PORTFOLIO
The Monthly Newsletter of the Philadelphia Sketch Club
Gallery hours: By appointment: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 1 PM to 5 PM
October 2026

Gallery Views, by Rich Harrington

This Month's Portfolio – (Click on the entry to view)

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Send your member news, announcements, and corrections to: portfolio@sketchclub.org. The deadline for ALL submissions is 1-week before the end of the month.

Reminder:
It's never too late to *renew your membership*.
Pay online at:
http://sketchclub.org/annual-dues-payment/
or mail your check to:
The Philadelphia Sketch Club
235 S. Camac St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
For questions please contact:
the Gallery Manager at:
215-545-9298 or email:
gallerymanager@sketchclub.org

Late Breaking News – See items that were submitted after the publication date. Go to:
http://sketchclub.org/late-breaking-news/
The PSC general email is: info@sketchclub.org

Sketch Club Special Events

Save the Date! Saturday November the 14th is the 166th Anniversary Gala

Save the Date! Our historic 166th Anniversary Gala is coming on Saturday, November 14th 2026.

We're proud to honor achievements in visual arts by
Alexandra Tyng, **Darryl McCray "Cornbread"**, and **Adrian Martinez**.
Mark your calendars and stay tuned for tickets coming October 5th! We can't wait to celebrate with you.

Sketch Club Special Events

The Philadelphia Sketch Appears in Online Videos

Recently the Sketch Club recently hosted two separate film crews.

The Channel 6ABC "LOCALish" crew filmed, as our own Josie Rowley gave a master tour of our Club House. This may coincidentally have been Josie's last major public presentation before departing as our very accomplished Chief of Operations in addition to her roles as Administrative Director and Gallery Manager.

View the nearly four minute video using this link: https://6abc.com/video/embed/?pid=19477196

The Philadelphia Sketch Club is the oldest artist club in America

By Tom Kretschmer.
Thursday, July 16, 2026
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In Other News

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia (PAGP) came and filmed a spirited tour of the Club House as part of its showcase of Philadelphia Small Clubs. This was a follow-on to the earlier tour when the Sketch Club was one of the seven in the special Small Clubs walking tour.

View the video tour online: https://www.instagram.com/p/Db8BxNgp-c0/?hl=en

Welcome to Philly's Historic Social Clubs Unveiled. Fourth Stop: @philadelphiasketch 🎨🍷🧀
Behind these doors lie 165 years of art, education, history, and creativity. Unlike many historic social clubs, the Sketch Club invites the broader community in through exhibits and events.
Don't miss their historic 162nd Small Oils Exhibition, running this September!
Follow me and @presalliancephl as we explore some of Philadelphia's best-preserved social spaces and uncover the stories behind these remarkable institutions.

Sketch Club Workshops

Urban Sketching Class with Kate Kern Mundie- Fall 2026

Urban Sketching: Sundays in the City

A new, limited-run workshop running **Sunday mornings** from **10:00am-12:00pm** starting **September 20th** and ending **October 25th, 2026**!

Class Pricing*:* Full Series: 6 classes

- Members + Students : $200
- Non-Members: $250

To Sign up visit: https://sketchclub.org/urban-sketch-class-2/
and read the full course description and instructor biography.

12th and Chestnut Sts.
by Kate Kern Mundie

Instructor Bio

Kate Kern Mundie is a Philadelphia painter and teaching artist specializing in American impressionism and realism. Trained at PAFA and the University of Pennsylvania, she has work in PAFA's permanent collection. She teaches teens and adults and serves as a Winsor & Newton Artist Demonstrator, leading East Coast workshops in oil, watercolor, and gouache. Her plein air and observational experience informs a clear, practical, and inclusive teaching style.

Class Description

Explore Philadelphia through on-location sketching in this six-week class combining traditional drawing with urban sketching. Sessions visit varied neighborhoods and viewpoints, with focused lessons on buildings, figures, light, and color. Students work outdoors when weather permits.

Wallingford at Night
by Kate Kern Mundie

The Philadelphia Sketch Club serves as our home base for the first session and as a touchstone throughout the series; from there, each week takes students to a new location around the city. The final class includes a group discussion and sketchbook review.

Open to all skill levels and ages*. Students bring their own materials; the instructor will provide samples to try.
* Students under 18 must have signed parental consent form. Email signed forms to executivedirector@sketchclub.org with the subject line "Urban Sketching Fall 2026 Consent Form"

What Students Will Learn

- Core urban sketching techniques for capturing buildings, streets, and public spaces on location
- Quick figure drawing to bring life and scale into an urban scene
- Reading and simplifying light and shadow on architecture
- Color and value strategies for working quickly outdoors
- Composition choices specific to sketching on site — vantage point, framing, and what to leave out
- Building a personal sketchbook practice that continues beyond the class

The PHILADELPHIA SKETCH CLUB PORTFOLIO
The Monthly Newsletter of the Philadelphia Sketch Club
Gallery hours: By appointment: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 1 PM to 5 PM October 2026

Sketch Club Workshops

All Open Studio Workshops

Our workshops provide a welcoming open studio environment where artists of all levels can gather to create, learn, and connect. Whether you're an experienced artist seeking to refine your techniques or a newcomer eager to explore your creative side, our workshops offer a space where you can draw and paint the human figure from a life model, nude and clothed. We offer a variety of sessions from short dynamic gestural poses to long classical poses, offering opportunities to fully explore the human form.

Our spacious studio space has been recently renovated. Newly installed gallery lighting--with ultraviolet filters to protect paintings--is ideal for working artists. The space is bathed in natural light.

