



# PSWC *magazine*

## **PASTELS USA: 99 VOICES IN PASTEL 2024**

See all the award winners and accepted entries

## **OUR FEATURED ARTIST**

Artist Barbara Jaenicke talks to Pamela Comfort

## **MEET THE MEMBERS**

Meet four of our wonderful Members!

## **ART SCHOOL**

Dawn Emerson on Ink and Pastel

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**P A S T E L   S O C I E T Y   O F   T H E   W E S T   C O A S T**

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**VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3**

**FALL 2024**



*Metal II* by Linda Dragonette

# Linda Dragonette

by Linda Dragonette  
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Two of my favorite quotes:

*"Be of your own time and paint of what you see." Edouard Manet*

*"For me, I will always choose color" Vincent Van Gogh*

I do both.

My style has changed over the years. I have embraced Abstract Expressionism; my work has been called Abstract Impressionism. It excites me. I work in series of ideas; bridges, city scenes, reflections of wet streets that are full of texture. My goal is to tell a story. Color is feeling for me. I have adopted a more contemporary style of painting, loosely bringing shape, values and contrasts together. And COLOR!

I have a need to tell a story. I paint the places I love, the emotion I get from what got my attention. The fluttering of birds in flight and nighttime reflections on water. The most important elements are value and color that brings joy to me, and I just have to share it

I was influenced at an early age by my mother. She painted incredibly large oil paintings. One was for The Miami Herald Newspaper and another a scene of a 40's nightclub; complete with a mirrored ball hanging from the ceiling and hand gun on a table. I wanted to do that. In high school I was fortunate to be in a program for commercial art for half a day for three years. I enrolled in quite a few colleges but decided to focus full time on painting. Not being able to drive became a hardship.



Artist Linda Dragonette

There are many artists that inspire me, long dead Dusti Bonje of Biloxi, Mississippi. I love Van Gogh for his color and originality. He was so different, painting his world the way he saw it. Today, I am inspired by John Hyche for his elegance in abstraction. I have always loved his use of green. Just wonderful.

When I speak to young artists starting out I will tell them to listen to everything. Whatever workshop you take you will come away with knowledge. Years ago, I took Albert Handell's workshop in Georgia. He explained 'Blooming'. It is how color will change, say going up a hill. Going from dark at the bottom and getting lighter at the top where it is lighter and my focal point. I hope I have that right; it's been a long time. And the importance of sending a *Thank You* note to those who help us along the way. Art centers, galleries, colleges; they all work hard for you.



Wild Roses of Georgia by Linda Dragonette

Years ago, I started with Rembrandt and Canson Mi-Teintes paper. Then I went to Schmicke and Sennelier on Wallis and Ersta paper. Now I am comfortable with Art Spectrum paper and all the lovely brands I have collected.

I remember going to see a demonstration by Carole Katchen. I was hooked on pastels at that moment and went to the art store the next day and bought Canson Mi-Teintes paper and Rembrandt pastels. Over the years Schmicke, Sennelier and Terry Ludwig became my favorites.

Having lost the majority of my vision due to a hereditary eye disease called Retinitis Pigmentosa, I have had to change how I paint many times. Painting in the medium that allows me to see more clearly; watercolor, ink, pastel, and oil, I have painted the same image in watercolor, pastel and oil. I have always loved pastel because it is at my fingertips.

At this point I am in the last stages of my blindness. I no longer see color, but I know which blues and yellows make a certain green. It is a challenge I have learned to embrace.

*A Message from Linda:*

*I am very honored to have been chosen for  
an exhibition of my work for "World Sight Day".*

*"Seeing Through the Challenges"*

*Show will run October 10, 2024 -December 31, 2024, call for appointment*

*Located in The Vault, at The National, Courtyard Marriott  
Marriott Garage Parking: 124 SE Butler, The Vault, 109 Green St.,  
Gainesville, Ga.,*

*The Marriott Courtyard -770-532-4508*

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*Linda Dragonette is an award-winning artist whose work is in many private and corporate collections. Her paintings have been sought after and used by the movie industry. She was selected to be the Coca-Cola/ Ronald McDonald House Charities Arts Partner. A copy of her painting was sent to every Ronald McDonald House in the United States and Canada to be used for fund-raising. Linda is a Member of Excellence, Signature Member in the Pastel Society of the West Coast and the Southeastern Pastel Society.*

