jr. for his continuous support, and thank Manager, Rosa Lara, for her capable management of exhibition logistics at The Blauvelt Art Museum.

Following The Blauvelt, Art and the Animal will be displayed at The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum in Logan, Kansas, thanks to arrangements made by its Director, Shari Buss. Art and the Animal then tours to The Chicago Academy of Sciences, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, the final venue for the exhibit, arranged, with my thanks, by Alvaro Ramos, Vice President of Exhibitions.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Renée Bemis, President of the Board of Directors of the Society of Animal Artists, and Executive Director, Wes Siegrist, for their respective stewardship and administration of the Society of Animal Artists. Last but not least, thanks to the members of the Society of Animal Artists. Your artwork and participation are what make The Annual Exhibition of the Society of Animal Artists and its traveling exhibition, Art and the Animal, THE standard by which all others are measured. Thanks as always for the opportunity to share your art with audiences nationwide.

—David J. Wagner, Ph.D.
Tour Director, Curator
Special Thanks to our 2023 Sponsors

River Works
Purchase Award

Driftless Glenn Distillery
for their 6th Annual Purchase Award

Linda A. Kirouc Memorial Award

Dog Branch Publishing

Western Art Collector Magazine
for their Award of Excellence

The Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum
for their Purchase Award and continued support for over 20 years
Since 1930, the non-profit Oglebay Institute has served as the cultural hub of Wheeling, West Virginia, providing countless opportunities for people to engage in creative pursuits and serving as a gathering place for all people to enjoy, appreciate and experience the arts and nature.

Housed in the historic Edemar Mansion, the Stifel Fine Arts Center is a treasure trove for artistic expression and personal fulfillment. A public arts center with galleries, classrooms, and performance space, the Stifel Center serves as a gathering place for artists, emerging artists, art lovers, students, educators, and families – connecting and engaging the community in creative pursuits.
THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Since 1979, the Society of Animal Artists has presented its Bransom’s “Catasus” logo. These bronze medals are the highest honor, the Award of Excellence, for those works of art in each SAA Annual Exhibition which are judged to represent the highest standards of artistic excellence. Designed by the late noted sculptor, Donald Miller, from Paul Bransom’s “Catasus” logo, these bronze medals are the most important artistic awards bestowed by the Society. The winners are selected each year by a prestigious panel of judges chosen from art and natural history institutions across the nation.

THE FOLLOWING SPONSOR AWARDS WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED AT THE 63RD ANNUAL EXHIBITION

- The Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum Purchase Award — An acquisition for the Museum’s permanent collection
- The Driftless Glen Distillery Purchase Award — An acquisition for the corporate art collection
- The Patricia A. Bott Award for Creative Excellence — Bequest of Patricia A. Bott
- The Evelyn and Peter Haller Memorial Award for 3-D — Bequest of Evelyn M. Haller
- The President’s Artistic Achievement Award for 3-D
- The President’s Artistic Achievement Award for 2-D
- The Marilyn Newmark Memorial Award for Realistic 2-D — Bequest of Marilyn Newmark
- The Marilyn Newmark Memorial Award for Realistic 3-D — Bequest of Marilyn Newmark
- The Dog Branch Publishing Award — Donated by Anita Baarns
- Western Art Collector Award of Excellence — Donated by Western Art Collector Magazine
- Merit Award for 2D — Anonymous
- Merit Award for 3D — Anonymous
- Southwest Art Magazine Editor’s Choice Award — Certificate
- The River Works Purchase Award(s) — Donated by Kim Diment and Carl Shubert
- The Linda A. Krouuc Memorial Award — Donated by Lisa Nugent
- SAA Newcomer Award
- SAA Best Work by an Associate Member
- SAA Merit Award for Best Use of Light
- SAA Merit Award for Best Depiction of Habitat
- SAA Merit Award for Best Narrative
- SAA Merit Award for Best Title for a Work

JUDGES FOR THE 2023 EXHIBITION

- Deirdre M. Smith, Ph.D.
  Assistant Curator,
  Carnegie Museum of Natural History
- Larry Barth
  1991 Master Wildlife Artist, LYWAM,
  18-time World Champion, Ward Foundation Wildfowl Carving Competition,
  2020 Ward Foundation “Living Legend”
- Julie Zickefoose
  Writer, Author, and Naturalist
**SAA Members Represented in the 63rd Annual Exhibition**

*Entire membership is listed on pages 132 - 136.*

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All artist members of the Society of Animal Artists are eligible to participate in the Annual Exhibition, but artwork is selected in a highly competitive jury process. Each year, many wonderful works of art must be rejected because of space restrictions.

Titles of artworks are given in italics. The common species name is provided on the next line. Unframed dimensions are listed as height by width for two-dimensional works, and height by width by depth for three-dimensional objects. Dimensions are given in inches.

SAA following an artist’s name indicates Signature Member.

All SAA Master Artists have received five or more Awards of Excellence, the Society of Animal Artists’ highest honor, and have the following symbol by their name - Master Artist *
One winter day while I was wandering my local birding patch I spotted this knot in a bittersweet vine. I knew at that instant that I would have to feature it in one of my works. When I got serious about the drawing, I looked through my reference photos of birds that are common at this patch and found this perfectly positioned Black-capped Chickadee. After combining the two photographs and eliminating a lot of extraneous plant material I had my composition. After spraying on graphite powder mixed with water for the background, I completed the vine and chickadee using watercolor, colored pencils, and graphite pencils.
Legends of Amboseli depicts two large bull elephants from the Amboseli ecosystem in southern Kenya. For many years these bulls, named Craig and Tim, have been favorites with tourists. They were often mistaken for one another from a distance due to their tall stature and huge asymmetrical tusks.

Legends of Amboseli
African Elephant
Bronze
9 x 16 x 10
Available for acquisition
Upupa epops  
Eurasian Hoopoe  
Bronze and iron  
13 x 8 x 8  
Available for acquisition

This is a training piece. It is a morphological study of a Eurasian Hoopoe, Upupa epops. Its stylized, light shape with a thin beak, prominent crest, and contrasting colors of orange, black, and white make this bird one of the brightest of those living in the Mediterranean fields and pastures. We can also talk about its song, one of the spring sounds of my childhood. As usual, I have used a rectangle symbolizing the limited space that we, humans, are leaving to nature. I chose the hoopoe because I am preparing a work based on the poem “The Old Cemetery” belonging to the book Platero y yo by the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, Juan Ramón Jiménez. In that poem, a hoopoe perched on a tombstone stands out as a vision of the soul of the deceased. Birds and insects, especially butterflies, have long been considered beings close to the spiritual realm.
Contrary to most African cats, cheetahs are active mainly during the day to avoid larger predators such as lions or hyenas. This one is having an early start in the golden morning light and these warm bright saturated colors are the main reason I chose to paint this piece while winter was still raging outside of my studio. Recreating the soft atmospheric perspective and the backlit savanna grass only using shades of brown and yellow was a challenge I very much enjoyed!

**Early Start**
Cheetah
Acrylic
12 x 24
Available for acquisition
A Great Blue Heron in full breeding plumage balances gracefully and precariously on the branches of its nesting tree. Great Blue Herons nest in rookeries that you can smell and hear before you can see them. Once you do see them, they are a sight to behold. Each tree can hold multiple nests and the parent birds fly in and out frequently, it is a very busy place. Amazingly, such large birds can balance on the very spindly branches of the trees, and I wanted to capture that miracle in this painting.
My inspiration for Autumn Splendor started with the maple leaves. Last fall the leaves in Colorado were especially colorful, not only the aspen and cottonwoods, but all the imported maples. For reference, I had leaves from five different species of maple. Owls are one of my favorite subjects to sculpt so I can easily imagine one perched on the limb of a maple tree.

