

PHILADELPHIA SKETCH CLUB HONORS JOHN ENNIS, JANE GOLDEN AND JAMES TOOGOOD



At its spirited and well-attended 162nd Anniversary Gala held on October 22, 2022, the Philadelphia Sketch Club awarded Philadelphia Sketch Club Medals to John Ennis, Jane Golden and James Toogood in recognition of their creativity and achievements in the visual arts. The accomplishments of these artists have had a significant impact both nationally and internationally. Here are brief biographies that note their accomplishments.

John Ennis is a nationally known artist whose recent awards include First Place in the Portrait Society of America's Self-Portrait Competition and the Patron's Award in Phillips' Mill 77th Annual Juried Exhibition. John earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Maryland Institute and studied at the Art Students League of New York. He began his career illustrating for book publishers and has over a thousand book cover illustrations to his credit. Devoting himself to the fine arts for some time, John has paintings in many public, corporate and private collections.

Jane Golden has been the driving force of Mural Arts Philadelphia since its inception in 1984, overseeing its growth from a small city agency into the nation's largest public art program and a global model for transforming public space and community through art. Under Golden's direction, Mural Arts has created over 4,000 works of public art through innovative collaborations with community-based organizations, city agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools, the private sector, and philanthropies. Reimagining the intersection of art and public space to address societal challenges, she has developed groundbreaking programs that transform

practice and policies related to youth education, restorative justice, environmental issues and behavioral health. Golden has overseen a series of increasingly complex, ambitious, and award-winning public art projects, and launched the knowledge-sharing Mural Arts Institute in 2017 to help guide best-practices across the globe. Sought after nationally and internationally as an expert on urban transformation through art, Golden has received numerous awards for her work, including the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Award, the Philadelphia Award, the Hepburn Medal from the Katharine Houghton Hepburn Center at Bryn Mawr College, and Philadelphia Magazine's Trailblazer Award. In 2018, she received the Anne d'Harnoncourt Award for Artistic Excellence from the Arts + Business Council of Greater Philadelphia, and the Dare to Understand Award from the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and serves on the Mayor's Cultural Advisory Council, the Penn Museum Advisory Committee, and the board of directors of The Heliotrope Foundation.

James Toogood is a painter working primarily in watercolor and works on paper. He studied painting at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, PAFA. His work has been the subject of over forty solo exhibitions with galleries including Rosenfeld Gallery in Philadelphia, Windjammer Gallery and Desmond Fountain Gallery, both in Hamilton, Bermuda. His work has appeared in museum solo exhibitions at the Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art in Hamilton, Bermuda, The Woodmere Art Museum and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts both in Philadelphia. Other exhibitions include the National Academy of Design, the Butler Institute of American Art, the Bermuda National Gallery, the Coos Art Museum, the Taiwan International Watercolor Society and the Shenzhen International Watercolour Biennial, Shenzhen, China. He is an elected member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, Allied Artists of America and the Philadelphia Sketch Club. His work has earned numerous awards, including the 2010 Allied Artists of America Gold Medal of Honor. His work appears in such public collections as the Woodmere Art Museum, the Masterworks Museum, the Naples Museum of Art and the Noyes Museum of Art. Toogood regularly writes articles on painting for numerous publications and has contributed to over two dozen books about painting. He is the author of the book *Incredible Light and Texture in Watercolor*. Toogood is an Instructor at PAFA and teaches In-Depth Watercolor in the PAFA Continuing Education/Certificate programs. Toogood also taught at the National Academy of Design in New York City.

The PSC Medal was sculpted by PSC member and PAFA graduate Joe Winter, who fashioned it after the PSC corporate seal. The corporate seal was originally designed in 1889 by Henry T. Cariss. Presentation of PSC medals to recognize the achievements of artists is now an annual event tied to its fundraising gala. Recipients of the Philadelphia Sketch Club Medal have included Tony Auth, Jan Baltzell, Robert Beck, Moe Brooker, Diane Burko, Patrick Connors, Vincent Desiderio, Paul DuSold, John Ennis, Cindi Ettinger, Alan Fetterman, Jane Goldmen, Eileen Goodman, Al Gury, Garth Herrick, Alex Kanevsky, Christine Lafuente, Elizabeth Osborne, Barbara Rosenfeld, Richard Rosenfeld, Bill Scott, Zoe Strauss, James Toogood, Signe Wilkinson, Jamie Wyeth, Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, Doris Brandes and Edmund Bacon.

Philadelphia Sketch Club, a Short History - On November 20, 1860, six “Bohemian” students from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts ; George F. Bensell and his brother Edmund B. Bensell; Edward J. McIlhenny; Henry C. Bispham; John L. Gihon; and Robert Wylie met at 125 South 11th Street to form a “sketching club .” They sought illustration and design opportunities not available at the Academy. Within months, other talented artists were added to the membership including Stephen J. Ferris, a celebrated etcher, and Thomas Moran, a great landscape artist. Thomas Eakins taught life workshops at the Sketch Club and used that experience to gain a position as an instructor at PAFA. By 1894 the Sketch Club had 400 active members, including many instructors at the Academy. Thomas P. Anshutz, who succeeded Eakins at the Academy, was President of the Sketch Club from 1910 until his untimely death in 1912. N. C. Wyeth had his first solo exhibition at the Sketch Club in 1912. When World War I forced the world-famous illustrator and etcher Joseph Pennell to leave Europe, he returned to Philadelphia and served as President of the Club in 1921. As the years passed, the roll call of distinguished artists, past and present, continued to grow and have included A. B. Frost, Howard Chandler Christy, Walter Baum, Edward Redfield, Daniel Garber, Hugh Breckenridge, Fred Wagner and Louis Kahn.