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Saturdays	Sundays
6:30 PM to 9:30 PM Nude model, short and long poses Monitor: Bob Bohne	**12:00 PM to 3:00 PM** Nude model, long pose Monitor: Volunteer	**6:30 PM to 9:30 PM** Nude model, short and long poses Monitor: Andrew Gomsi	**12:00 PM to 3:00 PM** Costumed model, long poses Monitor: Bob Bohne	**9:30 AM to 12:30 PM** Nude model, gestural, short, and long poses Monitor: Tiger Jaser	**5:30 PM to 8:30 PM** Nude model, gestural, short Poses Monitor: PJ Smalley

Open Studio Schedule

No prior signup needed. Join any of our scheduled workshops and bring your own art supplies. We provide chairs, tables, and easels. All workshops are held in the Sketch Club's upstairs gallery and are open to the public and run weekly, excluding holidays and inclement weather. The schedule above is accurate as of 2023, cancellations will be posted to the front page of Sketchclub.org, and timely notifications will be sent to the workshop mailing list. Join our workshops mailing list to stay informed of the latest workshop activities, schedule updates, and learn about upcoming sessions.

Sketch Club Workshops

Fees

$10 for members / $15 for non-members (become a member) / $9 for full-time students (student ID required)

- Our workshops are open to individuals at any skill level
- You do NOT have to be a member of the Philadelphia Sketch Club to participate in the workshops.
- You must bring your own supplies. Easels, tables and seating are provided
- Only odorless terpenoid or similar solvent permitted, and you must take it with you. The PSC does not have facilities for disposal of solvents
- A small number of electrical outlets are available for digital device users
- Workshop attendees have the opportunity to exhibit their work at the annual Workshop Show

Watch for emails or visit https://sketchclub.org/workshops/ for more details on the still life workshop and holiday cancellations.
Please Note: Those who use oil paints should bring their own container(s) to remove used solvents. Odorless solvents only. See more important attendee information at: Workshop Attendee Responsibilities
Thank you to all the PSC members who donated their time and expertise to make these workshops available to PSC members and the Philadelphia art community.

Our monitors are all volunteers. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact us at workshops@sketchclub.org.
If you're interested in modeling for any of our workshops, sign up here

Volunteer

Be an Active Sketch Club Member; Volunteer!!

The Philadelphia Sketch Club is managed entirely by volunteers except for the gallery manager, housekeeping, and bookkeeper.
The PSC always needs volunteer members. Volunteering is one of the most important aspects of being a Sketch Club member and it is the one of the best ways to take advantage of the PSC. You'll be working with colleagues who share the same interests and helping the PSC provide unique services to the visual arts community. Sign up for an activity today.
To get involved, contact us at: info@sketchclub.org

Sketch Club Critique Group

The Sketch Club Critique FaceBook Group

Join the Critique Facebook Group

Join your Club colleagues online at the "Philadelphia Sketch Club Critique"-- a Private group for Active PSC members only on Facebook.

Colleagues, please join in and contribute to your online art community. We all miss the camaraderie we enjoy at the Club house. The "Philadelphia Sketch Club Critique" is a chance to get together online until we can gather once more around the punch bowl and raise a toast, "to the Sketch Club, past, present and future."

Here's how it works:

- Active members go to the new "Philadelphia Sketch Club Critique" page and request access, which is available to all Club members in good standing.
- Once in, post your work and watch as other members' post their artwork for critique.
- More details will be posted within the group including the option to be considered for a monthly "Highlights", a curated online gallery to be published on our external site/Instagram/Twitter channels.

This Facebook Group is private; this means that as Members submit their work others are invited to critique each other in a professional and respectful way.

Critique Group Links:

- You can find a link on the Sketch Club website: https://sketchclub.org/
- The Critique Group's Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/PSCCritique
- The PSC's main FaceBook page: https://www.facebook.com/thesketchclub

Sketch Club members: come post your work on our Facebook Critique group.

A suggestion, try posting your artwork to the online critique group a week or more before attending a critique at our Clubhouse. Get additional critique insights from our online-only Club members.

> *"A professional artist is one who submits their work for public critique, not the amount of money they earn from their artwork."* -- Michael Kuncevich, late PSC member.

Sketch Club Critique Group

Fine Arts News Highlights for October 2026

Found online and curated by Sketch Club member Don Gauger.

Philadelphia Area

"Marcel Duchamp" Opens at Philadelphia Museum of Art The first major U.S. retrospective of Marcel Duchamp in more than 50 years opens October 10, 2026 in the Dorrance Galleries, featuring approximately 300 works spanning painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, film and readymades across his entire career.

"A Nation of Artists" Continues at Philadelphia Museum of Art and Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts The landmark dual-museum exhibition featuring more than 1,000 works continues through July 5, 2027 at PMA and September 5, 2027 at PAFA, celebrating the history and evolution of American art.

Lenape Artist Holly Wilson Installation Opens at Penn Museum for Indigenous Peoples' Day Multidisciplinary artist Holly Wilson, Delaware Nation Lenape, unveils a large-scale mixed-media installation at the Penn Museum's East Entrance on October 10, 2026, transforming the entry with a site-specific artwork celebrating Native Futurism and Lenapehoking heritage

"The Changing Faces of Independence" Part Two Opens at Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The free, two-part exhibit opens in October at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, focusing on the documentary paper trail left by ancestors in the 1900s as part of the Semiquincentennial programming.

US United States

"Roy Lichtenstein: Like New" Opens at Whitney Museum of American Art. The Whitney Museum presents a major retrospective opening October 11, 2026, bringing together more than 130 works spanning six decades of the Pop Art pioneer's career from the early 1940s through the 1990s, exploring his strategies of appropriation, repetition and visual transformation.

Isamu Noguchi: "I am not a designer" Continues at Peabody Essex Museum. The first major design retrospective of Isamu Noguchi's work in nearly 25 years continues at PEM through January 3, 2027, exploring his interdisciplinary practice across sculpture, architecture, furniture, lighting, ceramics, theatrical set design and landscape design.

