



PSI Inside

www.pittsburghillustrators.org



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Editor: Anni Matsick

Reporters this issue:
 Fred Carlson
 Anni Matsick
 Molly Thompson
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Design & Production:
 Yelena Lamm



Art Aglow

Linda Barnicott has partnered with Sugar Creek Candle Company to create 24oz. candles with her paintings encircling the glass jar so the art is illuminated from within. Three Pittsburgh scenes are offered, including "Ice Ball Treats with Gus and Yai Yai" which has a cotton candy scent.

Winning Image

"Pittsburgh's New Home for Hockey" depicts Penguins fans heading toward the Consol Energy Center. The pastel painting by **Linda Barnicott** is available as prints on her [website](#).



On The Town

This Pittsburgh scene by **Yelena Lamm** is one of two paintings hanging in the downtown offices of Renewable Manufacturing Gateway, Inc. Oil paintings were commissioned in 2013 following a PSI referral.



My Spot

Anni Matsick

It's not hard to find a picturesque view in the 'Burgh, as the examples on this page illustrate. Our Spotlight

this issue shows the city's skyline as depicted by one of our members commemorating a publisher's 10 year landmark. Within the city's Cultural District, a gallery invites you to view an exhibit of 252 portraits done of a single resident, including 11 from our ranks shown on page 7. And there's no shortage of ideas portraying notable moments in western Pennsylvania's past, as discussed at the last Business of Illustration meeting in a head start on PSI's 20th anniversary exhibit scheduled for next year at Heinz History Center. If you missed that you can catch up with the chairman's report on page 6. This densely packed issue makes for great summer reading, perhaps on your favorite bench in Schenley Park or Market Square.

"21st Street South Side Pittsburgh" is 36"x36", oil on canvas. It's the third painting in an ongoing series being done by **Kurt Pfaff**.

On Exhibit

These "Rotty" drawings from a series by **Nora Thompson** will be included in a joint exhibit with paintings, pottery and wall hangings by her husband, Stuart Thompson, to be held at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Ligonier. The exhibit, *Places and People*, will run August 19 through November 6 with an opening reception August 20. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday 1-5 pm; closed Mondays and holidays. "Edgar and Chloe" and "Emma" are shown here.



Christine Swann has been invited to participate in The International Salon of Pastels in Saint-Aulaye in Dordogne, France July 23-August 21. This exhibition is sponsored by the Pastel Society of Perigord. A selection committee of artists picked her work to be included. She created the new "threads-themed" pieces below for the exhibition, her first time showing in France. "Sometimes it is all we can do to keep it all together!" Christine says about "Making Ends Meet," and "Bound" is "about the limitations we put on ourselves that keep us from doing what we want to do." Both are 22"x18" pastel paintings.



Yelena Lamm and **Jane Popovich** participated in the *Annual Garden Tour Plein Air Art Competition* organized by Wilkins School Community Center. Yelena's piece won



second prize in the competition, and both Yelena's and Jane's watercolors were purchased by the owner of the depicted garden.

Photo by Francine Vandenberg



Yelena visited her second painting at the Renewable Manufacturing's Gateway Center office during her booth exhibit at *Three Rivers Arts Festival*. Giclee prints of both paintings remain among her best-sellers. Coverage of the referral from **Fred Carlson** appeared in the [September 2013 newsletter](#) under PSI Worked For on page 3.

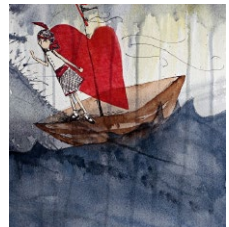
Linda Barnicott and her husband delivered 28 of her original pastel paintings to the John A. Hermann, Jr. Memorial Art Museum in Bellevue for a display which opened with a reception on May 6 and ran through June. Bellevue's mayor, Paul Cusick, showed great enthusiasm for the show and was there to greet them and help transfer the art to the gallery.

Elizabeth Claire Rose exhibited in *Three Rivers Arts Festival* and has work in *Impressions*, a Pittsburgh Print Group exhibit, which opened June 17 at FrameHouse and Jask Gallery. The show is up through July 30.

Judith Lauso displayed 18 watercolor prints at the Mt Lebanon Library lobby entrance during May.



