



# Weekend with the Masters

SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2009 | COLORADO SPRINGS FINE ARTS CENTER

## **American Artist Magazine Announces Its First-Ever Weekend Retreat for Practicing Artists and Art Enthusiasts**

*Take a staycation this year in beautiful Colorado Springs at the American Artist Weekend With the Masters Workshop & Conference, September 9-13, 2009*

*Pay-per-Class Registration Opens on June 1, 2009 at [www.aamastersweekend.com](http://www.aamastersweekend.com)*

New York, NY - April 21, 2009: *American Artist* magazine's **Weekend With the Masters** Workshop & Conference will bring together some of the top artists working today for four full days of instruction and discussion centered on the current renaissance of representational art in America, and where it is headed in the future. This is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for practicing artists, collectors, and art enthusiasts to study with several of the greatest traditional painters of our time and be part of the influential legacy they are passing on. There will be indoor drawing, oil, and watercolor master workshops for the figure, portrait, and still life painter, as well as outdoor plein air oil master workshops for the landscape painter. These master workshops will be complemented by demonstrations, lectures, special presentations, and panel discussions led by the master instructors and guest speakers during the day and evening.

**WHEN: September 9-13, 2009**

**WHERE: Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center**, 30 West Dale Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Weekend With the Masters takes place inside the expansive Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, which recently underwent a \$28.4 million expansion in August of 2007—adding and renovating classrooms in their Bemis School of Art. The Center features a museum, galleries, art school, performing-arts theatre, a restaurant, outdoor courtyard, and several inviting reception areas. All of the figure, portrait, and still life master workshops in oil and watercolor will be held in Bemis School classrooms, while the evening demonstrations and panel discussions will take place in the center's 420-seat auditorium. Plein air classes will be held in Monument Valley Park (which is directly behind the Fine Arts Center) and Garden of the Gods park, which is a short drive from the center.

### **TICKET INFO**

**The Master-Participant rate is \$1,395 or \$1,195 if you sign up before June 1.** The Master Participant option is the only way to sign up for the master workshops (the classes that allow you to paint with the masters) and is ideal for committed artists who are ready to take their skill level and understanding to the next level.

**Registration for the Pay-per-Class option opens June 1** and allows participants into the demonstrations, lectures, panel discussions, and evening events. Tickets: \$40 for a day lecture; \$50 for a day demo; \$60 for an evening auditorium event; \$70 for the Saturday evening reception, benefit auction, and panel discussion. Pay-per-class is great for artists of all levels, for collectors who want to watch the artistic process of the master-painters, or for any art enthusiast who wants to be a part of the infectious energy and inspiration surrounding the four-day weekend.

**PUBLIC CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:** 646-841-0057

**WEBSITES:**

[www.aamastersweekend.com](http://www.aamastersweekend.com)

[www.myamericanartist.com](http://www.myamericanartist.com)



**SCHEDULE OF PAY-PER-CLASS  
DEMONSTRATIONS, LECTURES, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, AND EVENING EVENTS**

**Pay-Per-Class Listings**

**Thursday, September 10, 2009**

**Half-Day Lecture, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$40**

**A101: Nuts & Bolts: Everything I Wish I Knew Before I Started Painting With Quang Ho**

In this lecture/presentation, Quang will share 30-years worth of essential information for artists of all levels. He will cover all of the important principles and topics he wishes he knew before he started painting. The artist will use visuals to illustrate his points on the concepts and vocabulary of painting as well as his thoughts and philosophy on his own work.

**Half-Day Lecture, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$40**

**A103: Urban Realism: The Process With John Salminen**

During this presentation, Salminen will show examples of his work through a slide presentation. He will discuss the role design plays in his urban-realism paintings and how the principles of design can be used to both solve problems and to add interest to a painting. He will encourage questions and discussion from participants.

**Half-Day Lecture/Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50**

**A201: Atelier Training With Jacob Collins**

Collins will discuss the traditions of art training around the world and, specifically, the development and teaching strategies of the contemporary atelier. He will conduct drawing demonstrations as he discusses the various ideas and exercises practiced in ateliers.

**Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50**

**A202: Learning to See With Frank Serrano**

In this outdoor plein air demonstration, Serrano will take students through his process for composing a scene through concise drawing and the simplification of design elements.

**Half-Day Lecture, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$40**

**A102: The Influence of the Old Masters With Daniel Gerhartz**

In this lecture/presentation, Gerhartz will offer a brief presentation of the masterworks of the past, while showing some of his own work. He will explain what he has learned from studying the Old Masters and how he applies that understanding to his painting today.