"Much Here is Beautiful: Photography Surveys of the U.S. Bicentennial" Continues at Smithsonian American Art Museum. This landmark exhibition bringing together 225 photographs from the years surrounding the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial continues through April 18, 2027, exploring the range of surveys funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

"Evolution of the Pennsylvania Longrifle: Early Years" Concludes at Schwenkfelder Library. A collection of rifles showcasing the artistic workmanship and global origin of historical firearms runs through October 18, 2026 at the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania.

World

"Marina Abramović: Transforming Energy" Concludes at Gallerie dell'Accademia, Venice The first living female artist to be honored with a major exhibition at the Gallerie dell'Accademia concludes October 18, 2026, marking Abramović's 80th birthday with works unfurling across both the permanent collection galleries and temporary exhibition spaces in dialogue with Renaissance masterpieces.

Frieze London and Frieze Masters Open at Regent's Park The two concurrent fairs return October 14-18, 2026 to The Regent's Park, presenting almost 300 galleries from 48 countries and regions, with Frieze Week programming across London institutions including Tate Britain, the British Museum, and the Barbican. Also, the **Frieze Sculpture** returns to London's Regent's Park from September 16 to November 1, 2026

Venice Biennale "In Minor Keys" Continues Through November The 61st International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia continues through November 22, 2026 at the Giardini and Arsenale venues, with October offering peak attendance for the 110 invited participants, 100 National Participations and 31 Collateral Events across Venice.

Main Gallery Events

Our Digital Art Exhibition

Inaugural Digital Art Exhibition

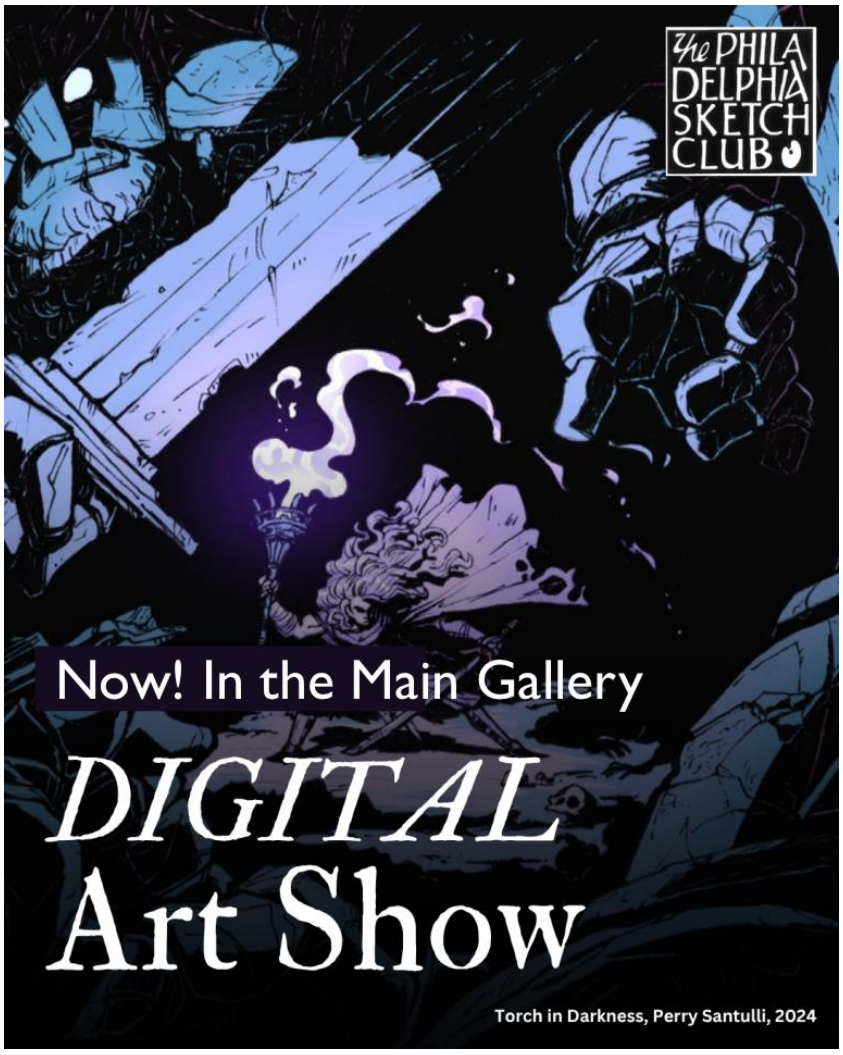
We invite you to see the Philadelphia Sketch Club's first ever Digital Art Show!
This is an open, juried show for digital art. All work is for sale.

Dates of the Show

October 4th through 25th, 2026

Reception

Sunday October 11th, 1-3pm



Call for Entries: Members Show

We invite all PSC Members to submit your work to the Philadelphia Sketch Club's Members Show! We are now accepting entries!
This is a juried show open only to PSC Members in good standing. If you join and are accepted prior to the show deadline, you may enter. Any 2D or 3D medium, of any subject is permitted. Maximum framed size is 44 inches in any dimension, including the frame. Paintings must be framed unless framing is not intended for the work. All items must be wired for hanging (no hooks, brackets, sawtooth hangers or holes). The PSC Gallery is unable to accommodate large free standing sculpture.
Work must be original and not previously shown at PSC. All pieces must be for sale. Work accepted online that is deemed non-suitable upon delivery at PSC will not be displayed. Weight may not exceed 30 lbs. Please include potential shipping cost in price. PSC takes a 25% commission for all sales. Works created using generative AI are not eligible in any PSC exhibition.