His-stories and Her-stories features the work of illustrators **John Manders** and **Stacey Hogue**, on display through July 30 at **The Hoyt** in New Castle. Photos were taken by Deb Spangler at the opening reception.



Kudos

The Music in George's Head: George Gershwin Creates Rhapsody in Blue written by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Stacy Innerst got a Booklist Starred Review. The September release is published by Boyd's Mills/Calkins Creek. Read it [here](#).



Vince Dorse's Kickstarter project for a print version of his Reuben award winning online graphic novel, *Untold Tales of Bigfoot*, ended successfully on June 21. Backers funded the printing of his book and reached the stretch goals



for a Deluxe Edition cover and a Friend Of Bigfoot embroidered patch for those who bought print copies. The project was 41% funded by

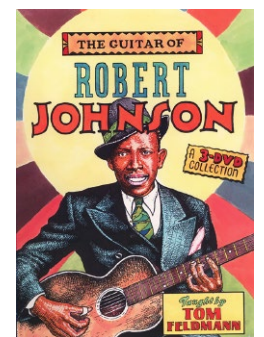
end of day 1, earning promotion by Kickstarter, naming it "A Project Kickstarter Loves."

Worthy Causes



Three giclee print posters of **Fred Carlson's** watercolor paintings were silent-auctioned at the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame Museum Annual Blues

Awards show and fundraising event at the Convention Center in downtown Memphis, TN, on May 5. The fundraising part of this annual weekend is to support the ongoing programs of the Blues Foundation and the Museum in their continuing promotion of the blues as a living music played by living artists. The Jimmy Reed poster alone raised \$260 for the Foundation's operating fund. An unfortunate twist occurred when the auction winner of the Jimmy Reed poster, Bob Walesa of Chicago, IL, laid his poster on a table to have a photo taken with John Mayall and found it missing on his return. The Foundation reported the theft to Fred who gladly sent Mr. Walesa a replacement copy.



Linda Barnicott was the featured artist for the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh's biggest fundraiser of the year. This event supports Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility on the North Side.



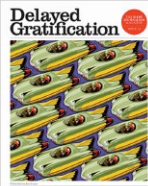
On the Newsstand



As of May 18, **Wayno's WaynoVision** will appear in print every Wednesday in the **Pittsburgh City Paper**. He thanks PCP's art director Lisa Cunningham for helping to bring the comic to their pages. Wayno continues to contribute gags to

Hilary Price's daily comic, Rhymes With Orange. Here are some of their latest collaborations: **The Mentor, Hair of the Werewolf, Sorry, Wrong Office.**

Ron Magnes was recently the featured artist for *Delayed Gratification*, an international publication by The Slow Journalism Company. His "Rush Hour" image was featured on the cover of issue #21, published in March. Four more images appear inside opposite a full page interview.



On the cover

Read More by Ron Magnes
The featured artist for the cover of issue #21 of *Delayed Gratification* is Ron Magnes. His "Rush Hour" image was featured on the cover of issue #21, published in March. Four more images appear inside opposite a full page interview.



Classes

"Glenda" by **Ron Thurston** is a 17"x15.5" watercolor done as a class demo. "I thought it would be fun to line up all the tables so each student faced each other randomly. The challenge was to paint one another. I sat across from Glenda, who painted me," Ron says. "A thrilling assignment and practice. And I heard some laughing as we painted."



New Member

Dan Wintermantel
Pittsburgh
danwintermantel.com

Dan has been in the advertising, design and illustration business since 1970. He had some luck as a cartoonist for Penthouse, Saturday Review and the Saturday Evening Post and now works digitally. Dan thanks **Mark Bender** and **Jim Starr** for the referral to PSI.



New Affiliate Member

Howard Bender
Pittsburgh
www.howardbenderart.com

Howard, a 1974 graduate of Pittsburgh's Ivy School of Professional Art, has drawn many cartoons and illustrations for newspapers, children's books and many, many comic books for Marvel and DC Comics, drawing characters and titles that include Superman, Spider-Man, The Legion of Super-Heroes, and Ghostbusters among others. For the past thirty-some years, he has happily been drawing caricatures and caricature portraits for all kinds of events and individuals.