Autumn Splendor
Owl
Bronze
15 x 20 x 10
Available for acquisition
These two lions have spent days together and the male will not leave her side for up to five days. She is now in his care, they will eat and sleep together, and he will remain vigilant for any potential threats. We all want the assurance and security of feeling that someone is watching over us. It starts with our parents, and later in life, such a function is fulfilled by a spouse or partner. Alternatively, some of us find solace and security in the love of God or a spiritual angel. We all long for “someone to watch over me”, no matter where our source of comfort and protection is. I wonder whether the songwriters George and Ira Gershwin who created the anthem in 1926 realized how many hearts from across the globe would be deeply impacted by just those five words.
This is a small piece and I wanted to paint this little penguin in the simplest way possible—the black and white bird on a completely white background, just to feel the starkness of its world.
There was a hurricane passing by the Atlantic Coast of America producing enormous and angry-looking, sand-infused, golden waves, which I prefer to the stereotype, pretty blue. I saw the sculptural effect of the power of those waves and I thought of the famous “Wave” by Hokusai, the great Japanese artist of the 19th century. I decided to add a Peregrine Falcon, the most aggressive hunter in the sky, beating along the shore. For reference for this flying hawk, I did a sculpture to make drawings from. The flock of Ruddy Turnstones have taken flight and are exploding off the canvas, echoing the exploding foam of the wave.
I first observed American Avocets at The Bear River Migratory Refuge in Utah. I was fascinated by their rhythmic movements. Long, curved bills swept left, then right, then back again, probing for food as they elegantly moved up and down the shore. The bird’s silhouette creates a strong design and pattern against a background of thin washes which convey the water’s surface.
When the Roe Deer I was sketching suddenly dashed into the wood, I stayed and drew the background. After a while, a fox trotted onto the scene, obviously interested in the scent of the deer.

**Scent**

Red Fox

Oil on linen

15 x 22

Available for acquisition
Zebra are a striking animal and when they are spooked their stripes add to the chaos. Making this a nighttime moonlit scene was part of the fun of creating the drama.

Spooked
Burchell’s Zebra
Oil
24 x 36
Available for acquisition
The woodcock hen, as she sits on the ground, camouflages so well. Her beautiful feathers remind me of the dry leaves that make woodcocks masters of camouflage, helping them blend in with the leafy surroundings on the floors of young forests or in fields. The woodcock has a funny way of searching for its favorite food, earthworms, by stepping heavily with the front foot onto the ground and rocking their bodies back and forth to mimic the sound of rain, which makes the earthworms move. The bird can open its very sensitive beak just in the front and so probe into the ground to grasp its food. Its large eyes are positioned so high and far back on its head that it can see its potential predators while foraging for worms. The woodcock has a panoramic vision.
Robins are year-round residents in eastern Washington. In cold winter months, the bare limbs of apple trees offer refuge and respite from the snowy ground. Innumerable robins, feathers puffed against the cold, can be seen throughout the orchards spread across this region, looking as if they are the crop ready for harvest. Their shapely resistance to the cold inspired me. The free-standing branches on which the bronze robins perch represent the sparse winter months, another contrast to the bright fullness of the birds, so well-adapted and content in their environment.

Round Robins
American Robin
Bronze
9 x 14 x 7
My experience with Sienna Eyes started at a local wildlife preserve, taking photos of Plains Zebra, specifically a mom and her 3-day-old baby. The baby was quite a bit smaller, but the design worked better when I made her a little bigger. I wanted to emphasize their beautiful eyes, so I kept the rest of the painting subdued.

I researched zebra eyes as they were black in my reference photo. The mom’s name was Spot due to the spot on her side, instead of a stripe. You can see this in my painting. My composition combined two separate photos, which can be difficult since the lighting has to be consistent in my painting which may not be the case in the photos.
Ospreys are fascinating to watch. The resort town of McCall, Idaho, is situated on the southern shore of Payette Lake, a glacial remnant whose water is unbelievably blue and inviting. The ospreys nest there and are visible flying around the lake as they hunt fish and raise their young. In this painting, I wanted to replicate the bird’s eye view, the feeling of focusing on the images up close, inches in front of you, as well as the amazing feeling of being pulled far into the background scenery miles and miles away from you.

Osprey Over Payette Lake
Osprey
Oil
24 x 24
Available for acquisition

DEBORAH BREES
Resides: Jacob, Illinois, USA • b. Missouri, USA
In late Spring, Swallow-tailed Kites can be seen circling above the tree line in the Southeastern region of the United States. They are ready to nest after spending the Winter months in South and Central America. Their contrasting light and dark patterns and distinctive shape make them a dynamic subject against a background of late-evening thunderheads.
Halcyon Days
Three-spined Sticklebacks, Belted Kingfisher
Acrylic
24 x 18
Available for acquisition

This painting began with thoughts of sticklebacks and their funny, zigzag trajectory in the water. I experimented with trying to simulate that motion with various juxtapositions of swimming fishes. While playing around with these arrangements, I came up with a couple of different concepts and compositions. This one, from the point of view at the bottom of the stream, peering past two sticklebacks to a kingfisher above, was my favorite.
I observed this Great Blue Heron wading cautiously below a dense thicket of brush at the back edge of a small pond. It wove in and out, disappearing at times beneath or behind the leaves, then slowly reappearing. I was most drawn to the light: the variations it created across the leaves, and the way it played off of the bird as it moved into and out of the shadows, slowly illuminating bit by bit, before creeping back into shadow while deliberately wading across the scene.
A few years back, I watched a documentary film on raptors chasing prey in the woods. As they chased through trees and branches, they would fold one of their wings and stretch the other to perfectly maneuver through the narrow spaces. I attempted to portray that moment in this sculpture.
One of my favorite animals to work with is the rabbit. They have a great deal of character for sculptural design. This piece depicts a rabbit pulling down a branch to get a better hold of his snack. I hope to create the best possible sculpture that I can by building strong designs through shape, line, texture, and color. Always pushing my artistic boundaries to achieve what has not been done before, reaching out and experimenting with new designs and gestures. Creating sculptures that are well orchestrated, balanced, emotionally interesting, stimulating, and lyrical.
This atmospheric painting explores the theme of the complex relationship between canines, equines, and people, traditionally expressed through the lens of foxhunting. It features the land at the heart of the sport, rural Virginia, on a warm but slightly breezy September morning. Huntsman Reggie Spreadborough of the Orange County Hounds is recalling his hounds back together to head home after a hunt. Several thin layers of paint were applied to depict the dewy morning mist and dynamic movements of the different, but interconnected figures.
I do not always set out to produce dual versions of every subject I paint, but it is a common result of my approach to painting. Patchwork Green began as a practice exercise for a workshop Zoom demonstration during the 2020 Pandemic. The day before the actual class, I timed myself as I roughed in the framework for this painting. And because I had already painted the scene once before, I was so much more relaxed the following afternoon when I began a second version with students watching and commenting as I worked! I continued to refine both canvases in tandem for the two and a half years it took to complete them; learning from one as I refined the other, and then going back again to the other, right up until the week I finished them both; in tandem; just one day after the other, exactly as they began.
All cats prefer to surprise their prey. These ambushes can be played by little tabby cats about to pounce on a rolling ball to a huge lion about to charge a buffalo. This puma has been waiting in a sheltered, cave-like hiding place and has its attention on some movement that has come into view. To be successful, it must wait until its prey is close enough. If not, the puma must perform a sneaky, silent stalk to improve its chances of getting itself closer.