Deadline for online submissions: Friday, October 2nd at 11:59 PM

Dates of Show: November 8th – December 20th, 2026

Reception: Sunday, December 6th from 1-3pm

View the Prospectus
(containing ALL important show information!) and enter online at the links below:

PROSPECTUS | ENTER ONLINE

Main Gallery Events

Updated 2026 Main Gallery Calendar

Stewart Gallery Events

The Stewart Gallery

The Stewart Gallery schedule for 2026:

- **January: Bob Bohne**
- **February: Closed**
- **March: *A Current History,* PAFA Alumni Council Group Show**
- **April: Drawing Marathon/Merchandise Competition**
- **May: Open**--Stewart Gallery Rental Information
- **June: Group Exhibit: PJ Smalley, Viktor Evdokimov, Andrew Gomsi**
- **July: National Association of Women Artists, Pennsylvania Chapter**
- **August: Sam Olshin**
- **September: Open**--Stewart Gallery Rental Information
- **October: Gala**
- **November: Gala**
- **December: Michael Cardea**

:

The Sketch Club Online Gallery

Visit the Sketch Club Online Gallery: Always Room for More Work!

Go to the Sketch Club's on-going open gallery to see recent updates with work by PSC members and friends:

https://sketchclub.org/sketch-club-open-gallery/.
Members and friends can submit up to 4 images.
Send your submissions to:

portfolio@sketchclub.org.

Include with your work:

- **your name;**
- **title;**
- **size;**
- **and medium.**

For photos of yourself, include:

- **Who you are**
- **and a brief description of the image.**

Members/Friends Alert

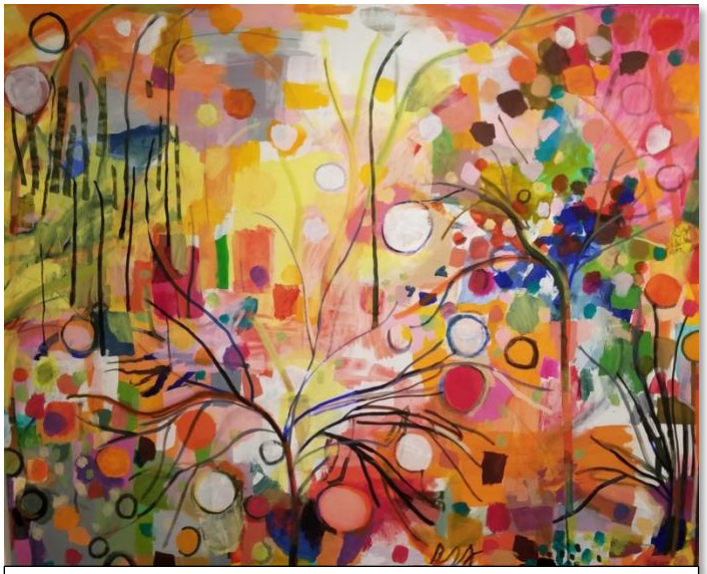
Have you moved? Changed your email? New phone number?

Don't miss any Sketch Club upcoming events, workshops, or exhibitions. If you change your address, email, or phone number let us know so we can keep your contact information in our database current. You can contact the gallery manager at 215-545-9298 or email to: mailto:info@sketchclub.org

Art Natters: Members News

Local Exhibitions of Note, by Bill Patterson

Recent works at the **Michener Art Museum**, https://michenerartmuseum.org



Bill Scott painting at Michener Art Museum

For My Friend Who Painted Trees
2022
Bill Scott (b. 1956)
Oil on canvas
Gift of the artist in memory of Patrick Connors. 2025.19.2

Bill Scott painted this work in honor of his friend and artist Patrick Connors (1958-2022). Based in Philadelphia, Connors frequently depicted the Schuylkill River landscape in his paintings, capturing both the built environment as well as its wooded surroundings. When Scott began this painting in 2021, he and Connors had discussed their shared affinity for the large, majestic trees of local cemeteries, such as Laurel Hill and the Woodlands, imagining how artists from previous centuries might have painted them. When Connors died in 2022, Scott began unconsciously adding trees to his painting to mourn the passing of his friend.

Helen and Joseph Fields
2014
Syd Carpenter (b. 1953)
Clay and steel
Gift of the artist. 2021.1.2ab

Syd Carpenter's sculpted portraits of Black-owned farms and gardens in the US South are named for individual caretakers of the land, honoring them in the face of historical erasure. This sculpture represents a farm owned by Joseph Fields, a third-generation farmer, and his wife, Helen, on Johns Island, South Carolina. Johns Island is a part of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, where, prior to emancipation and well into the 1900s, the majority population were enslaved Africans and their descendants. The Fields invite aspiring Black farmers to become residents at their farm in order to share their knowledge and experience.

Helen and Joseph Fields incorporates items Carpenter saw on the Fields' property when she visited in 2012. The roof of the storage shed serves as the base, with two garden rakes forming an X. The sculpture is also evocative of a plant, with a stem growing from a root-like base and a flower or fruit at the top.

Syd Carpenter, PSC Gala Medal winner, art piece at Michener Art Museum

Art Natters: Members News

Moe Brooker, a PSC Gala Medal Honoree, and their painting at Michener Art Museum

Personally Joyful
2017
Moe Brooker (1940-2022)
Oil and mixed media on canvas
Museum purchase funded by the Bruce Katsiff Endowment for Art Acquisitions and the Edna W. Andrade Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation. 2025.2.1

The son of a minister in Philadelphia's Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Moe Brooker investigated perceptions of the divine through his arrangements of electric colors, dynamic shapes, and frenetic lines. He drew inspiration from the religious paintings of Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937), the vibrant abstractions of Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944), and the improvisational nature of jazz. The checkerboard and striped patterns in the painting additionally recall African textiles like Asante Kente cloth and African American quilts, referencing the artist's African heritage. The painting's title, *Personally Joyful*, reflects Brooker's assertion that his work, "is about the joy of the human spirit."

Canal at Lumberville
ca. 1910
Frederick R. Wagner (1860-1940)
Oil on canvas
James A. Michener Art Museum. Gift of Marguerite and Gerry Lenfest. 1999.15.52

When completed in 1832, the Delaware Canal ran from Easton to Bristol, Pennsylvania, transporting anthracite coal and other goods to Philadelphia, New York, and other eastern ports via flat-bottomed barges. The canal was supplanted by the railroad by the 1930s, but it remains a highly visible feature of the region's industrial past today. An illustrator for the *Philadelphia Press*, Frederick R. Wagner painted the canal at Lumberville, Pennsylvania—a town named for its sawmills and lumber industry—in the frozen winter, even though smoke still rises from a passing boat.

