

## The Sketchpad



### **Hello fellow artists!**

Our annual officer and board member elections will be held in May, and over the next few months our nominating committee will be actively recruiting members who would be willing to serve San Clemente Art Association (SCAA) in a leadership role. On Monday, March 24th we will be hosting a tea/meeting at the San Clemente Art Gallery, for all members, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. At this gathering we will discuss open positions and job descriptions, as well as listening to any suggestions from members that might improve our gallery

### **President's Message**

and association. Please plan on attending this important meeting. We value input from every one of our members.

As many of our gallery sitters know, we have had ongoing technical issues with our Internet, phone and payment processing equipment at the gallery. I do apologize for this but also want to assure you I worked many hours trying to correct these issues throughout the past month. It seemed like we had the perfect storm of problems in that our Internet cabling failed somewhere on the

roof of our building, our internet provider refused to fix it because we were the only customers in that particular building, and then after switching Internet providers our payment processing machine crashed and had to be replaced. The good news is we now have faster WIFI, better phone service and a new, more user friendly, payment processing machine in the gallery.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our next show! Thank you and let's make it a great year at San Clemente Art Association!

**Kevin Bertrand**  
*President*

### **Message from the Gallery**

#### **Dear Artists,**

First of all, I want to thank our president, Kevin Bertrand, for correcting the problem with the credit card machine. This was a difficult problem to solve because at first we believed it was an electrical issue - a connection into the Internet sort of problem. All wiring was scrutinized and replaced by licensed electricians that the city had to approve and allow. Our building is quite old, and the city has to be sure that the person working on the building won't further damage it. It took longer than anyone could

have guessed, and now the problem is behind us. Did you know that Kevin graduated from an accredited electrician college back in Kansas? I don't know the name of the college, but they trained him well! He went on to become a CPA, but who could have known that his background in electrical systems would have saved the day? Anyway - everything was upgraded and replaced. Many thanks to our accountant, Julie Focht for her help in this pressing matter. I want to thank all the gallery sitters for their

patience and perseverance in dealing with this situation. It called for creative solutions. We are back online, and it's business as usual at our little art gallery by the sea. Summer is on the horizon, and as I write this essay, we just had the most spectacular sunny day in San Clemente! We are at the start of our February show, with the gallery looking beautiful and welcoming.

Be sure to bring a friend along with you to see our new art show, and keep the creative juices flowing!

**Mary Franta**  
*Gallery Chairperson*



## Featured Artist - February 2025 - Cindy Bale Tanner



### **My potato looked like Marilyn Monroe**

*Did you know I'm related to Marilyn Monroe? (She's my 13th cousin, which is weird but true.) My first attempt at drawing her looked like a potato wearing lipstick. Not kidding. But I kept going. Drew her face about a hundred times until my friends actually recognized her. That's when everything changed. Pretty soon my notebooks were stuffed with celebrity faces. Movie stars. Musicians.*

*Anyone famous I could find.*

*Then something wild happened...*

*My friends started asking me to draw their families and pets. Even offered to pay me. (Who knew people would pay for art that didn't look like potatoes?)*

*Now I paint families. Kids at their big moments. Parents on anniversaries. My hairstylist's cats. My husband's tennis buddy's wife's crested gecko Stewie.*

*It's like creating tiny time machines with paint. Each portrait captures a moment you'll never get back. Want your own time machine? Let's talk about creating something special for your walls. I promise it won't look like a potato.*

*Apply for your custom portrait and check out my past commissions here:*

*[cindybaletanner.com/artcollector](http://cindybaletanner.com/artcollector)  
Yours in original art, Cindy "No longer drawing vegetables" Bale Tanner*

*Email: [cindy@cindybaletanner.com](mailto:cindy@cindybaletanner.com)*

*Instagram: @cindybtanner*

*p.s.*

*Last April I started an online community for aspiring artists called the "Artist*

*Journey Community" in which each member learns to create original art as she finds her own style, and, when she's ready, sets up her own basic art business. One student sold her first commission portrait just in time for it to be a Christmas present. Find out more: <https://createyourownoriginalart.com/ajc-ah>*

*p.p.s.*

*I have produced 32 interviews with the best artists from around the world in my "Paint Your Way To..." artist interview series, including California artists Anka Haczkiwicz, Mary Franta, Rick J. Delanty, Sharon Hutchison and Ryan Jensen. Those interviews are available here: <https://paintyourwayto.com/vip2024>*



## February Show Winners - 2025

Judge: Lorraine Cote

San Clemente  
ART ASSOCIATION

### BEST OF SHOW

Oil	#7	Mary Dunlap	After School
1st	#49	John Dillon	Laguna Beach
2nd	#48	John Dillon	Contemplation in Laguna
3rd	#52	Dianna Yao-Garcia	Hidden Tower
*HM*	#47	John Dillon	Beach Entrance Miami
*HM*	#44	Nevin Erian	Sonata in Sea