**Puma Ambush**

Puma  
Oil on Canvas  
12 x 24  
Available for acquisition
The incredibly beautiful, highly geometric pattern of the Gaboon viper’s (Bitis gabonica) skin is both striking in isolation and perfectly camouflaged to the forest floors where this spectacular snake dwells. Virtually unseen among the leaf litter, once removed from its environment the pattern and forms of this snake become revealed, displaying the same dramatic geometry that frequently appears in African textiles from the region. Highlighting both the sculptural beauty of this snake as well as the incredible skills of the patina artist, all of the colors of this sculpture are the natural tones of bronze: the palest colors are raised and polished and the deepest tones are incised with each tone of brown created by chemical reactions of the metal to acids.
We see them in ditches and areas with water, a common site. I am always admiring their graceful beauty, their stealth-like movements, and just the simple contrast of the white against the dark backdrops of greens and browns. When backlit and glowing a simple scene turns into such a beautiful moment, lucky for those who get to see it.

**Silver Springs**
Snowy Egret
Acrylic on Canvas
24 x 36
Available for acquisition
Bobcats often take advantage of the wildlife that resides along rivers. This is especially true during the winter when the game is scarce, and the open river is a life source for a variety of animals great and small.

It is not uncommon to see this stubby-tailed cat’s single tracks tracing the bank of our AuSable River. Contrary to popular belief, these cats do not seem to mind water. River Patrol is the second painting in a series of paintings to promote the AuSable River and the life it sustains in northern Michigan.
In real-time this cheetah would be a blur, but by freezing this moment in time, I am allowing viewers to study and appreciate all the moving parts that need to come together to create the explosive energy that cheetahs are known for. So as not to interfere with the lines of the sculpture and the impression of speed, I decided to use an arch for support, making it appear as if the cheetah is sliding across the Savannah at an incredible pace.

**Gaining Ground**
Cheetah
Bronze
11 x 29 x 6
Available for acquisition
KATHLEEN E. DUNN, SAA
Resides: Milton, Washington, USA • b. New Jersey, USA

Arrival
Horned Puffins
Mixed media on Claybord
24 x 24
Available for acquisition

I, like many wildlife artists, have a love for other forms of painting including abstract art. I decided to take my work in a different direction, focusing more on design and using more negative space as well as going back to my enjoyment of drawing. It is also an attempt to loosen up a bit though I have a ways to go on that front. This piece is a mix of watercolor, watercolor pencils, and Prismacolor pencils with a ‘bit’ of scratchboard since Claybord is a scratchboard substrate. I also loved how the colors of the Maritime Sunburst Lichens were reflected in the leg and bill colors of the puffins, one of those happy coincidences artists appreciate.
As I walk through the meadows surrounding my property, I am always on the lookout for crab spiders hiding in the flowers. These marvelously camouflaged predators sit unseen waiting for pollinating insects to prey upon. They can be either white or yellow, depending on the color of the flower they are occupying. Crab spiders get their name from the broad clutching forelegs, as well as their sideways movements, and will commonly sit lurking in ambush position with the spiny forelegs outstretched, ready to grab a wayward insect.

**The Unseen**
Goldenrod Crab Spider
Scratchboard
6 x 9
Available for acquisition
**Liftoff**
Tundra Swan
Oil on linen
36 x 48
Available for acquisition

*Tundra swans make their annual pilgrimage through the wetlands north of Sacramento, blanketing the fields with their white plumage and giving the illusion of snow in the valley.*
Barred owls are very beautiful birds with wonderful soft plumage. The idea was to design a pose to showcase the beauty of the bird best way possible that corresponds with what they do in life. I chose the setting as the habitat being the rock and leaves and the owl positioned on the ground mantling with its catch being a black racer snake. Mantling is what birds of prey do after they capture their prey to protect it from other watchful eyes. The buckeye burl wood I thought was an excellent choice for this habitat as the natural coloring of the wood worked well with the owl’s plumage. I decided to go with the snake to show movement in the piece with the snake tail twitching which usually happens once it is captured.

Prey Mantling
Barred Owl, Black Racer Snake
Oil on Tupelo wood; Carved habitat in Buckeye Burl
4 x 10 x 9
Available for acquisition
The first time I saw a scrawled cowfish I giggled. This shallow-water species of boxfish is so cute and colorful. It has distinctive features such as a scrawled pattern of bluish markings covering its body and a pair of sharp spines above each eye, giving it the name “cowfish” because they resemble the horns of a cow (distinguishing the cowfish from a trunkfish). It will mostly always be found in and along grass beds. If disturbed it may remain motionless relying on its camouflage. Common to occasional in Florida and Bahamas; occasional to uncommon in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico, north to Massachusetts, Bermuda, and south to Brazil in tropical and warm temperate waters.
Along the coast of Maui lies an underwater coral sanctuary where turtles come to sleep and have their shells cleaned by tangs and other fish. This hidden spot lies in 50 feet of water and is visited by upwards of 30 turtles at a time. This scene caught my eye as I was scuba diving and rested on the ocean floor to watch and wait. These three turtles, nestled safely together as they slept, caught my eye. There was something incredibly peaceful watching them sleep - gently swaying in the current while at the same time being anchored by nearby clumps of rock and coral. It felt like time had stopped for a moment, and there among each other’s company, they slept in safety.

There’s Rest in Good Company
Green Sea Turtle
Oil
22 x 28
Available for acquisition
An elusive song, evocative of the wildness of canyonlands, gives me goosebumps. A dash of white surrounded by rich earth tones reveals its wandering search for insects within an undercut cliff filled with reflected light.

Canyon Chorus
Canyon Wren and Pleasing Fungus Beetle
Watercolor
21 x 10
Available for acquisition
Zebras are amazing creatures to me. They are always moving, often touching, brash and bold, inquisitive, and quite mouthy. No wonder they have not been domesticated very well! I spend much of my time on my annual trips to Africa studying these striped horses, always watching for a unique angle or behavior to add to my knowledge and artistic interpretation. I observed this particular group in Tanzania as they gathered together, each touching another in their kinship group, enjoying each other’s company and the benefit of their closeness to ward off flies and watch for danger.
This Jaguar’s captivating look is all I needed to undertake this project. It was quite a challenge to achieve the detail, alongside the blurry background, all with color pencil, but this medium lent the piece an iridescent quality of its own.