Fred Wagner, PSC member 1897-1918, in *Abstractions of Nature* at Michener Art Museum.

Art Natters: Members News

Also submitted by Bill Patterson:

Not to be missed at **The Philadelphia Museum of Art** is "*Workshop of the World*", Arts & Crafts in Philadelphia. PSC members with works on display include: Yarnall Abbott, Nicola D'Ascenzo, Thornton Oakley, Samuel Yellin and Henry Troth. https://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/workshop-of-the-world
https://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/workshop-of-the-world

***Saint John*, stain glass window, Nicola D'Ascenzo**

Photogravure, Yarnall Abbott

Watercolor, Thornton Oakley

Door lock, Samuel Yellin

Art Natters: Members News

Violet Alexandre writes:

I see the world in unique and special ways from which others can benefit.

That's one of the mantras from my new book, The Meaning of M. If you have a minute, try this before you read on: Let yourself trust in your unique lens and vantage point. Only you see the world as you do. Share your message freely, openly, and authentically. This is your gift.

I have always felt things deeply. For a long time I didn't know what to do with that. So I built a career in business and technology and kept that part of myself quiet. During the pandemic, I picked up a paintbrush, even though I had never thought of myself as an artist. It gave me somewhere to put what I was feeling. Art, for me, was never about making something beautiful. It was about listening to myself.

The Meaning of M grew out of that listening. It has 18 mandalas, each drawn by hand and named for a single M-word, such as Muse, Mindful, Maverick and Mystic. Each one comes with a mantra and a short meditation. Yes, you can color them. But the coloring is mostly a way to keep your hands busy while you notice what comes up.

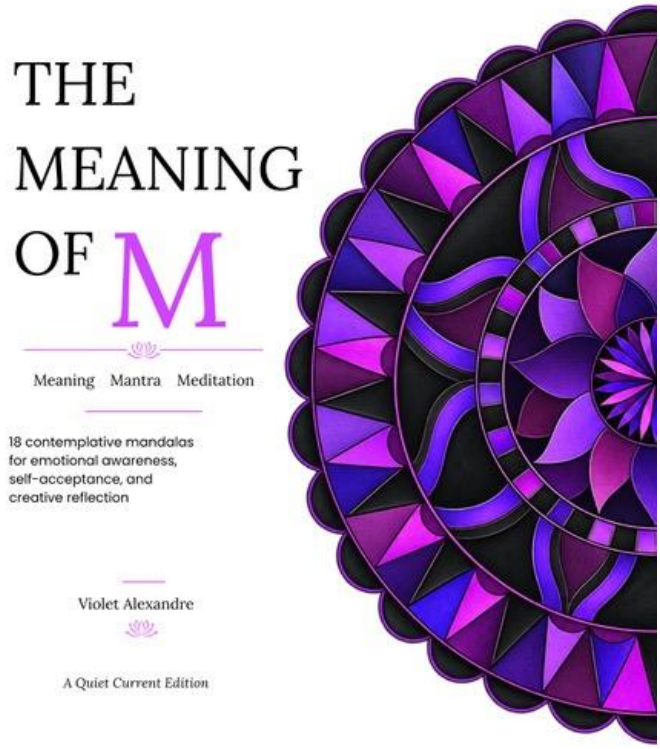
Most artists know the moment when a piece stops being about the result and starts telling you something about yourself. This book is my attempt to make room for that moment on purpose.

You don't need to become someone else
before you're worthy of your own attention.

With love,

Violet Alexandre,
PSC member

The Meaning of M
(Experience Empathy Press, 2026) ·
$14.99 on Amazon· Instagram: @LVdreamer



Art Natters: Members News

Aida Birritteri Contemporary Art

As a former member of the PSC I am happy to have renewed my membership. I've been very active with my work as a painter in the interim and look forward to being at the Sketch Club again. www.aidabirritteriart.com

My work is featured at the MFA Gallery's juried group exhibition:
A Life Worth Living

MFA Gallery/Modern Fossils Art
10 Bridge Street Suite #7
Frenchtown , NJ 08825
Opening reception, Saturday, October 3rd, 12pm - 6pm
Exhibition Dates, October 3 - November 15, 2026

***Red Iris Moon,* Acrylic on MDF Board, 5 feet x 4 feet, Aida Birritteri**

***Rhythmic Ensemble*, Acrylic on MDF Board, 4 feet x 4 feet, Aida Birritteri**

Members Show 2026
Hunterdon Art Museum
7 Lower Center St.
Clinton, NJ 08809

Exhibition Dates,
through- January,10, 2027

Dangerous Women, an invitational group exhibition:

Trenton City Museum
at the Ellarslie Mansion
299 Parkside Ave
Trenton, NJ 08618

***Ella*, Oil on MDF Board, 4 feet x 3 feet, Aida Birritteri**

Art Natters: Members News

Su Knoll Horty writes:

Thank you to the **Philadelphia/Tri State Artists Equity** for organizing *The Big Works Show* and to the **Main Line Art Center** for hosting it. Thank you especially to Abstract painter and teacher, Kassem Amoudi, for awarding my painting, *Whatever You Want It to Be,* a 3rd Place Ribbon and Award. I am so grateful!