Illustration: Kurt Pfaff

Life Drawing at Panza Gallery

Long Pose Monday: Mondays 6-9pm \$10
Life Drawing: Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm \$10
Saturday Sessions: Saturdays 10am - 1pm \$10

Coffee, pastries & drinks served.
Enter basement gallery on left side of building.

www.panzagallery.com

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NEXT PSI SOCIAL



Photo Jeff Swensen for The New York Times

Tuesday, July 12
Beginning at 6:30 pm

Church Brew Works*
3525 Liberty Avenue, Strip District
*Featured in the **New York Times**

Free parking! Free appetizers!

Social Nights

Attending the monthly gathering on May 10 at Church Brew Works were the following: President **Pat Lewis**, VP **Amanda Zimmerman**, Treasurer **Fred Carlson**, former President **Rick Antolic**, former VP **John Blumen**, ASIP Rep **Ilene Winn-Lederer** and Jeff Lederer, Program Committee member **Danielle Amiano**, **Genevieve Barbee**, new affiliate member **Katya Greco**, **Frances Halley** and **John Halley**, **Yelena Lamm**, **Elizabeth Claire Rose**, **Hilary Schenker**, **Phil Wilson**, **Gregg Valley**, **Autumn Seybert**, **Vince Ornato**, **Erin Leight** and her friend JoEllen.

Our June 14 Social night was a chance for PSI members to meet our summer intern Kimberlyn Curtis. A discussion of improving business conditions and promotional plans for the Society, and more sharing of new work took place. The PSI Board met with Kimberlyn before the meeting to review her intern assignments over the summer. Be sure to read details and see her photo and work samples in the introduction, below.

Attending were President **Pat Lewis**, Secretary and Show Chair **Molly Thompson**, Treasurer and New Member Contact **Fred Carlson**, former VPs **John Blumen** and **George Schill**, ASIP Rep **Ilene Winn-Lederer**, **Vince Dorse** and Darryl Godfrey, **Frances Halley** and John Halley, **Robert Sage III**, **Hilary Schenker**, **Phil Wilson**, **Gregg Valley**, **Autumn Seybert**, **Vince Ornato**, and new intern Kimberlyn Curtis.

From Fred Carlson / Treasurer and Internship Contact...

Meet New Intern Kimberlyn Curtis

PSI has added a senior level student from Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD) for an internship to run mid-June through mid-November, earning her 5 credits. Kimberlyn Curtis will graduate in November as an illustration major. PSI has set an agenda for her tasks both over the summer when she will be living with her parents in Bethel Park, and in the fall when she will be back in Savannah. Her 150-hour commitment began when Kim met with members of the PSI Board at Church Brew Works before the social meeting June 14. Our former President 2013-2014 **Evette Gabriel** attended SCAD and Don Rogers (who also has Pittsburgh connections) is her SCAD faculty advisor. Our last intern was Sean Smith of Seton Hill University, now practicing the illustration trade in suburban Washington DC.

As part of her commitment, Kimberlyn has started contacting all 130 PSI full members individually by phone, making sure they received and reviewed the 20th anniversary exhibition prospectus and fundraising booklet. If you find her voice mail, please reply to her in a timely way. She will ask if people receiving the prospectus and fundraising guide have any questions and if you plan to submit work in the jurying stage (Jan 2017) so the Exhibition Team can get an idea of numbers. Complicated answers will be referred to members of the core show committee. Kimberlyn will refer any changes in contact info

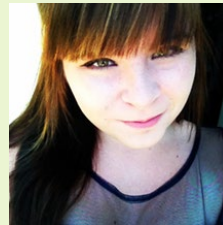
to the PSI Board. She expects to help identify contact names within selected organizations that will be sent fundraising proposals by the PSI Exhibition Fundraising team.