Photo reference: Edwin Butter
LYNN A. FRALEY
Resides: Boise, Idaho, USA • b. Illinois, USA

Spring Wind Ruckus
Horse
Resin and acrylic on wood
12 x 12 x 8
Available for acquisition

Spring has sprung after a long winter of being cooped up. A stiff breeze tosses still-bare branches and sets loose the hobgoblins of winter — dreaded dry leaves, the bane of many a horseman! A delightful excuse to romp and play for many a horse. Joy in movement, joy in release! “Now catch me if you can...”
I took my first kayak trip in a swamp in the southern part of Georgia. As I paddled out in this plastic kayak rental, I started to doubt my sanity. I notice several alligators in the channel that I was in. Then I noticed a gator laying on the bank watching me. I was sure surprised at how fast it dove into the water! It made the kayak rock like crazy! Well, I kept going. I had seen egrets all around, as well as other birds. It was like being on another planet. I kept going and made it out into a bigger channel of the swamp. I never knew just how loud alligators are! It reminded me of the lions in Africa! Last year I was looking for the appropriate background for an egret painting that I wanted to do. Then I remembered my photos from southern Georgia!
SHARON FULLINGIM, SAA
Resides: Socorro, New Mexico, USA • b. South Carolina, USA

My carving journey with this sculpture began with an odd-shaped piece of limestone, with no idea how the composition would evolve. Much to my delight the form emerged as a small canid, so I just ran with it. Without much effort, I was able to imagine the moment a Grey Fox kit nodded off in the warm sunshine, after an active morning of pouncing and wrestling with its littermates. The stone itself begs for assorted textures and negative spaces to add interest and drama to the overall composition.
The seasons and the changing of seasons must surely be among life’s greatest treasures. It is difficult for me to pin down my favorite seasons but fall, with its mosaic array of colors, certainly holds strong in my heart. Sassafras, ash, sugar maple, and that impossible yellow glow of a late October mockernut hickory. A world of color on fire immersed in melancholy. But it is shagbark hickory that pulls at my heartstrings. Late to color with golden yellow-green, a seasonal finale, and the season of the gray squirrel. Moving with the flow of liquid silver amid an autumn drop of leaves, amassing as many nuts as possible, both devouring and burying, it is the hickory nut that is most prized by the grays. And those legs, those steel spring legs can catapult him off that hickory trunk or send him as a ghostly wisp to the upper reaches of the branches.
Meet the Shoebill Stork
Shoebill Stork
Bronze
20 x 12 x 7
Available for acquisition

The shoebill stork checks all the boxes for the amazing wild animals of the world. Standing five feet tall and weighing only 16 pounds, it is an impressive solitary creature.
This abandoned skiff laying in the amber marsh grass was found along the Virginia coast. The golden morning light bouncing off the side, and the lavender sky reflected in the water made a pleasing combination of colors. I chose a mixed flock of herons and egrets to complement the scene, as they were already frequenting the area.

**The Tide Watchers**
Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Green Heron
Oil
18 x 36
Available for acquisition
This megachiropteran bat species lives in Northern and Eastern Australia. They like to hang around in groups close together on an individual branch to the degree that it is in danger of breaking off from the weight. They gather sometimes in great flocks of up to 20,000 individuals so that they are not threatened today. In the dark, the membranes of these bats appear shimmeringly silver.

Cozy Cuddling
Little Red Flying-Fox
Colored pencil
15 x 22
Available for acquisition
Pawsing to Reflect
Grizzly Bear
Colored Pencil
16 x 16
Available for acquisition

A towering, powerful Alaskan grizzly bear surveys the mountain valley below from an outcropping of rocks to gain a better view of his surroundings. In this intimate piece, I wanted to depict a very serene scene of this magnificent bear in a vast unspoiled expanse, yet so close that you could almost hear him breathing.
“On the next turn, he nearly had him. But again the fish righted himself and slowly swam away.” Hemingway describes the final moments when Santiago in the depth of his fatigue, pulls the giant blue marlin close to his skiff, so he could deliver the final blow. The world’s most famous fish story has been a favorite subject for me to paint, as I grew up in Jamaica with fishermen who caught big fish on hand lines from small boats. I chose an unusual view to tell this part of the story.

One More Circle
Blue Marlin
Acrylic on Canvas
30 x 40
Available for acquisition
This particular egg-eating snake lived in my bedroom when I was an early teen in Kenya. Egg eaters are interesting snakes. They have no teeth, but they have bony protrusions under their spine which help break the egg. Also, because they have no teeth, they are fairly defenseless, so their scales are keeled, and rubbing them together creates a hissing sound, and if they feel threatened, they will strike at the threat, but they will aim to miss to not give the game away.
I remember in awe, watching this bison in Yellowstone when I first traveled in North America. A charismatic animal, moving in an assertive-gentle way through the sunlit vegetation of the prairie.

Little did I know I would return as Artist in Residence at The Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum a decade later pursuing my journey as an emerging wildlife artist. I chose to portray the bison on a large scratchboard as a token of my gratitude for all the rewards along the way.

My art career has gained momentum over the years I devoted myself to honing my skills, practicing techniques, and observing the animals in nature. I hope my dedication and love for wildlife shine through my work as a silver light, like a strong bison wandering in the gleaming hills of the land.

**Silver Light**
American Bison
Scratchboard
24 x 36
Available for acquisition
I was fortunate to grow up in a wooded area in eastern Pennsylvania with a retired biology professor as my neighbor. She graciously shared her knowledge and exposed me to the wonders of nature. One of our projects was collecting and identifying insects. The imperial moth, Eacles imperials as labeled by science, was one of my most sought-after additions to my collection.

While I was developing my love for nature I was also exploring my love for creativity. Now the two have been combined to capture nature and all its beauty. Through close observation and attention to detail, I replicate not only the species but the habitat in which it can be found using techniques I have acquired. Carved wood and forged metal give my art its foundation and structure while layers of paint bring my vision to life.
This piece was created by layering several sheets of hand-cut paper together to achieve a highly detailed, sculptural effect. The animal depicted is a red-tailed hawk that perched on a dogwood tree by my house this winter. I used multiple different cutting patterns to create his feathers and used different colored papers to create a sense of depth. I cut all of my work by hand using an Excel blade and knife.
A new addition has arrived in the Ngorongoro Crater of Tanzania, as a baby zebra has recently been born. The little one’s fur is still clumped and wet, indicating that it has just entered the world. As the zebra baby becomes stronger and more mobile, it will begin to explore its surroundings and learn the skills it needs to survive in the wild. With luck, it will grow up strong and healthy, ready to take its place among the rest of the herd. For now, however, it will rely on its mother’s guidance and protectiveness to navigate the challenges of life in the African savannah.
The Giant Schnauzer is a breed of dog with great strength and grace. He is a strong powerful dog, and yet can move quickly with balance and a certain elegance. I tried to depict this by keeping the composition simple but adding a slight tilt and turn to his motion hoping to add determination and a sense of purpose.

Schnauzer
Giant Schnauzer
Bronze
25 x 25 x 11
Available for acquisition
I love to visit the local ponds and wildlife reserves to gather material for future drawings. On this particular day, I was looking for bird reference material. This nutria looked surreal, like walking on the water. The sun was not out that day, but I love that the gray tones blend in with the gray sky. This seemed to produce the perfect reflection of the nutria. So, I drew the Nutria and not the bird!
The African Leopard is often shadowed by the Continent’s other great predators, making it imperative that he quickly stashes his prey out of reach in the nearest tree. The title lays reference to just such a storyline.