Whatever You Want It to Be,, oil and carbon pencil, Su Knoll Horty

Art Natters: Members News

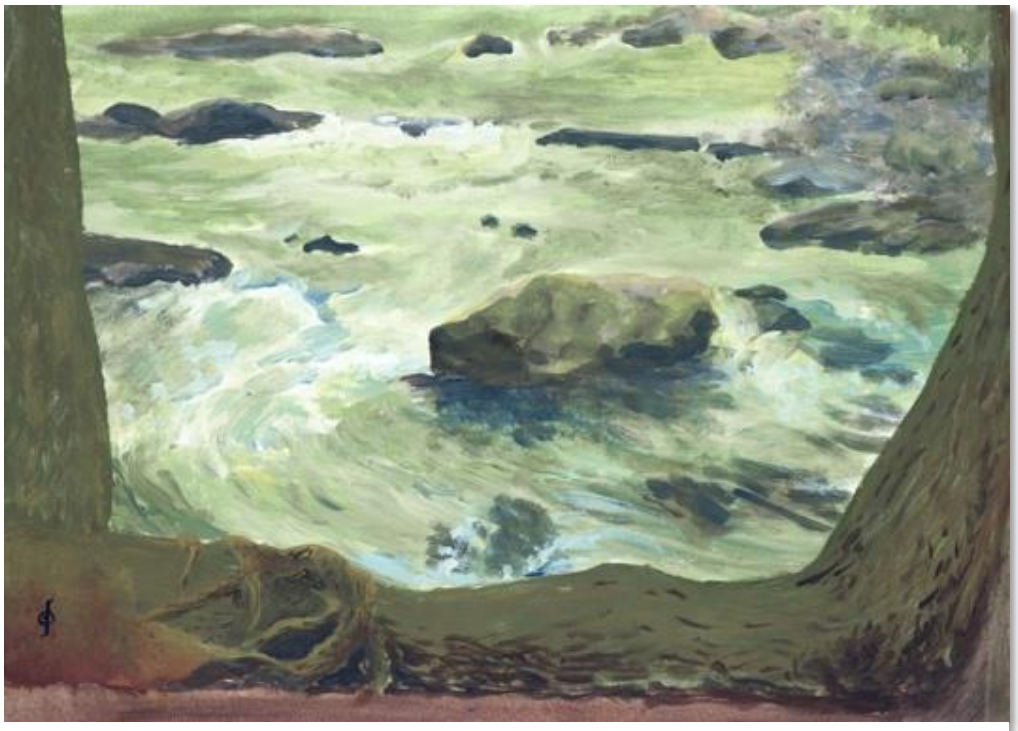
Don Gauger with news from his Grayland Studio Online Galleries

**Don Gauger invites you to visit his GRAYLAND STUDIO website,
a Curated Artist Community Marketplace where individual artists showcase their work
through dedicated galleries, all unified under one comprehensive print-on-demand marketplace.**

This month the gallery is highlighting the work of Don Gauger.

"*Big Bend Rapids*" is a plein air oil painting created on location along Paradise Stream in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, at a bend in the stream known for its churning rapids.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT
This stretch of the Paradise Stream, a short hike below Paradise Falls, twists between ridges and a flood plain where sunlight breaks through the dense forest canopy. It is a favorite place for our family to pause on our hikes. This day I came with my painting kit, sat on a log and fell into a long painting session. Time flowed by. Eventually I stopped, stretched, and walked back to view the piece from about twenty feet away — the distance at which a painter naturally steps back to judge a piece as a whole. I had been so lost in the act of painting that I was startled to see what I'd painted. To this day this piece brings back good memories of hiking this stretch of forest with my family. Print on demand reproductions available at this link



***Big Bend Rapids*, Oil, by Don Gauger**

Gallery: https://graylandstudio.com

The 1860 Circle: Art, Memory, and Community

The Sketch Club Gala, Looking Back, Looking Forward.

By Don Gauger

When we look back on past Philadelphia Sketch Club Galas, the conversation naturally turns to our honorees, whose dynamic contributions have shaped the Philadelphia, national, and international art worlds. Past articles have celebrated many of them. Members swap stories of shared studios and beloved teachers, and before long we're deep into critiques of major works and their place in the currents of style and influence. Then, of course, comes the excitement of the Live Auction and the chance to bid on major pieces.

But there's a part of the evening that often slips by unnoticed: the silent and online auctions, where some of the most memorable experiences are waiting. Several of last year's experiences return this year, and I'd like to share two stories that show why they're worth your attention.

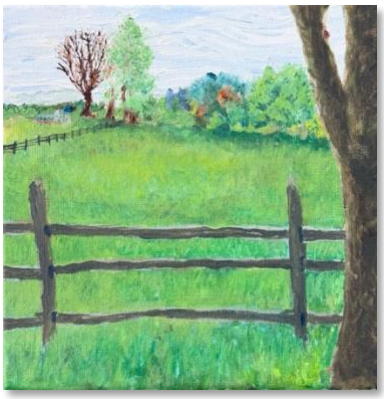
An Evening with a Wyeth

Last year, a winning bid gave my wife and me an intimate dinner with Victoria Wyeth, only granddaughter of Andrew Wyeth. It is rare to have even a passing conversation with someone so close to the source of an internationally known artist's story, and we enjoyed more than two hours of wonderful conversation over a lovely meal. I can tell you that no reasonable question goes unanswered, that Victoria is a staunch defender of the Wyeth legacy, and that she is devoted to her grandfather's memory. I even learned a fun fact: some fifty years ago, on a nature walk along the Brandywine River, I unknowingly crossed paths with Jamie Wyeth's Newfoundland, Boom-Boom, at the edge of the Wyeth property!

Victoria Wyeth

Plein Air with a Generous Host

The second memory is an invitation to join the winning bidder for a day of plein air painting at the farm of J. Clayton Bright, followed by a meal and a tour of Clayton's studio. Many people don't realize that the Brandywine Valley in Chester County is famous not only for Andrew Wyeth but as home to the US Equestrian Team. The Bright farm sits in the heart of that equestrian community, which has helped preserve the charm of the rolling farmland around it. I've included my modest plein air painting from that day as a fond reminder of good friends and a generous host.



