

PleinAir Salon Bi-Monthly Awards Announced

Renowned artist **David A Leffel** selected the winners in the August-September 2017 bi-monthly *PleinAir* Salon competition. The First Place Overall winner is **Kui Zheng** for his oil painting *Fireworks in Old House*, the Second Place Overall winner is **John McCartin** for his oil painting *Summer Vacation*, and the Third Place Overall winner is **Suzie Baker** for her oil painting *Log Built Boat*. Baker also won the Best Plein Air Work Only for *Alpenglow*.

Awards were also selected in media and subject categories. The Best Overall Oil prize went to **Melanie Thompson**, the Best Overall Acrylic award was presented to **Brian LaSaga**, the Best Overall Pastel designation went to **Jacob Aguiar**, and the Best Watercolor prize went to **Thomas Bucci**. The winner of the Best Buildings (Plein Air or Studio) was **Ellen Buselli**, the Best Vehicle (Plein Air or Studio) winner was **Alan Wylie**, and the Best Figure and Portrait award was presented to **Kyle Stuckey**. The Best Animals

and Birds award went to **Jerry Markham**, the Best Floral in a Landscape prize went to **Kerri McAuliffe**, the Best Landscape award went to **John Pototschnik**, and the Best Nocturne prize was presented to **Jane Hunt**.

Leffel selected additional awards, including the Best Outdoor Still Life award, given to **Rusty Frentner**; the Best Water in a Landscape award, presented to **Barbara Jaenicke**; and the Best Western prize, given to **Jim Wodark**. The award for the Best Student (High School or College) went to **Kai Lun Qu**, the Best Under 30 award went to **Tuerxun Tuerheng**, and the Best Over 65 prize was given to **John Pototschnik**. The final award, for Best Sketchbook, was given to **Shuang Li**.

The *PleinAir* Salon consists of six bi-monthly contests, with the First, Second, and Third Place winners of each contest, and the category winners, automatically entered into the annual competition. First prize in the annual competi-

tion is \$15,000 cash and the publication of the winning image on the cover of *PleinAir* magazine, along with a feature story. Second Place earns an artist \$3,000 and an article in the digital edition of *PleinAir* magazine. Third Place yields \$1,500 in cash. Three additional finalists win \$500. Aside from First, Second, and Third Place overall, categories include Best Oil, Best Pastel, Best Watercolor, Best Acrylic, Best Plein Air, Best Building, Best Figure in the Landscape, Best Floral, Best Landscape, Best Outdoor Still Life, Best Nocturne, Best Water, Best Vehicle, Best Sketchbook, Best Artist Over 65, Best Student, and Best Artist Under 30.

The First Place winners in the six yearly contests each earn \$1,000, with \$500 going to Second Place and \$250 going to the Third Place winners. In mid-April, the \$21,000 in annual prizes will be awarded to the annual winners at the 2018 Plein Air Convention & Expo, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

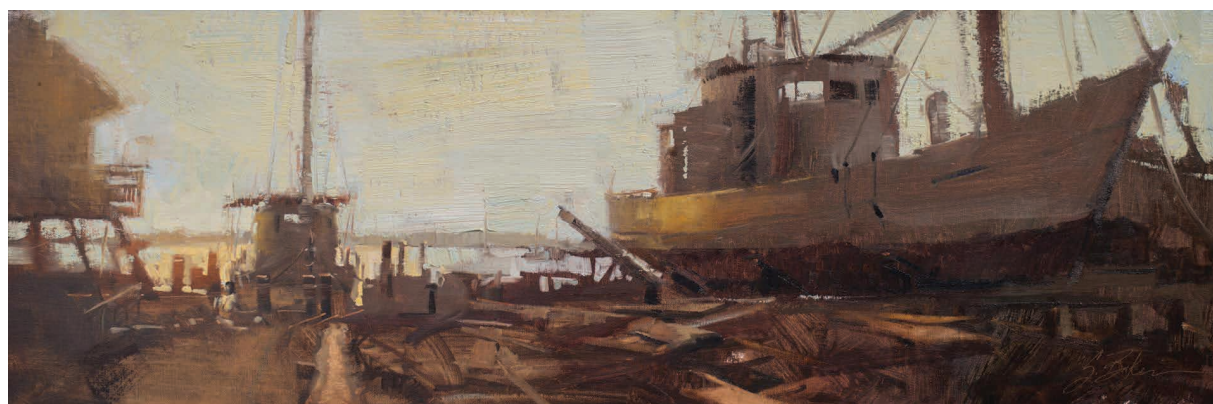
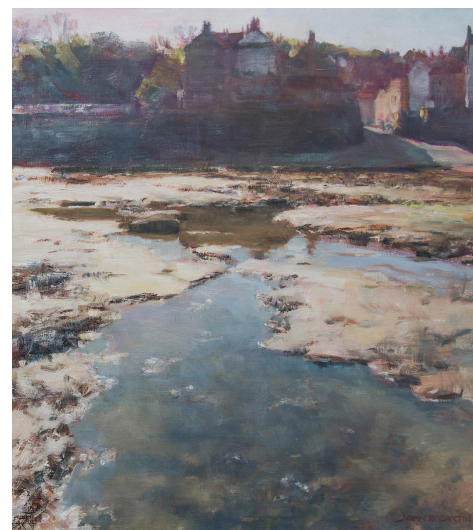


Fireworks in Old House by Kui Zheng; First Place Overall



Quietude
by Melanie Thompson;
Best Oil

Summer Vacation
by John McCartin;
Second Place Overall



Log Built Boat by Suzie Baker; Third Place Overall



***Two for Joy* by Brian LaSage; Best Acrylic**



***Marsh Complements* by Jacob Aguiar; Best Pastel**



***Jefferson Library Gothic* by Thomas Bucci; Best Watercolor**



***Alpenglow* by Suzie Baker; Best Plein Air**



***The Brooklyn Bridge* by Ellen Buselli; Best Building**



***Passage of Time* by Alan Wylie; Best Vehicle**



***Ebony* by Jerry Markham; Best Animals & Birds**



***Chinese Vase* by Kerri Mcauliffe; Best Floral in a Landscape**



***Dream Garden* by Kyle Stuckey; Best Figure**



Vermont Barn by John Pototschnik; Best Landscape



Q Road Sunset by Jane Hunt; Best Nocturne



Phi Apples by Rusty Frentner; Best Outdoor Still Life



Water on the Move by Barbara Jaenicke; Best Water in a Landscape



Nite Shift by Jim Wodark; Best Western



Hachi by Kai Lun Qu; Best Student (High School or College)