Echoes of Peril
African Leopard
Oil on Belgian linen
18 x 24
Available for acquisition
Lobsters are often taken for granted, especially here in Maine. Usually portrayed as boiled, bright red, and on a plate, they are indeed delicious. But few people, be they Maine locals or tourists, spend time with a live lobster. These creatures are intricate, fascinating, hardy, and beautiful. I love their colors: greens, blues, purples, and mustards, accented by hot oranges and wet reflections on their shells. They can teach us much about color and biology; the more I look, the more I learn. I might need to look forever.
Amazon Kingfishers, more widespread than their name might suggest, are found from Mexico to Argentina. I have watched them in several countries, but my favorite sightings have been along the Amazon River itself, in northeastern Peru. There, on a mile-wide river lined with towering rainforest trees, these birds—and all creatures, really, including humans—seem dwarfed by the massive scale of their surroundings. While traveling up the Amazon, I often saw kingfishers perched high in cecropias at the water’s edge. Cecropias are distinctive trees with huge palmate leaves, and I liked the contrast between their yellow-green foliage and the more blue-green tones of the female Amazon Kingfisher. This rainforest region east of the Andes is dominated by endless variations of the color green. I titled this painting Emerald Amazon to honor that color scheme, and to give a nod to the English names of both the river and the bird.
Hunting the Cut
Great-horned Owl
Oil on panel
14 x 11
Available for acquisition

Our resident Great-horned owls are often seen hunting on the edges of an old cut area adjacent to our property. The cut edges offer perches where the owls look and listen for prey. From there they can launch on any unsuspecting victim as they too hunt for food.
We live on Lake Michigan's shore and are blessed to see many kinds of bird life. Seagulls are the most prolific.

Shore Patrol
Seagulls
Acrylic
12 x 24
Available for acquisition
REBEKAH KNIGHT
Resides: Deepwater, Missouri, USA • b. Kansas, USA

Gray Wolf Portrait
Gray Wolf
Oil
28 x 22
Available for acquisition

*The beautiful gray wolf in all her radiant glory glances back as she passes through a hidden meadow during a peaceful autumn evening.*
Canyon wrens live in steep rocky areas of the western United States. They differ from other wrens by having long slender beaks and flat heads so they can probe for insects in rock crevices. In this sculpture, two of them sense the presence of a cricket.

**On the Rocks**
Canyon Wren, Cricket
Bronze
7 x 10 x 4
Available for acquisition
Ruby-throat & Super Hots
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Oil
12 x 6

Ruby-throated hummingbirds have always fascinated me. On average they weigh a mere 3.4 grams and can beat their wings up to 80 times per second while hovering! Unlike other birds, the ruby throat’s wings only connect to their body from the shoulder joint, allowing the wing to rotate almost 180 degrees. This enables the bird to fly not only forward but backward and to hover in mid-air.

Ghost peppers are equally as fascinating. These super hots average about 1 million Scoville Heat Units compared to a jalapeño, which is only around 8,000 SHU!

I love pairing these bright red peppers with the ruby-throated hummingbird not only for their matching colors but for their equally impressive nature.
A pair of Percheron draft horses in fancy show harnesses are shown in a tandem hitch, that is, one horse travels in front of the other making a team consisting of a leader (the front horse) and a wheeler (the rear horse).

Tandem Heads Up
Percheron Draft Horse
Watercolor on paper
11 x 14
Available for acquisition
This painting came about after my friend’s Morgan mare returned from surgery and was recuperating on stall rest. It was late afternoon, when most of the other horses were turned out, and the stall was bathed in a golden light. A double play on the word gave me the title – as a result of the surgery, she was forced to remain inside and be “patient.” It also reminded me that the events of the world are often out of our control and that we too, must be patient.
Cows are among my very favorite animals. Never tired of their expressive faces, over the last few years I have probably painted enough cows for a decent size dairy farm. I joked that the reason I love painting cows is that they accept their natural beauty — no cow has ever asked me to remove her double chin or to make her nose smaller, and they are also perfectly fine with their facial hair. On a more serious note, I have a huge respect for these amazing animals who are smart and friendly, and to whom we humans owe so much. Cows in my painting are engaged in a heated discussion, inviting the viewer to join their dispute.
Along the glacial out-wash valleys on the eastern slopes of the Wind River Mountains in northwest Wyoming, there are large boulders pushed up by the passing glaciers. Most often, next to these boulders, there is a healthy Juniper tree that benefits from the moisture the boulders hold next to the surface. Along these moraines, the Bighorn Sheep migrate from the high mountain meadows to winter pastures at lower elevations. The lambs are reaching subadult size but are still with their ewe moms. With the migration, the lambs learn the location of winter feed while still under the protection of the adults. Herds can be from a few animals to a large herd including rams.
The Grizzly Bear strides confidently to the edge of a waterfall. Why is she there? Only she knows. This bear is living on the brink in more ways than one; it and other large carnivores like it are living on the brink of extinction. Their very existence depends on the willingness of humans to preserve a place for them on an increasingly crowded planet Earth.

Living On the Brink
Grizzly Bear
Oil
24 x 30
Available for acquisition
Golden Gaze
Spectacled Owl
Scratchboard
6 x 6
Available for acquisition

This is a portrait of a young spectacled owl that I painted from photos I took during a visit to Midwest Falconry in Blanchester Ohio in 2021. I just love their beautiful gold-colored eyes. Fun fact - they are the only Pulsatrix (genus of owl in the family Strigidae) to have this eye color. When they are young, they are mostly white with a chocolate brown facial disk but, as they mature, they become more of that beautiful dark chocolate color with just the white facial markings and lovely whitish-to-yellow ochre underparts.
Inspiration from the Museum
Green Heron
Oil
14 x 11
Available for acquisition

Green herons are solitary in nature and are great defenders of their eggs and young. They are also nocturnal. And while they are not endangered, their habitats are threatened. I was drawn to paint them because of their unbelievable colors. They can be a little hard to spot but when you do, you are rewarded. I love their crazy tufted crown, and the patterns on their wings are like beautiful stained glass. I thought one would look fabulous carrying off some jewels!
Infuriating little rascals bury walnuts in our yard every fall. In the spring, I use pliers to yank out young nut trees. There are hundreds!
Since the first man reached across species and allowed a wild carnivorous animal to provide both protection and comfort the bond between humans and canine has survived the ages. Our fascination with the wolf seems to arise from some primal instinct that draws us to the sights and sounds of the wild. Throughout time the wolf has been both glorified and vilified and with the continued encroachment of civilization and loss of habitat we once again stand on the precipice.

**Precipice**

Gray Wolf
Acrylic
18 x 24
Available for acquisition
ROGER MARTIN, SAA
Resides: Albemarle, North Carolina, USA • b. North Carolina, USA

Bacchus
Black Bear
Bronze
24 x 11 x 19
Available for acquisition

OPA Bacchus,
the "Original Party Animal".
Not Sharing
Red-tailed Hawk
Pencil and ink on paper
11 x 9
Available for acquisition

I spotted this hawk in a field, and it allowed me to get very close to him. While he held tightly to his prey, his very presence felt like a gift. I wanted to express this experience with this drawing.
Most artists need a ‘muse’ to inspire their creative efforts. In this instance, a hummingbird has graced the container of art brushes and will, perhaps, become the next subject for the artist’s painting. It is a generic hummingbird, based loosely on the Broad-tail species which we have around us here in Colorado most often... but ANY hummingbird species could inspire a creative concept for an artist. Their exquisite coloration, delicacy, and energy always bring delight to any viewer.
“You know the nearer your expectations the more they keep sliding away.” - Paul Simon and about a million bird dogs and pheasant hunters each Fall. How in the world can such a big bird simply vanish into the thinnest cover and stubble? The question is pondered next to more fires and with more volumes of libation than just about anything else in bird hunting.
I have wanted to do a piece using this species for years and was able to locate one in a small zoo in Texas for a photo shoot. As I always do, I filed the photos until I felt it was time to use one of the poses. Ocelots are so endangered and when their territory was threatened by a wall on our southern border, I knew what I had to do. The Texas population has been reduced to between 50-80, and if they cannot cross into Mexico looking for mating opportunities it may be nonexistent. Thankfully Central and South America have good populations due to their habitat’s vast wilderness, although that is also being threatened.
The Oak Openings region of northwest Ohio is a hotbed of biodiversity. Recognized as a globally rare ecosystem, I typically find something special during any hike there. Pincushion moss is fairly common in the area and is always lush. The earthstar fungus can be difficult to find but often numerous in isolated locations. And last but not least, the American Woodcock has a knack for blending into the leaves.