***Horses are in the Other Field*, Oil, 8" X 8", Don Gauger**

Your Turn

Experiences like these are what make the Gala special, and every bid supports the Club and its mission to serve as a community center for visual artists — a welcoming home where creators of all backgrounds come together to learn, grow, and collaborate. Through education, mentorship, exhibitions, and professional programs, the Sketch Club enables artists to develop their skills, build their careers, and enrich Philadelphia's vibrant cultural life.

This year's Gala offerings include many new surprises. Join us on Saturday November 14th at our historic Clubhouse and browse the silent and online auctions early. You never know whose studio, or easel you'll be invited to.

Opportunities/Notices

News and Announcements from the Philadelphia Creative Community

We're happy to share your news and announcements at no cost—it's our way of supporting Philadelphia's creative community. We always welcome contributions.

If you'd like to join us, we'd love to consider your membership application.

Contribute to the Sketch Club Here Apply for PSC Membership Here

ART-Venture Retreat in Andalusia, Spain | October 25–31, 2026

Artist and educator **Birgit Raders-Eichinger** invites art lovers, cultural explorers, and creative individuals to experience an immersive abstract art retreat in southern Spain. This week-long program blends guided studio practice with cultural discovery, meaningful conversation, and artistic inspiration—all set against the breathtaking landscape of Andalusia.

Participants will enjoy an exclusive stay at a beautifully restored 13th-century fortress estate, surrounded by nearly three acres of curated gardens. The retreat is intentionally designed as a small-group experience, ensuring personalized guidance, meaningful exchange, and a deeply supportive creative environment. In addition to daily art sessions, the program includes thoughtfully curated cultural experiences led by a local guide—such as a traditional flamenco performance, a visit to a contemporary art museum housed in a former monastery, olive oil tasting and much more; of course, the rich and vibrant cuisine of Andalusia.

Designed for both emerging and experienced artists, the retreat fosters creative growth and genuine connection within an inspiring and intimate setting. Space is limited.

Registration opens March 1, 2026. *For details &registration:* Website: **https://be-abstract-art.square.site/**

Opportunities/Notices

Art News from Scott Benowitz

***View From 2nd Avenue, May, 2026,* Photograph, Scott Benowitz.**

View From 2nd Avenue, May, 2026 is a photo I took of the view from the windows in one of the conference rooms located in one of the office towers in midtown Manhattan in May of this year. I'd applied the "find edges" filter in Adobe Elements to give this image a dreamlike, or fantasy- like quality to it.

***Port Area, Tel Aviv, Dec. 2025,* Photograph, Scott Benowitz**

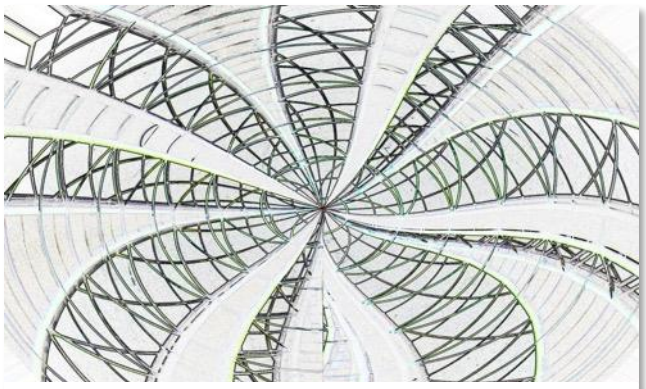
Port Area, Tel Aviv, Dec. 2025 is a photo taken from the pedestrian footpath and bicycle path which is located on the boardwalk which is located along the public beaches in the port area of Tel Aviv in this past December of 2025. I applied the "graphic pen" filter in Adobe Elements to make this photo look comparable to a pen- and- ink drawing (↓↓).

***Study in Bottle Caps Number 26*, Photograph, Scott Benowitz**

The third photo is a collage that I've assembled from photos that I took of bottle caps from various brands of sodas and beers. I enjoy repurposing and upcycling various everyday objects into art projects, and I enjoyed placing the bottle caps into the positions that you see in this collage based on the graphic designs in the product logos. I arranged the photos of these bottle caps with the intent that the images in the logos would interact with all of the other logos in a manner which will appear to flow gracefully.

This design is actually a manipulated photo that I'd taken of the glass panels in the ceiling of the Canary Wharf Docklands Light Railway station in London in July of 2015. I applied the "polar coordinates" effect and the "find edges" effect in Adobe Elements to arrive at this final version of this image.

Scott Benowitz, tel. # (914) 602-1430



***Design Inspired by the Panels in the Ceiling of The Canary Wharf DLR Station*, 2015, Photograph, Scott Benowitz-**

Opportunities/Notices

Robert Beck's painting, *Second Crossing*.

Robert Beck's painting, *Second Crossing*, his 1999 interpretation of Washington Crossing the Delaware, will be featured at the Michener Museum's exhibition, *The Crossing, Picturing the American Revolution*. The exhibition focuses on the celebrated Christmas Night 1776 event as depicted by artists from Charles Hargens to Ai WeiWei.

Beck's popular 36x53" image steers clear of mythology and conjecture and places the viewer on the far bank of the Delaware River as Washington's boat emerges from the sleet storm, in the dead of night, at one of the most consequential moments in our nation's history. "I'm not waving a flag or banging a drum," says Beck. "I'm out to make your feet feel wet."