### Jewelry

1st	#902	Deb Spencer	Indonesian Opal Neckpiece
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### Oil

1st	#15	Michael Downey	How Europeans Spot Americans
2nd	#8	Ernie Romo	Heisler Park Tides
3rd	#10	Ernie Romo	San Clemente Library
*HM*	#37	Yen Shen Shen	The Koi Pond
*HM*	#29	Nancy Baughman	Laguna Walk

### Other Media

1st	#40	Tom Anderson	Mask
2nd	#62	Arpad Petrass	Spring Flowers
3rd	#39	Tom Anderson	Rag Doll
*HM*	#2	Deborah Joy Shriver	Spring Flowers

### Photography/Digital Art

1st	#22	Brad Friesen	Istanbul
2nd	#60	Todd Metzger	Tunnel Vision
*HM*	#64	Myra Posner	The Dance

### Watercolor

1st	#33	Judi Phillips	S.J. Capistrano Depot
2nd	#50	Cindy Bale Tanner	Hands of the Artist
3rd	#12	Alan Nowell	Just Another Bunny
*HM*	#55	Bill Gibson	Watercolor



## New Year's Show Winners - February 2025

### BEST OF SHOW



***"After School"***  
**Mary Dunlap**

### PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD

(JANUARY SHOW 2025)



**First Place**  
***"Waiting In Hope"***  
**Brad Friesen**



## New Year's Show Winners - February 2025

### ACRYLIC



**First Place**  
**"Laguna Beach"**  
**John Dillon**

**Second Place**  
**"Contemplation In Laguna"**  
**John Dillon**



**Third Place**  
**"Hidden Tower"**  
**Dianna Yao-Garcia**



**Honorable Mention**  
**"Beach Entrance Miami"**  
**John Dillon**



**Honorable Mention**  
**"Sonata In Sea"**  
**Nevine Erian**



## New Year's Show Winners - February 2025

### OIL



**First Place**  
**"How Europeans Spot Americans"**  
Michael Downey  
(Not present)

**Second Place**  
**"Heisler Park Tides"**  
Ernie Romo  
(Not present)

**Third Place**  
**"San Clemente Library"**  
Ernie Romo  
(Not present)



**Honorable Mention**  
**"The Koi Pond"**  
Yen Shen Shen  
(Not present)



**Honorable Mention**  
**"Laguna Walk"**  
Nancy Baughman



## New Year's Show Winners - February 2025

### OTHER MEDIA



**First Place**  
**"Mask"**  
**Tom Anderson**



**Second Place**  
**"Spring Flowers"**  
**Arpad Petras**



**Third Place**  
**"Rag Doll"**  
**Tom Anderson**



**Honorable Mention**  
**"Spring Flowers"**  
**Deborah Joy Shriver**



## New Year's Show Winners - January 2025

### WATERCOLOR



**First Place**  
**"SJ Capistrano Depot"**  
**Judi Phillips**  
**(Not present)**



**Second Place**  
**"Hands of the Artist"**  
**Cindy Bale Tanner**



**Third Place**  
**"Just Another Bunny"**  
**Alan Nowell**



**Honorable Mention**  
**"Watercolor"**  
**Bill Gibson**





## New Year's Show Winners - January 2025

### PHOTOGRAPHY



**First Place**  
**"Istanbul"**  
**Brad Friesen**  
**(Not present)**



**Second Place**  
**"Tunnel Vision"**  
**Todd Metzger**



**Honorable Mention**  
**"The Dance"**  
**Myra Posner**

### JEWELRY



**First Place**  
**"Indonesian Opal Necklace"**  
**Deb Spencer**



## ARTIST DEMONSTRATION

February 23, 2025 - John Dillon - Professional artist and Animator

Today, professional artist and animator John Dillon led an engaging art demo that filled the room. Attendees received a copy of his publication, Sketches and Paintings, upon entry, and John shared stories behind about 20 of his favorite sketchbooks.

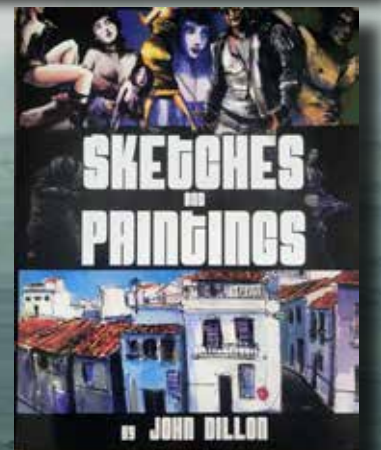
John, who now works steadily on The Simpsons, discussed his journey from freelance animation to his current role. He emphasized the importance of being in “the Flow”—that state of creative immersion where time disappears—and encouraged everyone to sketch daily

to develop their artistic voice. He demonstrated warm-up sketches for loosening the wrist, elbow, and shoulder joints and even completed a quick 10-minute acrylic painting using four brush sizes.

The event concluded with Jeff Ponce winning the door prize, and the audience was clearly captivated by John’s passion and expertise.