**Half-Day Lecture, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$40**

**A104: Keys to Becoming a Better Painter With Mary Whyte**

Every artist wants to know how to improve his or her technique, how to come up with compelling ideas, and how to budget optimal time to allow for creativity. Join Mary Whyte for a discussion on these topics, plus view examples of her work and conceptual thumbnail sketches.

**Friday, September 11, 2009**

**Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50**

**B203: Portrait-Painting Demo With Daniel F. Gerhartz**

Gerhartz will conduct a demonstration for students while giving step-by-step descriptions of his thought process and advice on working through the challenges that face portrait painters.

**Half-Day Demonstration, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$50**

**B204: Figure Painting Demo With Scott Burdick**

For this three-hour class, Burdick will conduct a demonstration of a full figure while discussing his approach to painting.

**Half-Day Demonstration, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$50**

**B205: The Hidden Techniques of Sargent and Homer With Timothy J Clark**

Clark's experience as a portrait and figure painter has resulted in his paintings being acquired by multiple museum collections, including the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. His extensive research on the paintings of Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent from the collections of the Worcester Art Museum and the National Gallery has given him insight into some of the subtle techniques employed by these masters. In this demonstration, Clark will discuss those techniques and processes, the properties of their materials, and their expressive use of watercolor.

**Saturday, September 12, 2009**

**Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50**

**C206: David A. Leffel Paints the Still Life**

Watch Leffel conduct a demonstration on how he sets up, lights, and paints compelling still lifes.

**Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50**

**C207: Interpreting the Landscape in Watermedia With Stephen Quiller**

Using the mountain scape as a theme, Quiller will work with granulation and staining properties of transparent watercolor overlaid with translucent and opaque casein. The instructor will follow the demonstration with a slideshow of his work in various watermedia.

## Sunday, September 13, 2009

### Half-Day Lecture, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$40

#### **D105: The Use of Photography in Creating Paintings With Scott Burdick**

Burdick will give a slide presentation and lecture on how he uses photographs, sketches, and plein air studies to create complex studio works.

### Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50

#### **D208: Painting Concepts in the Still Life With Sherrie McGraw**

McGraw will address where the study of drawing and the complexities of oil-painting technique culminate to express visual concepts in this demonstration. Although subject matter appears to divide the study of painting into separate categories, suggesting that each discipline is very different, an artist is always expressing a visual idea or concept through the same means: color, paint quality, edges, value, and shapes. McGraw will discuss the process of setting up a still life until one "discovers" the idea.

### Half-Day Demonstration, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, \$50

#### **D209: Making the Connection-From Field to Studio With Joseph McGurl (D209)**

Many artists struggle with transferring field sketches to finished studio paintings. This demonstration will cover some of the practical and philosophical aspects of making this transition. McGurl will show some of the methods he has devised and learned to simplify the process and achieve more successful results.

### Half-Day Lecture, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$40

#### **D106: The Importance of Drawing, With Susan Lyon**

Lyon will give a presentation of her drawings, from her quick sketches to her finished portraits, while discussing her technique and process. The artist hopes to convey her love of drawing and show students how--through practice, learning to see images in shapes, and emphasizing value--they can improve their paintings. Most students want to get right into painting before they develop their drawing skills. Through this presentation, Lyon hopes to inspire students to see how important and beautiful drawing can be.

### Half-Day Demonstration, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$50

#### **D210: Keying In a Painting With Scott Christensen**

For this half-day indoor demonstration, Christensen will begin with a brief lecture and then demonstrate how he keys in his landscape paintings.

### Half-Day Demonstration, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, \$50

#### **D211: Abstract Concepts in Traditional Painting With Skip Whitcomb**

In this outdoor lecture/demonstration, students and observers will get to watch a visual exercise in how an artist observes and interprets nature. Whitcomb will illustrate how artists are not bound by objective reality but instead can select and arrange the elements that contribute to their overall concept or message.

## Lunchtime Lecture Series

### Thursday, September 10, 12:00PM - 2:00PM with Jean Stern

Art historian and executive director of The Irvine Museum, in California, Jean Stern will be giving a lecture on '100 Years of Landscape Painting,' which will look at both past and present prominent figures in the landscape and plein air-painting movements.

### Friday, September 11, 1:00PM - 2:00PM with Richard Schmid

During the two-hour lunch break, Richard Schmid will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on his work in the Fine Arts Center's auditorium, and will take questions from the audience at the end.

### **Saturday, September 12, 12:00-2:00 PM with Jack Warner**

Jack Warner is the owner of one of the finest collections of historical American masterworks in the country through his Westervelt-Warner Museum of American Art. During this Lunchtime Lecture he will be giving a presentation on some of the Old Masters in his collection, as well as discussing some of the new masters featured in the "ArtAmerica 2009" exhibition.