Kimberlyn is now organizing a series of individual studio visits with South Hills PSI full members as part of her internship from June 5-August 31. These visits could easily be organized/arranged during the phone contact process mentioned above. **South Hills area members, please accommodate if you are asked to meet (at your convenience) to show your studio set-up. This is an important part of the internship credit.**

We hope Kimberlyn can organize a session to obtain career and portfolio advice from our nationally recognized mentorship team (**John Ritter**, **Mark Zingarelli**, **Fred Carlson**, **John Blumen**, **Phil Wilson**, **George Schill**). A two-hour mentorship critique and training session (the format is already established) can be scheduled during Kim's time this summer in the Bethel Park area. The PSI Marketing team currently working on the production and mailing of a 6-month postcard campaign promoting the new PSI website has assigned Kim some followup duties as her time permits.

Kimberlyn is welcome and encouraged to attend the scheduled socials, business program meetings, and other summer programming. Her work will be concentrated on phone calling once she returns to Savannah for her last two months of school. Let's all make her feel welcome!

From Kimberlyn: I'm a native of Bethel Park, and I plan on returning to the Pittsburgh area (for at least a little while) after my graduation in November. I am interested in pursuing editorial, licensing, and book illustrations, and I really enjoy history and hope to have a residency at

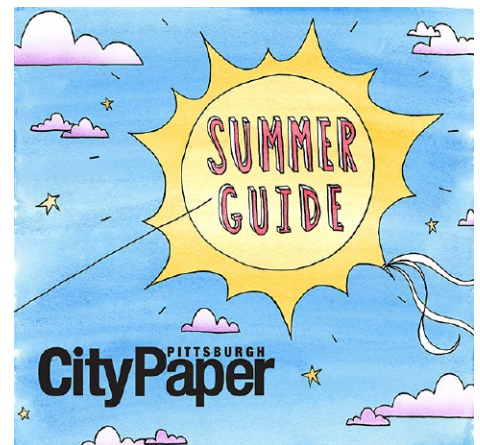


a National Park in the future. Within the past year I've been in two SCAD student shows, *Out of the Fire*, a ceramics exhibition, and the *Port City Review*, featuring one of my illustrations. My process work can be found [here](http://www.kimberlyn-curtis-artistry.com), and my main website is www.kimberlyn-curtis-artistry.com



PSI Worked For . . . Emily Traynor

Emily got a message from Lisa Cunningham, art director for the Pittsburgh City Paper, asking her to illustrate the front cover and inside pullout cover of Pittsburgh City Paper's Summer Guide, which hit newsstands the week of May 23. Lisa wrote, "I've hired a lot of members of that organization over the years and I'm a big fan." Emily told PSInside, "Lisa is fun to work with—she knows what she's doing and it showed with how well I clicked with her direction. She also wrote up an interview with me, asking some great questions that I got a lot of positive feedback from. It was one of my favorite commissions so far and it's always an honor to be commissioned locally. Pittsburgh proud!" Here's the [interview](#).



Lisa found Emily's work on the newly designed [PSI website](#). It has been well received by our members, who find it easy to upload images and maintain their information. President **Pat Lewis** heard from Lisa Cunningham in a May 12 message: "Can I tell you how grateful I am for the Pittsburgh Society of Illustrator's website? I 'discovered' an artist on there recently and hired her to do our summer guide covers for next week. It's such a great resource for finding talent that I might not necessarily have found otherwise and I'm very appreciative that you guys keep that updated." So apparently it's working! Thanks to our web team, and to all members who have been keeping their portfolio pages fresh.

From Amanda Zimmerman / VP and Project Team Lead for Marketing the PSI Website...

PSI Devotes Major Campaign to Publicize New Website to be promoted to the trade over the next 6 months

The past two months have seen intensive planning and production by a team of PSI volunteers to create a publicity mailing campaign to drive art buyers to the new PSI website.

Amanda Zimmerman is the main coordinator and **Jim Prokell** has been graphic designer of the project. **Emily Traynor** is responsible for mailing list purchase and **Judy Emerick** and **Hannah Luoni Garrison** have been involved doing print vendor research and final mail prep organization.

The campaign is promoting 24 images that reflect the broad range of styles and subjects easily searchable on the new PSI website. The team sent long hours reviewing the right mix and range of styles to draw buyer interest. The target art director lists will include publishers, children's publishers, editorial clients, and design firms nationally sorted. The campaign was originally envisioned as a quarterly postcard mailing over the next year. As 2016 finances came more clearly into focus, due to increased PSI member retention and other cost savings over the course of our programming year, Treasurer **Fred Carlson** advised that the mailing schedule could be accelerated to 1x a month over the next 6 months; we could afford 6 mailings instead of 4. Thus, 6000 cards will be sent to 2000 total art buyers during the rest of 2016, 1000 a month.