The Crossing, Picturing the American Revolution, runs from through Jan 10, 2027 at the Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA. www.michenerartmuseum.org

***Second Crossing*, 36" X 53" Robert Beck.**

Opportunities/Notices

NEWS FROM BOX SPRING GALLERY

Reception Thursday, October 8, 6–9pm
• *On View: October 8–31, 2026*
• ***Box Spring Gallery*** *at* ***Crane Arts****,*
1400 N. American St, 100C, Philadelphia, PA 19122
• *Open Hours: Thurs–Sat, 1–6pm and by appointment:* ***contact@boxspringgallery.com***

Fantastic Sprawl presents a collection of imaginary built environments, landscapes, and design developments that grow, expand, and evolve into captivating contemporary compositions. Participating artists: **Andrew Chalfen, Rebecca Jacoby, and Colleen Keefe.**

Join **The Center for Emerging Visual Artists'** annual glimpse behind the scenes of Philadelphia's visual art sector! **Plan your visit! Tour weekend dates are West of Broad Street: October 10–11, and East of Broad Street: October 17–18.**

Directory, maps and more info can be found at cfeva.org/philaopenstudios

CFEVA POST
The Center for Emerging Visual Artists Presents:
PHILADELPHIA OPEN STUDIO TOURS 2026

CREATIVE CONSULTING for ARTISTS + SPACES
Let me help you:
- *Brainstorm and execute a vision*
- *Manage the things that are in your way*
- *Connect to opportunities and resources*
- *Enjoy and celebrate the process!*

GABY HEIT creative direction + management
gaby@gabyheit.com @gabyheit

A place to celebrate where art and design meet, Box Spring Gallery provides carefully curated exhibitions, with opportunities to purchase contemporary art and design by a variety of creatives.
Receptions every second Thursday of the month! Visit **boxspringgallery.com** for more info.

Opportunities/Notices

ART News from Patricia Wong

A painting submission from Patricia Wond.

A Windy Road in Truro, Oil on canvas, 16x20", Patricia Wong

Opportunities/Notices

ART News from Pamela Scribner

Pam Scribner will have the following two pieces in the Juried Rowan Collage-Mt. Holly from
8-29-26 to 10-10-26

***Wave*, stained glass, by Pamela Scribner**

***Colmar,* Colored pencil, by Pamela Scribner**

Pam Scribner will have following two pieces in the Brigantine Beach Cultural Community Center, Brigantine, NJ

The show runs from - 9/20 to 9/30/2026

***Portland, Maine*, colored pencil, by Pamela Scribner**

***Sail boat at the beach*, colored pencil, by Pamela Scribner**

Opportunities/Notices

ART News from Sigi Daly

***Sunset Supernova*, ink on paper, Sigi Daly**

***Hail Tomato*, digital, Sigi Daly**

Membership

Stay in touch with current Sketch Club Members

Don't let sheltering in place prevent you from staying in touch with your Sketch Club friends and colleagues. Sketch Club members can access contact information for all current members. Go to the members only page at: https://sketchclub.org/privatedirectory-php/. After you log-in with the password sent to you in your acceptance email you can click on the Membership Directory link to access members contact information. Non-Sketch Club friends can find a listing of current members along with their websites if they have one at: http://sketchclub.org/sample-page/current-members-contact-list/:

Not a PSC Member?: Join Now!

If you're reading this edition of the Portfolio and you're not a member of the PSC, you should consider joining the more than 200 other Philadelphia area artists who have. The PSC is one of the most active visual art venues serving center city Philadelphia. The PSC is a hands-on organization that offers its members the opportunity to participate in all aspects of creating and presenting work to the public. It presents over 20 scheduled group and solo exhibitions annually and offers a wide range of daily workshops.
Get info and an application here.

If you are a member of the PSC, please feel free to share the Portfolio with your artist friends and encourage them to become members.

Membership Renewal

You can check the status of your membership by going to the Current Members page on the PSC web-site: http://sketchclub.org/sample-page/memberspace/. All current members are listed. An asterisk (*) means that the membership has expired but is within the 60-day grace period for renewal. Names in red are active links to the individual's web site.

Renew Now! http://sketchclub.org/annual-dues-payment/
If you have any questions about your membership, please don't hesitate to contact us at membership@sketchculb.org or call the office: 215-545-9298.

Support the Sketch Club

Contribute

Please consider making your tax-deductible contribution now. These funds will be put to good use providing enhanced services to our members and friends.
Membership dues cover only a small portion of the PSC's operating expenses. Competition for funding for arts organizations like the Sketch Club is increasingly competitive and total funding for the arts is shrinking. Your additional support will keep the PSC an active support for visual artists in the Metropolitan Philadelphia area.
The Philadelphia Sketch Club is an IRS designated 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

You can call the office at 215-545-9298, mail checks to the Sketch Club or visit the Contribute page of our website.
Visit our Contribute page of our website to give online at:
http://sketchclub.org/support-us/

Support the Sketch Club

You can also support the PSC on an ongoing basis when you shop on Amazon. Go to: http://smile.amazon.com/ and enter the Philadelphia Sketch Club in the Pick your own charitable organization box.
Your support makes it possible for the PSC to continue providing ongoing daily workshops and numerous annual gallery exhibitions.

Like, Link & Share

If you're not following the Philadelphia Sketch Club on Facebook re-tweeting Sketch Club tweets yet, it's time that you did. We have well over 2000 Facebook followers. Get the word out about the Sketch Club. Please click the like button and share your comments and invite your friends to like our page.
Follow @PhilaSketchClub on Twitter, we have almost 400 followers. Please click the heart button and re-tweet our announcements.
Include links on your website, blogs and social media to The Philadelphia Sketch Club to increase traction across social media platforms.
Follow us on Facebook, X (Twitter) and Instagram now!

Classifieds

Your Ad Here… Have something to sell? Looking for something?
Contact portfolio@sketchclub.org to arrange for posting.

The Portfolio: The newsletter of the Philadelphia Sketch Club is published monthly. Editor, technical support, and webmaster: Ken Weiner. Send your member news, announcements and corrections to portfolio@sketchclub.org. The due date for all materials is one week before the end of the month.
Back issues of the Portfolio are available at: http://sketchclub.org/portfolio-archive/.
Specifications for notice and banner submissions: https://sketchclub.org/portfolio-submissions/

Thanks to PSC member volunteers **Don Gauger** and **Ken Weiner**
for their ongoing support of Sketch Club
technology and communications functions.

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