## **Special Events**

### **GALLERY EXHIBITION**

A local gallery will be hosting an exhibition of the instructors' work in conjunction with the Weekend With the Masters event. The exhibition will be on view at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center for the duration of the weekend.

### **AMERICAN ARTIST SILENT AUCTION**

American Artist will be raising money for the Bemis School's art-education fund at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center as well as for a scholarship to the Young Masters program at the Cottonwood Artists' school through a silent auction of donated small works, autographed books and DVDs, art materials, and art-related merchandise.

### **SUNRISE PAINTING DEMONSTRATION**

On Friday, September 11, George Gallo will be leading a sunrise plein air demonstration in beautiful Garden of the Gods park, surrounded by the majestic mountains of Pikes Peak. This event will be free to all Master-Participant flat-rate registrants and is open to the public. For Weekend With the Masters participants there will be free shuttle service to and from the host hotel, the Colorado Springs Marriot, to the demonstration.

## **Evening Events**

### **Wednesday Evening, September 9, 7:30PM - 10:00PM: Showing of *Local Color***

The night before the official kickoff of the Weekend With the Masters event, Los Angeles film writer, director, and painter George Gallo will be showing his award-winning film *Local Color*, a semi-autobiographical story about a young artist so desperate to learn how to paint in a traditional manner that he seeks out a living master to be apprenticed to for a summer. This will be followed by a Q+A session with Gallo, which will give the audience an opportunity to ask questions about the characters, storyline, and making of the movie. For more information on *Local Color*, and to watch a trailer, visit [www.localcolormovie.com](http://www.localcolormovie.com). Time: 7:30-10:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center's auditorium. Cost: \$20

### **Thursday Evening, September 10, 7:00PM – 9:00PM: Richard Schmid Panel Discussion**

Richard Schmid will be moderating a panel discussion during the first official night of Weekend With the Masters on the current renaissance we're experiencing in representational art in America and abroad and where we see it headed in the future. He will also be discussing the role the art media has played in bringing awareness and attention to this traditional art movement. His panelists include Rose Frantzen, Quang Ho, David A. Leffel, Sherrie McGraw, George Gallo, Jacob Collins, Jeremy Lipking, and Jack Warner. Schmid will take audience's questions at the conclusion of the presentation. Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the in the Fine Arts Center's auditorium. Cost: \$60

### **Friday Evening, September 11: Leffel & Lipking: Two Generations of Masters**

David A. Leffel and Jeremy Lipking will be participating in a special demonstration in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Center on Friday night. These master artists will stand side by side while painting the same

model on stage, so that participants can see two generations' interpretation of the same subject. We will follow this presentation with a panel discussion that looks at the different opportunities and challenges realist artists have faced over the last 50 years. Audience members will be able to ask questions and comment at the conclusion of the presentation. Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the in the Fine Arts Center's auditorium. Cost: \$60

**Saturday Evening, September 12, 7:00PM– 9:00PM: Weekend With the Masters Mentorship Benefit**

Saturday night of the Weekend With the Masters event will begin with a Meet the Masters reception and a showing of the Gallery 1261 exhibition in the Fine Arts Center. During the evening American Artist will hold a silent auction for Weekend With the Masters participants and local collectors with contributed material from several master-instructors and local art organizations. A portion of the proceeds from both the tickets sales for this event and the silent auction will go to the Bemis School's art-education fund, as well as to a scholarship toward the Young Masters program at Cottonwood Artists' School. This will be followed by a panel discussion in the auditorium, where several master artists will talk about the role mentors and community support has played in shaping their career, and the importance of passing on their knowledge and experience to the next generation. Part of the presentation will include the opportunity for two local art students and two Weekend With the Masters participants to interview a master of their choice on stage. Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the in the Fine Arts Center's auditorium. Cost: \$70

PUBLIC CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: 646-841-0057.

**WEBSITES**

[www.aamastersweekend.com](http://www.aamastersweekend.com)

[www.myamericanartist.com](http://www.myamericanartist.com)

**ABOUT INTERWEAVE**

Interweave, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's largest and most respected arts and craft media companies, with businesses in magazine and book publishing, online media, television and video programming, directories, and events. The Interweave Publishing Group features 18 subscription magazines and many more special interest newsstand publications sold on newsstands nationwide. Interweave has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 how-to books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colorado and other offices in New York, New York, Malvern, Pennsylvania, Santa Fe, New Mexico, San Diego, California and Stow, Massachusetts.

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