The goal of the campaign is simply to drive art buyers to the PSI website — whether to investigate our members for the first time or to see the new architecture and search capabilities created by Lava New Media and going live this past February.

If you are one of the few members who have NOT created a site profile and mini folio on the



Illustration by John Blumen



Illustration by Ron Magnes

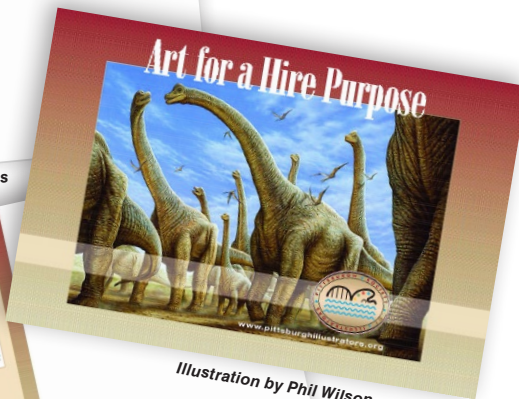


Illustration by Phil Wilson



Illustration by George Schill

website yet, this is the time to get on board!! Please contact **Ashley Cecil** (ashley@ashleycecil.com) to get the most recent instructions for uploading your presence to the site. IT IS EASY!

N.B. PSI is making a sizable budget investment in this promotional campaign. The Board will be monitoring our website statistics and analytics closely over the next 6 months to evaluate this way of promotion of the website. ALL MEMBERS must be aware you are all part of this effort and that it is important, if new or established clients of yours contact you about work over the rest of 2016, that you PLEASE ask if they had used the PSI website in confirming assignments with you. Then let us know of those connections.

The PSI Board will be repeating this request over the next period of time so **please be patient with us** — we want to make sure this is money well-spent; we need YOUR information to help evaluate the program. THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

PSI Store Open for Business



Drawing Under the Influence:

An Illustrator's Guide to Mixing Drinks

only \$5

Spiral bound, soft cover, 128 pages. PSI's 2011 Directory featuring 59 illustrated recipes.

Introductions by mixmaster Craig Mrusek, Kathy Rooney and brief history by George Schill. Concept: George Schill & Ron Magnes. Design: Steve Cup

Play Ball!

PSI Illustrated baseball card sets of 12

less than 10 sets left!



\$10/set

Printed originally to promote the 2001 Play Ball! show of baseball illustration at AIP.

Illustrators represented in the set of 12: David Biber, Fred Carlson, George Schill, John Manders, Ron Thurston, Larry Tinsley, Greg Valley, Ilene Winn-Lederer, Ilena Finocchi, James Mellett, Kathy Rooney, Lynn Cannoy.

Sales benefit PSI general treasury.

Please contact Fred Carlson 412.856.0982 or fred@carlsonstudio.com

To read more about some of the members featured in this issue, look for their Spotlights in past newsletters, available on PSI's website.

January 2016

Nov-Dec 2014



Genevieve Barbee



Yelena Lamm



PITTSBURGH SOCIETY OF ILLUSTRATORS

Check out our members' galleries on PSI's new website!

Molly Thompson reports on:

May BOI Meeting



Preparation for the Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators' 20th anniversary show is under way, and the May Business of Illustration meeting was the perfect time to share updates and ideas. Members gathered at Treasurer Fred Carlson's home for a briefing on the latest efforts of our show volunteers and a preview of the artwork submissions in progress.

PSI Secretary **Molly Thompson** handed out the **Art of Facts** prospectus, hot off the press, and reviewed key details and developments with members in attendance. Some of the recent additions to the prospectus include submission parameters, selected jurors, show fees, and perhaps most importantly, the Heinz History Center's confirmation of the opening date in July, 2017. To compose the prospectus, Molly worked closely with past President **Rick Antolic**; Past Vice President **John Blumen**; Treasurer **Fred Carlson**; **Ilene Winn-Lederer**; President **Pat Lewis**; **Kurt Pfaff**; Portfolio Review Chair **Kathy Rooney**; **George Schill**; and members of the History Center's staff. Everyone's input and assistance has been greatly appreciated. Further questions from membership, both at the meeting and afterward, were also essential to the document's finalization. Anyone who did not receive a copy of the prospectus at Fred's house will receive one in the mail, along with the Fundraising 101 for Everybody booklet!

