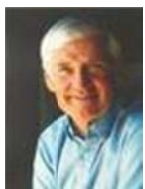


Meet The Artists



Jacob Pfeiffer – Is Cincinnati's own western art master. His moving life story of escaping communist Romania as a young boy during World War II is poignant and inspiring. He was introduced to American History as an early teen. His passion and interest in Native Americans and historical events of the United States remains robust. His paintings concentrate on life during the 17th and 18th centuries with the goal of sharing a moment of history with the viewer. He focuses on the character qualities of his subjects, those traits universal to all people who cherish freedom and independence.

Pfeiffer's work has been included in diverse juried shows such as the Hoosier Salon, Oil Painters of America, Salon International, and Alexandria Museum of Art (LA) among others. He has been invited again to the Eiteljorg Museum (IN) Quest for the West Exhibit in 2011. His work is in many American collections, as well as in Germany and Japan, and is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Western Art, Kerrville, TX. In 1999, Pfeiffer was awarded Signature Membership in Oil Painters of America and was given the same designation by the American Impressionist Society in 2011. (To earn Signature status, an artist's work must have been juried into three national shows.)



John Ruthven: Is one of Cincinnati's most prominent and collected painters. As an internationally acclaimed master of wildlife art, he is often called the 20th Century Audubon. Using the same techniques as his predecessor, John adheres to a thorough and complete research process for all of his paintings. Rigid specification sketches become artistic masterpieces reflecting every intricate detail of the painted subject. His paintings have won numerous awards and have been unveiled at The White House, the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, the President's Palace of the Philippines, the Neil Armstrong Space Museum and the Ohio State Capitol Rotunda. Multiple museums house John's works including the Smithsonian Institution's Preservation and Research Center, the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum and the Cincinnati Museum Center. In 2004, John received the National Medal of Arts from President George W. Bush.



John Agnew: Has an international reputation for his photo-realistic portrayals of the lesser known and lesser loved animals, especially reptiles and amphibians. He has worked extensively with museums and zoos and estimates that he has painted over 25,000 square feet of murals for the Cincinnati Zoo and the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. His paintings and prints are in collections around the world and the U.S. State Department has borrowed three of his national park landscapes to display at various US Embassies. His numerous awards included being named the 2009 Artist in Residence for Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and winning the Patricia A. Bott Award for Creative Excellence from the Society of Animal Artists of which John is signature member.



Linda Howard Bittner: Is forever trying to capture the charm and character of our natural world. She has been a professional commercial artist for over 18 years. Her works have graced many products including greeting cards, giftware, children's books, toys, games, puzzles and interactive exhibits. Clients have included: National Geographic Books, Playskool, Scholastic, Golden Books, Oxford University Press, Hallmark cards, American Greetings, International Playthings, numerous zoos and museums. Linda is now embracing the fine art world and continues to use her creative skills to educate the public about wildlife and conservation.



DeVere Burt: Left a challenging position as the President and CEO of the Cincinnati Museum Center to pursue his lifelong desire to paint nature. As the founder of Masterworks for Nature, he utilized his passion for painting philanthropically by gathering other like-minded artists and united them with non-profit conservation organizations with the goal of raising awareness and funds. To date, they have raised more than \$1,000,000. DeVere is equally as successful as a painter. He was most recently awarded membership to the Society of Animal Artists the most exclusive and prestigious wildlife artist group in the world. He has illustrated several books and his commissions and paintings can be found in numerous private, corporate and museum collections.



Nancy Foureman: Believes that painting is not a skill learned and then put away, but a growing experience that continues to communicate with people. Painting and teaching for more than 36 years, she remains passionate about endangered species and has devoted much of her painting to them. Numerous awards have been bestowed upon her including The Rose Award and The Founders Purchas Award from the Susan K. Black Foundation, as well as, special recognition from the Ohio House of Representatives 124th General Assembly for Exemplary Record of Service in the Area of Fine Arts.



Ann Geise: Was raised in the rural suburbs of Cincinnati and being outdoors was an important part of Ann's childhood experience. After working in pharmaceutical research for several years, she rekindled her love of nature by joining the staff of the Cincinnati Nature Center as the Artist and Exhibits Manager. With an artist's perspective and a naturalist's knowledge, she illustrated and designed the center's publications and exhibits on natural history. In 2008, she decided to devote herself full time to painting. Her images are not only beautiful but scientifically accurate, with an eye for detail that captures the spirit and life of her subject. Ann has earned numerous local awards and is quickly becoming one of the most popular artists in our region.



Mary Louise Holt: Is a founding member of Masterworks for Nature bringing a diverse background and more than 28 years of professional experience to her art. Skills honed in design, illustration, exhibition and portraiture meld with a deep passion for natural history. Mary Louise combines these skills in the portrayal of wildlife, landscape and figurative paintings. Through her art she brings compelling images of Eastern Woodland Indians and the wilderness that sustained them prior to European settlement to life on canvas. She has created numerous murals and exhibits depicting subjects from nature which have been displayed throughout the United States and abroad. An accomplished portrait artist, her vast body of portrait works hangs in homes throughout the country. She is a member of the Portrait Society of America, Oil Painters of America, Susan K. Black Foundation 2004 scholarship recipient and is a signature member of Artists for Conservation.



Christine Knapp: Is an award winning sculptor from Dayton, Ohio. Christine has been a professional artist since 1990. She is best known for her realistic bronze creations of both animal and human subjects. All of her bronzes are created by utilization of the age-old lost wax casting process. In order to better convey the spirit of her subjects, she travels extensively to obtain first-hand knowledge through personal observation and her own photography. She has honed her skills by studying with numerous internationally acclaimed painters and sculptors including, Lincoln Fox, Veryl Goodnight, Guy Coheleach, and John Seerey-Lester. She is represented by numerous juried shows annually as well as galleries in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Vale and Loveland, Colorado and Beavercreek, Ohio.



Les LeFevre: Has a love of the American Cowboy instilled in him through by working on the historic Hansen Ranch as a young man and working the stock at the Jackson Rodeo. His professional career and his exploration of National Parks, birding and painting were simultaneous pursuits for 25 years until painting became a full time profession. Eventually, his art evolved from birds and wildlife to his childhood passion of cowboys and Indians. Indian history and life style are a natural part of America's heritage as is nature itself. Les spends as much time as he can working on ranches, researching the Native Americans and indulging himself in the western life and his art can be found in from Ohio to Wyoming.



Christopher Walden: Is a native of Auckland, New Zealand who came to the United States in 1979. He brought with him a passion for nature. An avid outdoorsman, his thirst for knowledge about new environments and their inhabitants inspired him to capture them in his paintings. Chris' very realistic style and ability to portray life in the animal kingdom have endeared him to collectors around the world. His paintings tell a story about life in the wild and often display the natural conflicts that occur. As such, he feels the need to give back to the lands and animals he paints by protecting them for future generations. His involvement with groups such as Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to name but a few has resulted in millions of dollars raised for conservation. Many awards later, his paintings can be found in numerous museums, corporations and private collections.



GREENACRES

Spring for Art

Free admission for all openings!

April 8, 2011 – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

With Cash Bar and Complimentary Appetizers

April 9 & 10 – 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.