Hidden Gems
American Woodcock
Oil
12 x 16
Available for acquisition
TERRY MILLER, SAA
Resides: Takoma Park, Maryland, USA • b. Iowa, USA

It’s All Uphill From Here, Thought Jasper
Chipmunk
Graphite
16 x 10
Available for acquisition

Working in monochrome, depicting various textures and how they play against each other, has always been at the top of my list when designing new work. Will Jasper reach the top of the melon pile? We may never know.
I think all cat owners can relate to this scene. They will always find the warm shafts of light cascading in our homes wherever they may be and make it their bed. Piper was no different, having staked her claim on our living room windowsill. She is in her favorite spot on her favorite pillow at her favorite time of day.

I was inspired to paint her portrait after seeing the amazing Holbein show at the Morgan Library last year. My friend and fellow artist @fredrick_brosen saw it first and raved about it! Piper’s pillow reminded me of the intricate patterns and textures that Holbein painted so beautifully in his stunning intimate portraits.

Piper’s Pillow
Domestic Cat
Acrylic on masonite panel
18 x 24
Available for acquisition
Smoke on the Water - Fleeing a Force 5 Forest Fire
Woodland Caribou
Acrylic
24 x 36
Available for acquisition

Red-124 was the biggest forest fire on record for the 1.2 million-acre Woodland Caribou Provincial Park in northwestern Ontario when we encountered it. This ominous sight led to our evacuation the next day. Caribou in the area do not tend to congregate in large platoons like this in the park but they can when funneled to escape routes by fire. The caribou depicted in the painting was part of a herd of 700 that we encountered three years earlier in Labrador. They just flowed around us when they came to shore.
All cranes participate in spectacular dance routines involving head-bobbing, wing-fluttering, leaps, deep bows, running with wings flapping, and even short, low flights. These elaborate dances serve as courtship rituals to attract mates. In a flock of cranes, if one bird starts dancing soon all the others join in.

In many cultures, including Native Americans, Australian aboriginal peoples, African tribes, and the Ainu of Japan, humans mimic crane dances.

Crowned cranes are the only species of crane that can roost in trees, due to their prehensile hind toe that allows them to grasp tree limbs.

Out for a Stroll
East African Grey Crowned Crane
Soft pastel
20 x 20
Available for acquisition
Razor’s Edge
Razorbill
Oil
24 x 36
Available for acquisition

Razorbills are alcids, a group of birds restricted to the Northern hemisphere and usually found at sea, or nesting on remote sea cliffs. Puffins are probably their best-known representative, but razorbills have a no-nonsense, serious look that I find far more appealing. These are birds in their winter plumage when they can occasionally be found offshore in the waters near my home.
Pen and ink Osprey on the Chesapeake Bay near Annapolis, MD with a fresh catch.

**Departure**
Osprey, Striped Bass
Pen and Ink
13 x 17
Available for acquisition

PETER B. NEVINS
Resides: Centreville, Maryland, USA • b. Pennsylvania, USA
I love watching rays effortlessly glide through the water. This southern ray seemed to be beckoning me to follow him/her into their wonderful and magical underwater world.
**Looking to the moon**

_Across the Salish Sea_

_When an owl swoops in_

_Haloed by the fullness_

_Of the lesser luminary_

L.E.O.

**Owl Moon**

Great Horned Owl

Acrylic on gold leaf

12 x 12

Available for acquisition
GERALD J. PAINTER, SAA
Resides: Great Falls, Montana, USA • b. Pennsylvania, USA

Dogtown Denizen
Burrowing Owl
Walnut burl
13 x 11 x 4
Available for acquisition

After Montana’s long winters, I always look forward to the return of Burrowing Owls. I consistently find nesting pairs in the First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park which is a short drive from my home. The comical antics of the owls and the prairie dogs are always fun to watch. The Burrowing Owls have been the subject of numerous detailed miniature carvings that I have done over the years. I have recently been doing some looser work in Walnut and enjoy the slightly less technical process.
One of the thrills of kayaking the wilderness rivers of Florida: causing a huge alligator to leave his sunspot on the bank and slide into the murky water under my kayak. They are generally not aggressive toward anything as big as a kayak, but they do not want to be bothered while warming their reptilian blood in the morning! This fellow’s apparent smile was probably not a sign of friendliness. To emphasize the alligator skin’s texture, I chose to paint on heavy, rough paper. The high contrast created by the strong Florida sun outlines the scales on the beast.

Do Not Disturb
American Alligator
Transparent watercolor
15 x 22
Available for acquisition
Little Shadows
Green Frog
Oil on linen
3 x 8
Available for acquisition

I have done many paintings with frogs and water lilies, and besides the fact that I love the subject of ponds and all that lives in them, the interaction of sunlight and shadows is a big part of why I prefer painting frogs and also what makes each painting unique.
Open Territory was inspired by a month-long rafting trip down the Colorado River. As we approached the launch spot at Lees Ferry, no river was to be seen, but the vastness of that open territory was breathtaking. Each of the hidden cracks in the earth held secrets to be explored full of creatures and plants adapted for existence in this harsh environment. This hawk is ready to launch into the sky, away from the rusty barbed wire representing man’s desire to control nature, into the realm of the canyon lands.
The title of this painting refers to a pattern of repeated shapes. For me, not many things in the animal world are as alluring as a snake, and when that snake has a visually stunning pattern it enhances that sentiment. I often get questioned about my patience and sanity when painting reptiles, but for me, the beauty is in the details. To see animals in the distance is one thing, but when you examine them up close, you discover an amazing world of mystery, fascination, and artistry.
In many European countries, before you ever see cattle, you will hear them. The sound of cowbells pervades the air. This music travels down the mountains and through the valleys. As the herds move placidly through the meadows, they will always tell you where they are as the rhythm of their bodies sends each bell into motion. This piece is not just about one cow. It is telling the story of a long-standing tradition. The places where cows are free to roam far and wide. Animals are still tended by shepherds during the summer months until they are brought down the mountains to winter in the family barns. Having traveled to many of these countries, it is a sound that resonates so deeply within my spirit. And I feel once again, this is where I am to understand what it means to wander freely.