Fundraising is as crucial to the success of **Art of Facts** as the illustrations we're going to exhibit — a truth not lost on our treasurer Fred Carlson. Attending members were pleased to receive their own copies of Fred's comprehensive fundraising booklet, designed by **Genevieve Barbee**. The show budget, anticipated sources of income, ways to donate, and tips on individual fundraising are all included in this concise print piece. There is even a sample script to make outreach easier, and talking points on the benefits of making a financial contribution to our show. In addition to empowering our members to raise funds, the Fundraising 101 for Everybody booklet is very informative; everyone can easily understand the finances involved in promoting and executing the show and how to help.

After a break for refreshments and chit chat, attendees settled down to give their attention to members participating in our show's first group critique. What a variety! Our illustrators are already bringing thoughtful, compelling stories about Western Pennsylvania to life. Many members shared artwork in its early stages of development, while some brought nearly

finished pieces, and others brought written notes from their research. There were also existing works that would make excellent submissions, with and without modification.

It was so inspiring to see and hear the creative interpretations of the show's theme; several artists left with plans for multiple entries!

Everyone in attendance played a role in the event by contributing their assessments, questions and/or ideas. In no particular order, here are some of the subjects that were presented as potential entries: Mancini's "Moon River," Michael Garland and daylight-saving time, Mary Cassatt, Nellie Bly, the Syria Mosque, the women of Homestead during Pinkerton's War, Edward Drake and the first oil wells of Western PA, Porky Chedwick of WAMO, the Rolling Stones 1964 concert at West View Park's Danceland, Rachel Carson, Walt Disney's secret meeting with Westinghouse scientists, and the Willys Jeep.

The evening ended with a win by the Penguins and a tour of Fred's illustration studio. Thanks again to Fred and Nancy for opening their home and hosting our exciting event, and to all of our participants and volunteers. The energy surrounding our 20th anniversary show is a treat to witness!

Attending: President **Pat Lewis**, VP **Amanda Zimmerman**, Treasurer Secretary/Show Chair **Molly Thompson**, Core Show Committee Chair **Kurt Pfaff**, Scholarship Committee Chair **Rhonda Libbey**, photographer **Alex Patho Jr.**, IP Rep **Ilene Winn-Lederer**, Review Board Chair **Kathy Rooney**, past President **Rick Antolic**, **Kelly Ackerman**, **David Biber**, **Chance Brown**, **Judy Emerick**, **Judith Lauso**, **Vince Ornato**, **Robert Sage III**, **Rachel Arnold Sager**, **Vi Scarpone**, **Cindy Strosser**, **Christie Strub**, **Gregg Valley**, **Phil Wilson**.



Ilene Winn-Lederer shares her **Art of Facts** topic

Ilene based her sketch on this article from the *Pittsburgh Sun*, March 1922, with the headline

"On This Day in Pittsburgh History: March 31, 1918." The text, as follows, will wrap to the art: Daylight-saving time, conceived and promoted by Robert Garland, of Pittsburgh, went into effect. As the United States entered World War I, Garland, who lived in Squirrel Hill, advocated



moving clocks forward to increase industrial production. It also gave golfers, outdoor enthusiasts and twilight baseball players more time to enjoy their activities, he argued. Ben Franklin encouraged the idea long before Garland, and Englishman William Willett had promoted the modern version in Great Britain a decade earlier than Garland. Still, Garland fought so strongly for the idea here that President Woodrow Wilson gave him the pen he used to sign the 1918 national act establishing daylight saving time as law.

Announcement Regarding Art of Facts / Uncovering Pittsburgh Stories from Fred Carlson and Molly Thompson:

All Full Members of PSI have been mailed an important packet with information on our upcoming 20th anniversary show. The packet contains the show's member prospectus with the latest details and developments confirmed by our volunteers and the Heinz History Center.

