

April 2009

John Pototschnik Fine Art Newsletter

What is the biggest misconception about artists?

You serious artists out there will be able to answer this question without hesitation. The misconception the general public has concerning artists is hardly ever stated directly but is revealed subtly through the questions asked of us.

A question asked of my wife...

“What’s John doing today?”

Translation: Being an artist allows you to do whatever you want, when you want. It’s kind of like being retired. You can work or not work. Sleep in or just watch TV all day.

“What do you do when you’re not inspired to paint?”

Translation: Artists operate totally on feelings/emotion. If in the “mood”, you paint; if not in the “mood”, you do other stuff. Basically, artists lack discipline. It’s all about inspiration. When inspiration comes into the room you work frantically until you drop and then you don’t work again until the next whiff of inspired air decides to visit you.

“It must be nice being an artist?”

Translation: You don’t have a boss. You don’t have to go into work every day. You can come and go as you please. You can paint what you want, when you want and no one tells you what to do. You’re free of worry and responsibility.

“How long did it take you to paint that?”

Translation: That is way too much money for the time you spent on that piece. My, you artists really rake in the dough! Why should you make so much money when it is so fun and comes so easy for you?

Those are a few of the questions often heard by artists. I’m sure you can think of more. So, what is the biggest misconception about artists?

It’s all easy, fun, and never difficult.
It all comes so naturally.

Stillwater Art Guild hosts 2-day workshop



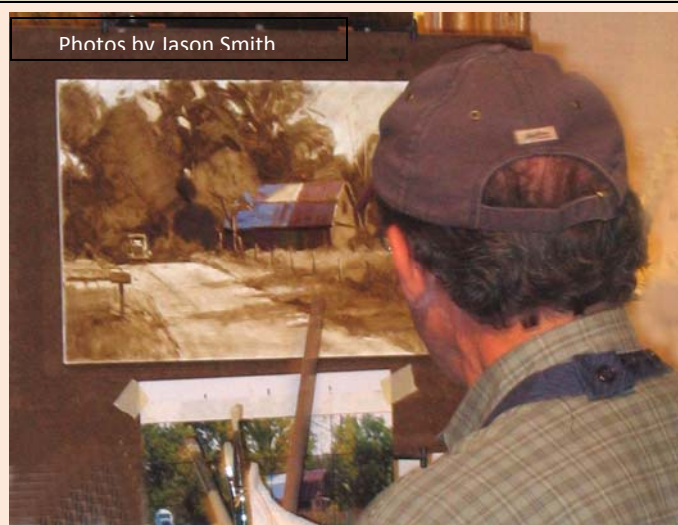
Pictured left to right: Cheri Wollenberg, Lynn Schwartz, Leslie Newman, Beverly Dale, Karyl Barbosa, Judy Burch, Velma Sanders, Mary Ann Wade, Wanda Shipley, Lou Hale, Mona Wells, Judy Lewis, Tim Parrow

The March 23-24 workshop in Stillwater, OK was attended by 13 enthusiastic students. Each student was encouraged to establish a clear concept of what they wished to communicate through their painting. This was followed by creating a monochromatic painting of the concept. The second day we focused on color theory. Each student then completed their monochromatic painting in full color.

Can you see yourself in one of my workshops?

There are only two more opportunities this year. One will be in Breckenridge, TX in August; the other will be in Seguin, TX in October. All other workshops I will be teaching this year are full. For further details, see my “Upcoming Events” page.

<http://www.pototschnik.com/upcomingshows.asp>



These are scenes from my oil painting demonstration at the **Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art** on 21 Feb during their **27th Anniversary Exhibit**. To see the completed demo painting above and to view my other work on exhibit, click here:

<http://www.greenhousegallery.com/cgi-bin/mp/getworks.pl?artistid=1,029>

Painting selected as “finalist” by the Art Renewal Center



I am deeply honored to have had my painting, “Family Farm” selected as a ‘Finalist’ in the Fifth Annual International Art Renewal Center Salon Competition. I won the top award in the landscape category the first year and was also a finalist in year three but each year becomes increasingly more difficult because the competition is so stiff. This may well be the most competitive of all the juried shows to which I submit work. Take a look at the quality... [ARC ARTicles - International 2008-2009 ARC Salon® - ARC Staff - Page 1/8](#) Over 1600 entries from 30 different countries. It is truly an international event. By the way, the **Art Renewal Center** is the best if you love fine art. Nothing comes even close.

Finally...

Remembering Billy Kirk



One never adjusts to the idea of just how short and temporary our life here can be. It’s a huge shock when we’re speaking to a friend one day and the next day they are gone. Billy passed on in mid-March. Only in his 50’s he died of a heart attack while on a retreat/mission trip with church youth. He was an excellent artist. I first met him years ago in Carthage, MO during an art show. He was scheduled to take my workshop in Mississippi next week. I had commented to him just a few days before he died that I couldn’t understand why he was taking a workshop from me. But that’s the way he was...always wanting to learn and improve. He leaves behind wife, Debbie.