**Ring Them Bells**
Simmental Cow
Oil
24 x 24
Available for acquisition
As the sun settled into a warm afternoon, we settled into camp stools to eat lunch and observe members of the north herd of the Onaqui wild mustangs. They had been on the move, past their normal time to rest, pursued by ‘the darters’ – a joint effort of the Bureau of Land Management and Wild Horses of America to use contraceptives to control the size of the herd. The horses were disappearing, one by one, over a far ridge. Our guide, who knew the horses intimately, guessed they were heading to a favorite hidden bowl tucked into the mountain. She asked if we were game to hike up and over the same ridge as the horses. Of course, we answered with a resounding collective yes! We were rewarded by a magical afternoon watching horses just being horses, playing, chasing, squabbling, and, yes, mostly sleeping the hot hours away.
The winters in the Rocky Mountains are my playground. I am always getting out to ski and camp, or summit the peaks. During one of these outings in the backcountry, we were awoken by the stomping and buffing of a large bull elk, with a herd watching the ordeal from the tree line. We camped on his territory, and he was there to let us know. Needless to say, our day on skis started much earlier than anticipated.

**Morning Bugle**
Elk
Oil on canvas
24 x 30
Available for acquisition
PAUL RHYMER, SAA
Resides: Point of Rocks, Maryland, USA • b. Washington, DC, USA

Couldn’t Stand Another Hour of Daylight
Great-horned Owl
Bronze on wood
60 x 15 x 15

“Bring on the night, I couldn’t stand another hour of daylight.”
–The Police
I have lived in cougar territory for over 40 years. They are very hard to see in the wild being shy of humans and well adapted to their coastal habitat. In this print, I show the elusive cat resting in a live oak tree. For me, the print was about showing the texture and pattern of the tree and filtered light which serve so well to blend the cougar into his world.

**Mountain Lion**

Mountain Lion

Woodcut print

26 x 31

Available for acquisition
**JODY RIGSBY**
Resides: Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA • b. Colorado, USA

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**Familia Nueva**
White-winged Dove
Water mixable oils
12 x 12
Available for acquisition

As I travel the southwest, I have always noticed the white-winged doves. Every day the coos of these birds fill the desert air giving it a feeling of living in a place where it can feel desolate. I watched a pair of these birds build a loosely fitting nest in between prickly cholla branches just at eye level. The home was not hidden but the sharp dense spines of the cholla were adequate protection. One night it was very windy, the next day I ran out to see if the flimsy nest survived. It did! I watched as the weeks went by and the two chicks, barely fitting into the seemingly make-shift home, slowly became adults. It made me laugh when I’d walk by and would see mom and chicks overstuffed into the now tiny bed of sticks. The two successfully fledged and the nest fell apart soon after.
Singing honeyeaters are widespread in Australia and are often found in open shrublands and low woodlands, especially where acacias are abundant. They are very territorial birds that during the breeding season form small groups and aggressively chase off other birds and even larger animals.

The two singing honeyeaters depicted in this painting inhabited the shrublands along Victoria’s Southwest coast. These two birds congregated frequently on an old dead shrub where the branches protruded above the surrounding vegetation. This made for a favorable vantage point to survey the surroundings. When an unwelcome intruder or threat was spotted, one of the birds would raise the alarm to rally or warn the wider group. While the composition depicts the story, the color reflects the vibrant light and slight mist of the coastal environment. The yellows and green hues of the birds complement those of the surrounding shrubs.
This painting was done from life over the course of two days in the glens of Angus in Scotland, using my truck as a blind from which to observe through a telescope. Recently developed, spring-suspension plows allow areas of previously undisturbed meadows to be re-sown with monoculture grass. This destroys precious habitats for many endangered species such as the Eurasian Curlew. This is part of my long-term project “Testaments Of Loss”, which documents the many small-scale incidents of environmental loss I have sketched over the last 35 years as a wildlife artist.
SUEELLEN ROSS, SAA
Resides: Seattle, Washington, USA • b. California, USA

In the Moment
Shorthair Cat
Mixed: India ink, watercolor, colored pencil
15 x 10
Available for acquisition

Back to basics: A little companionship and the absorption of warmth. Two precious commodities are more appreciated these days. My cats are so good at needing nothing more than the moment. I am trying to learn from them.
Golden Hour
Eastern Chipmunk
Acrylic on mounted portrait canvas
14 x 20
Available for acquisition

I had been wanting to make a painting of these old tree stumps behind my studio forever. One summer evening when photographing chipmunks, the light shifted to that golden hour glow. The drab grey of the wood slowly transformed to a radiant rusty hue while everything else remained in deep shadow. After years of mentally struggling with what to do with these tree remains, including which critter to include, I knew instantly what I was going to paint, and how I was going to paint it. This clear mental vision opened a door to a playground of experimental dripping, running, and scrubbing of paint, while focal areas were to remain true to my love for detail. Sometimes a painting may sit in an artist’s mind for years, and all it might take is an unexpected moment like this to help bring it to life.
SHALESE SANDS, SAA
Resides: Willmar, Minnesota, USA • b. Minnesota, USA

First Light was created from my experience in Alaska in 2021. My friend and I had gone to Denali National Park in September during the moose rut in hopes of finding some of the big boys. We were very fortunate to encounter this massive bull, which is by far the largest moose I have ever seen. We only managed to see him twice and he was never very close, but it was very inspiring! This particular piece was created from photographs of our second encounter with him during the morning as the light was just starting to peek over the mountains.

First Light
Moose
Scratchboard
14 x 11
Available for acquisition
A few years ago, I was in Arizona when a rainstorm came through. I was caught out in the rain but did not mind much as I watched the desert come to life. One of the fun things I saw during the storm was hummingbirds, including this little Costa’s, bathing in the rain as water accumulated on the vegetation, which was the inspiration for this work.
Freshwater mussels are the most threatened organisms in the United States. These amazing invertebrates are nature’s, incredible water filters and spend their lives constantly filtering out pollutants and bacteria from water whilst feeding and breathing. Amazingly these indicators of water quality can live upwards to 100 years. Dams are very detrimental to mussels, separating them from their host fish on which the mussel larva attach themselves to grow for about three weeks before dropping off. They attract the fish with a “lure”, which looks like a worm or tiny fish, and when the fish bites it, it releases the baby mussels. Sadly, at least 25 species are now extinct, and because of dams and water pollution, many more will probably follow suit. So the next time you see a mussel in a river or lake, take a moment to appreciate his major role in helping to keep our waterways clean.

**Nature's Incredible Water Filter**
Freshwater Mussel
Watercolor
6 x 4
Available for acquisition
One Hundred and One Dunlins
Dunlins, Black-bellied Plover
Acrylic on canvas
12 x 40
Available for acquisition

I was first inspired to paint this piece while sitting at a local beach watching this flock of Dunlins cruising back and forth over the water. The late afternoon light created a warm, pinkish coloring in the birds and their reflections, emphasized against water that reflected a pre-sunset sky. I saw the flock and reflections as a colorful, abstract pattern. This abstraction was appealing to me as a painting idea. I had to remove several Dunlins that were not distinct and add a couple to make the number equal to 101 (for the sake of the title). I kept one of the two Black-bellied Plovers in the group as a focal point. I did not anticipate the work involved in painting this many birds over water - it was quite substantial and took a long time to complete.
I first encountered Scottish Hebridean Sheep while visiting England. This piece features wonder and innocence in the eyes of a majestic animal.
One of the most magical moments to be had on safari is watching animals come to drink. Some, like elephants, are brash and clear the area before drinking their fill. Zebras, however, are nervous animals and easily spooked by the sound of a camera’s shutter. Only patience and stillness will allow you to witness such moments, and the world folds in on itself. Just you and the animal and nothing more.
JAMES S. SWANSON
Resides: La Grange Park, Illinois, USA • b. Wisconsin, USA

This is my good boy Atticus. He was always by my side and the happiest of souls.