The packet also includes the Fundraising 101 for Everybody booklet for all show participants and volunteers. The booklet is an at-a-glance resource for the show budget, possible sources of income, and tips on individual fundraising. We must work together to properly finance our show, so that

we may promote it to regional art buyers and patrons of the Heinz History Center. We will also have an excellent opportunity to promote the profession of illustration to the national trade press.

Please review these two pieces carefully and keep them handy for reference regarding your own participation in this landmark exhibition.

If you have any questions regarding the complete show prospectus, contact **Molly Thompson** (Show Chair) at (412) 353-9278 or [molly.tmillustration@gmail.com](mailto:tmillustration@gmail.com).

Questions or leads regarding fundraising may be directed to **Fred Carlson** (Show Budget Director and Fundraising Coordinator) at (412) 856-0982 or fred@carlsonstudio.com.

A special note of thanks to **Genevieve Barbee** for designing the Fundraising 101 for Everybody booklet.



Photos by Alex Patho Jr.

Anni Matsick reports on...

The John Riegert Exhibit



Photo by Kurt Sampsel



Ashley Cecil

Anne Trimble. The subject was on hand to converse with guests and pose for photos, not far from his comfortable chair and table brought from home. John Riegert will be in residence during gallery hours for the show's remainder through September 4, to act as docent and answer visitors' questions. A full-color catalogue will be produced, featuring the portraits, an essay by Eric Lidji, photos of the interactions between John and the artists as he was involved in their creative processes, and a section dedicated to John's art and writing. A closing party will be held September 3, a second chance for those who missed the exciting opening, with lots of time in between to stop in and peruse this unusual compilation.



Photo by Maria Delsandro



Lex Covato



Dave D'Incau Jr.

SPACE Gallery was the setting for the long anticipated Friday, June 24 opening reception for **John Riegert**, sponsored by Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. A half hour bottleneck in traffic entering 7th Avenue didn't deter me from that destination and I arrived to a din of DJ music combined with the crowd's constant chatter as they wandered through walls stacked with imaginative artwork and curiosities. The show includes portraits by 252 Pittsburgh area artists invited to participate by guest curator Brett Yasko, who said, "I wanted to see what would happen if a large number



of different artists — wellknown and little-known — each painted the same subject. And I immediately thought that the subject should be John." John Riegert has been Brett's friend for over 20 years. He is an artist and writer who began struggling with mental illness 15 years ago and suffered some consequences. Brett wanted to help inspire him and knew John would relate well to the participants. The diverse responses, collected over the course of more than a year, include works by PSI members **Genevieve Barbee, Ashley Cecil, Lex Covato, Dave D'Incau Jr., Yelena Lamm, Judith Lauso, Anni Matsick, Kurt Pfaff, John Ritter, Elizabeth Claire Rose** and



Anni Matsick



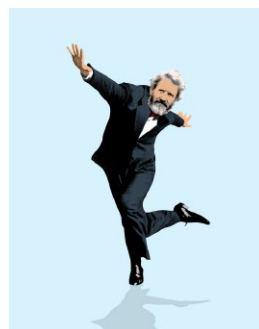
Elizabeth Claire Rose



Judith Lauso



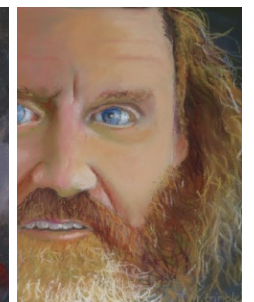
Photos by Yelena Lamm



John Ritter



Kurt Pfaff



Anne Trimble

Spotlight on... Jim Starr

Jim knew the assignment was special because he'd heard in advance about the big 10th anniversary party.

When Jim Starr was contacted by Jennifer McNulty, creative director of Pittsburgh Quarterly Magazine, he knew the project was significant. The words "celebrating" and "anniversary" in her message were big clues. Jim had done two covers in the publication's ten year history and was delighted to hear he'd been chosen for "the big one."

