

## JUDGE'S COMMENTS

## DUPAGE ART LEAGUE

Exhibit: MASTERS AND FABULOUS FAKES

SCHOOL & GALLERY

Month: AUGUST 2023

218 W. Front Street, Wheaton, IL 60187 (630) 653-7090

JUDGE: JOAN BREDENDICK

### BEST OF SHOW:

Artist: Joanna Aslanian

Medium: Oil

Title: Insomnia

Comments: "Insomnia" sparked an immediate reaction in me as a viewer. Stark, high contrast and immediate, the painting reflects an intense feeling of resignation to the constancy of the nightly visitor. The lights and darks push the figure forward in the picture plane. The viewer is confronted as well. L A highly effective interpretation of the theme ala "Munch."

### THEME AWARD:

Artist: Roberta Tassara

Medium: Oil

Title: Degas' Ballerinas

Comments: "Degas' Ballerinas" captures essential elements of a Degas work of art, particularly the diagonal format which was so revolutionary when the artist introduced the format in the 1870s. The piece presents a nice looseness, communicating the expression of the dancer's figures.

### SPECIAL MERIT:

Artist: Jan Kloss

Medium: Acrylic

Title: Meow Meow Matisse

Comments: Matisse would be proud! This acrylic painting presents a delightful scene of tranquility for the moment. The intensity of the cat's stare foreshadows a possible upset for the goldfish. I love that the painting made me think of what might happen next. Technically a good handling from the detailed fish.

### SPECIAL MERIT:

Artist: Barb Finn

Medium: Pastel

Title: Stranger in a Stranger Land

Comment: This pastel portrait draws the viewer into the image by eliminating background detail. Exhibiting technical proficiency, the piece goes beyond technique and confronts us with questions. Who is he, where does he come from, what has happened to him? A satisfying piece of art handled with facility.

### SPECIAL MERIT:

Artist: Mooneen Mourad

Medium: Acrylics

Title: Impressionism Floral

Comments: Pop! Here I am! This abstracted floral piece demands attention from the viewer. I really enjoyed the artist's playful use of contrasting color and loose handling of the paint. A delightful painting to grace a wall and gives happy ... to all who view its vibrancy.

### MERIT AWARDS:

1. Jim Hisson, Walt Kennedy Cubed, Oil
2. Barbara Hald, Odes to Gary Bukovnik, Watercolor
3. Tom Finn, Hello Dali, Scratchboard
4. Janet Knight, Cart and Horse, Oil
5. Steven Johnson, Puppy Love, Mixed Media
6. Peter Grass, Stairway to Everywhere, Photo
7. Diane Nawrocki, Vacation, Oil
8. Maryann Staroscik, Lady and Violin, Pastel
9. Sue McLean, Monet's "La Bordgemi", Acrylic
10. Mary Dorrell, Chef's Corner, Oil
11. Alexander Zajczenko, Apples of Diaben Korn, Oil
12. De Maris Johnson, Lady in Flower Garden, Oil