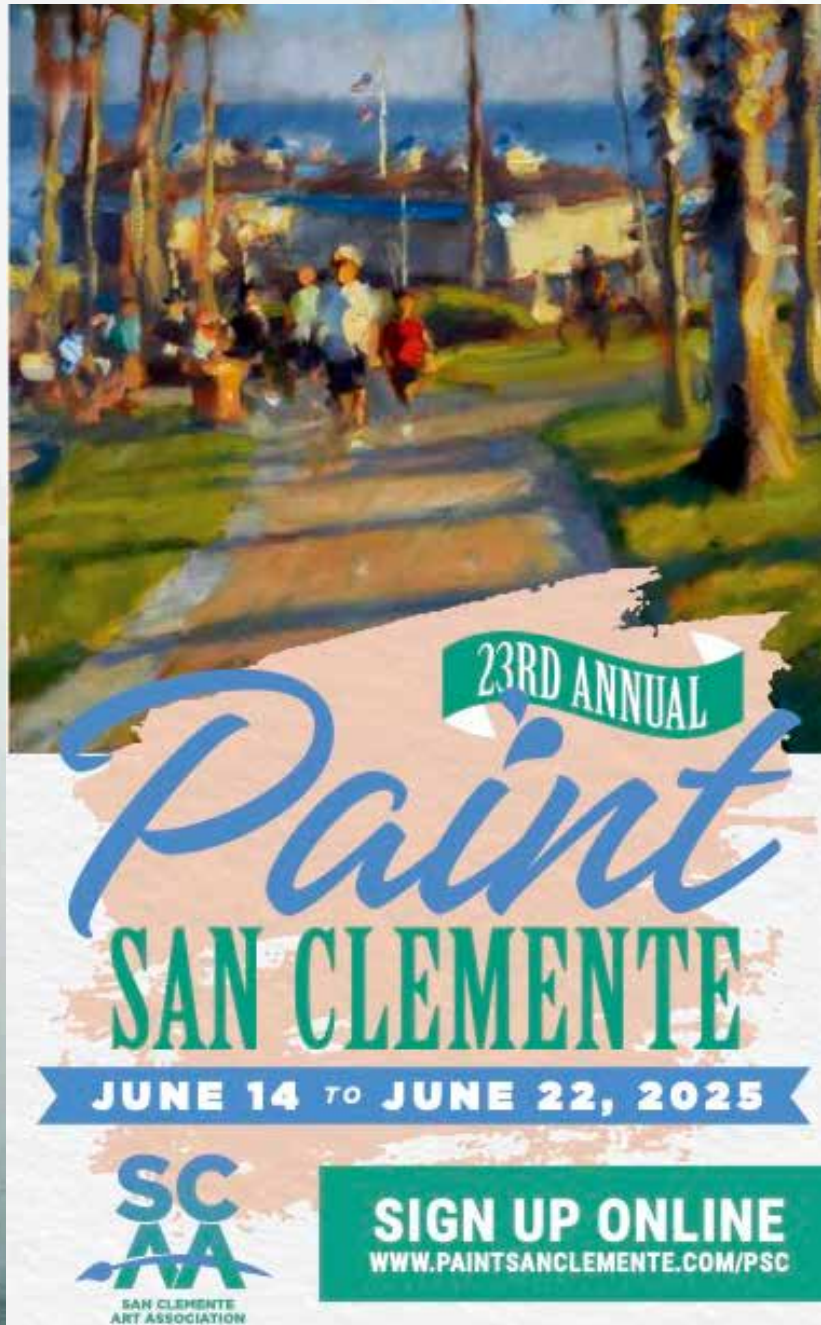
Thank you, John, for a memorable and inspiring demo!

*Mary Franta*  
Gallery Chairperson





**Coming Soon!**  
**Paint San Clemente Event - June 14 - June 22, 2025**





## URBAN SKETCHERS



Let's Sketch Plaza Park, Orange Circle  
Saturday, February 22, 2025  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
122 N. Glassell St., Orange, Ca.

The Urban Sketchers San Clemente, is a regional chapter of Urban Sketchers ([urbansketchers.org](http://urbansketchers.org)). We recently joined up with the Urban Sketchers of North Orange County for a combined group meeting.

The mission of Urban Sketchers is to raise the artistic, storytelling and educational value of on-location drawing, promoting its practice and connecting people around the world who draw on location where they live and travel.



## MONTHLY CRITIQUE

The Critique Group, led by San Clemente artist **Tom Anderson**, convenes monthly following each art show to foster a collaborative and constructive environment. Their most recent gathering took place on Sunday, February 23 2025.

During the session, the volunteer artists, all hailing from the SCAA, came together to critically analyze several paintings. With a shared goal of artistic growth, participants offered thoughtful feedback and constructive suggestions to help

each other refine and elevate their work. These monthly meetings serve as a valuable platform for exchanging ideas, sharing techniques, and building a supportive artistic community within San Clemente.



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San Clemente  
ART ASSOCIATION