The Good Boy
Dog
Oil on linen
18 x 24
Available for acquisition
I was startled by the haunting sound of a loon calling; they are rarely seen in western New York and only during migration. My first sighting was about 90 yards away, the loon diving and feeding, then disappearing, only to surface in another area, getting closer each time it came up for a short break. It was a bit overcast, which provided gentle early morning light. I kept the Surface Break design simple to give the viewer a sense of being in the water.
Inspiration for this painting came from the simple enjoyment of seeing turkeys in their natural environment. After being completely extinct in Michigan, turkeys are one example of a conservation success story. These unique birds rely on open woodlands, usually of oak and hickory with interspersed clearings to breed and to feed. Now, turkey populations have returned and have prospered since their reintroduction.

**Forest Light**
Wild Turkey
Oil on board
16 x 20
Available for acquisition
Japanese Skimmia and Wren

Eurasian Wren
Acrylic
8 x 10
Available for acquisition

Always on the move, the Eurasian wren has to survive winter by finding small insects and spiders. A lot of individuals don’t succeed, and after a severe winter, the population drops dramatically. The ones that survive are the real king of the winter, a winterkoning, the Dutch name for the bird.
Dori and Spike are two Fennec foxes I worked with when I was a zookeeper at The Living Desert in California. Fennec foxes are the smallest of all canids and are adapted to the deserts of North Africa and into Arabia where they are mostly nocturnal and use their large ears to listen for prey and dissipate excess heat. Although the IUCN lists them as a species of least concern they are still hunted for their fur and captured for tourists and the pet trade.

Dori and Spike II
Fennec Foxes
Scratchboard
8 x 8
Available for acquisition
When I visit the western mountains, I particularly look forward to seeing Mule deer. As an Easterner, I used to find Mulies to be comically out of proportion with those namesake ears but now Whitetails look oddly small to me! I saw these girls in Estes Park outside Rocky Mountain National Park where they were browsing around the sage. Love those ears!
JOE WEATHERLY, SAA
Resides: Santa Ana, California, USA • b. California, USA

Spirit of the Wilderness
Mountain Lion
Oil on panel
7 x 5
Available for acquisition

Spirit of the Wilderness is a study of the regal puma's head made in one pass with direct and impressionistic brush strokes. The abstract deep blue background supports and brings out the orange hues and powerful essence of the handsome puma.
SUE WESTIN, SAA  
Master Artist

Resides: Dorset, Vermont, USA • b. Connecticut, USA

Rescued
Donkey
Oil
16 x 12
Available for acquisition

I was first inspired to paint this rescued donkey for the tufts on its ears and its incredibly shaggy, soulful appearance. My first youthful donkey acquaintance was Pinocchio, a companion for a rarely ridden horse on my grandfather’s farm. Since the donkey’s domestication 6000 years ago, their uses have been versatile. They have been family pets, therapy animals, and entertainment at fairgrounds. They have carried coal miners, hauled market carts, pulled lawnmowers, been used as pack animals on expeditions, and, in some places, used for milk. Despite all that, they are often neglected and unrecognized as sentient beings. In this painting of a rescued donkey, I gave him a new halter, the symbol of a new life. Donkeys have a sensitive spirit open to love as much as we find in dogs. Of late, I have learned much more about donkeys and regret that I had not known Pinocchio better.
First Light is a celebration of the spotlight effect of early morning light as it illuminates the blue snow of dawn. Aside from the interesting light effects as night turns to day, the Japanese Maple was an integral part of the composition. Its dark trunk and branches in relief punctuated by the drooping leaf forms—some lit to a fiery orange—frames the Canada Goose. The goose is just waking and is ready to move on from its overnight roost.
Oh, the harlequin duck! I tend to ramble about the delights of the species' bold plumage for a graphic medium like linocut, but they are a wonderful subject. Both male and female “harlies” sport white marks that serve as commas, periods, and exclamation for their busy activity on the water... and as opportunities to explore patterns and design for the printmaker.
This work presents sentiments of longing, desire, connection, and surrender that create an introspective and internal psychological space to relate to the animal as autonomous, but also as an emblem of the human condition. Inspired by Darwin’s *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*, the work draws from his theory that humans and animals express emotion through shared aspects of being that connect us all in our ability to empathize and bond with one another. The geometric forms are intuitive connections of stars from NASA star maps. They exist as a visual representation of the invisible energy of the Universe that is felt but not seen by the animals. This work tells a universal narrative about emotion and connection, one that intertwines us all as individual but connected beings. The pictorial space here isn’t the natural world, but rather, the innermost space between thinking and being.

*It Was the Hope of What We Might Have Been*
Antelope Jackrabbit
Watercolor pencil on paper
36 x 36
Available for acquisition
The Society of Animal Artists, founded in 1960, is devoted to promoting excellence in the artistic portrayal of the creatures sharing our planet, and to the education of the public through art exhibitions, informative seminars, lectures, and teaching demonstrations.
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### 2022

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- Sue deLearie Adair, *Quietude*
- Jamie Cassaboon, *Common Eider #1*
- Carrie Cook, *Lonnie*
- Alex Fleming, *Red Deer*
- Patrick Graham Hedges, *Intruder Alert*
- Robin Huffman, *Leonie*
- Judy Lalingo, *The Outrider*
- Diane Versteeg, *Dorothy*

**SAA Inspirational Leadership Award**

- Reneé Bemis, *Bott-Borghi-Bransom Animal Artist “Legacy” Award*
  - Bob and Diane Mason

**The Marilyn Newmark Memorial Award for Realistic 3D**

- Carel Pieter Brest van Kempen, *Out Of Their Depth*

**The Marilyn Newmark Memorial Award for Realistic 2D**

- Amy Stauffer, *I Believe I Can Fly*

**The Patricia Allen Bott Award for Creative Excellence (Painting or Sculpture)**

- Dan Chen, *The Treasure Chaser*
- Crovy of Quail
- Circumstantial Evidence
- Waiting
- Taking Two To Tango
- Take Two To Tango

**The Evelyn and Peter Haller Memorial Award For Sculpture**

- Ellen Woodbury, *Arctic Wind*

**The President’s Award 2D**

- John Perry Baumlin, *Cliff Dweller*

**The President’s Award 3D**

- Jeremy Bradshaw, *Splittin’ Hare*

**Schmeedle Award**

- Gemma Gylling, *Treasures of the Elkhorn Slough*

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To see awards from all Annual Exhibitions, please visit the Awards page on the SAA website: www.societyofanimalartists.com
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ART AND THE ANIMAL

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Oglebay Institute
STIFEL FINE ARTS CENTER
August 12 – October 28, 2023
Wheeling, West Virginia
304-242-7700 | www.oionline.com

TOUR

THE HIRAM BLAUELT ART MUSEUM
November 18, 2023 – February 10, 2024
Oradell, New Jersey
201.261.0012 | blauveltartmuseum.com

DANE G. HANSEN MEMORIAL MUSEUM
March 1 – May 27, 2024
Logan, Kansas
785.689.4846 | www.hansenmuseum.org

The Chicago Academy of Sciences
PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM
June 15 – September 2, 2024
Chicago, Illinois
773.755.5100 | www.naturemuseum.org

Front Cover Art: Peregrine and Wave, Robert Bateman
Back Cover Art: Night and Day, Dan Chen