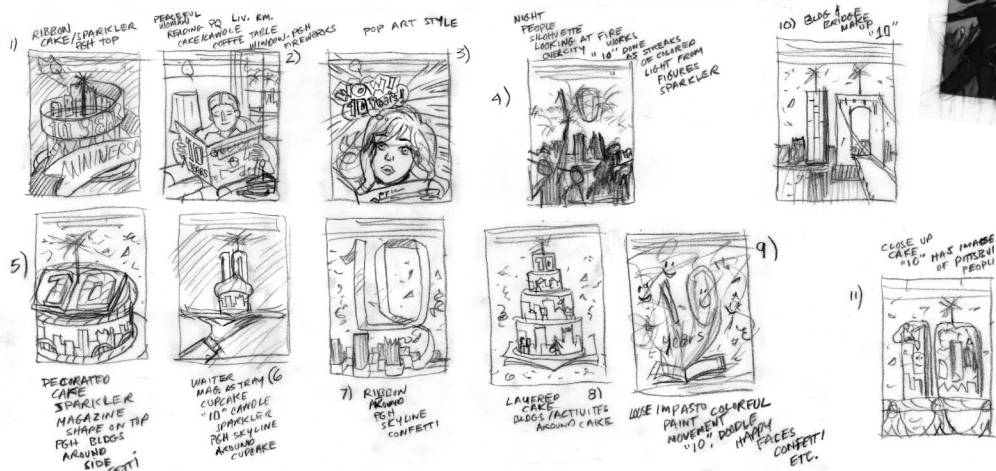
Jennifer wanted the image to be colorful and summery, no problem for this versatile artist. Jim began by gathering references from the client, from online sources, and from within his studio to start the ideas flowing. His approach is to create as many thumbnail sketches as possible until his flow of ideas is exhausted. Later, these are tightened and refined with client input. After reviewing the initial sketches, Jennifer and her team chose the fireworks idea along with the water and city skyline. She asked Jim to go with a bold black-line base. He

wanted a handcrafted quality, so he chose ink on scratchboard to work out the details. For the fireworks, he brushed ink on paper, scanned it into Photoshop, and converted them to the requested bright colors using hue/saturation. The sparkling "10" was a result of Jim watching a how-to video on YouTube about using PS to create fireworks based on a font. Jim sums it up by saying, "This was truly a collaborative piece between Jennifer and me. She was great at steering me to her vision of what the cover needed to be. I was also honored to be a part of the showcase inside this issue featuring 10 years of past covers." And, of course, there was that invitation to the party.

Article by Anni Matsick
Design by Yelena Lamm
Cover image courtesy of Pittsburgh Quarterly



Jim's current projects encompass a wide variety, including digital paintings for children's books, logos, infographics, website art, and hand done scratchboard art for produce labels. He can be reached through his rep [MB Artists](#) or his [website](#).



1



2



4



3



5



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1. **Stacy Innerst** painted this 75th birthday tribute to Dylan featured in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.
2. This t-shirt design was done by **Terri Adams** for Frontline Youth's 2016 Beach Retreat at Evangel Heights Church. SURGE was the theme this year. Terri drew the sailboat traditionally and applied it digitally to the finished design in Illustrator.
3. Here are two all-over-print dye-sublimated wrestling singlet designs by **Brian Allen** for BlueChip wrestling. The first design was the evil gargoyle perched on a rooftop in a storm, created as part of a series of wrestling

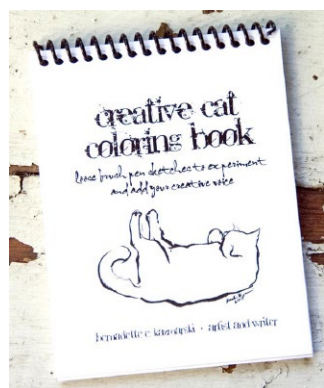
4. Brian illustrated this dark detailed illustration of an epic battle between Freddy, Leatherface, Nosferatu, The

Excorsist, Frankenstein, Kirk Hammet, Ozzy, Alice Cooper, Corey Taylor, and more for a documentary on the history of Metal and Horror. He was hired by Producer Mike Schiff of M.A.S. Productions to create an illustration of some of the most iconic figures in horror and heavy metal engaging in an epic battle. The image was used to promote their **documentary** which explores the history of heavy metal music, horror films, and how the two genres have merged together over time. Pieces were also used for an animation promoting the documentary, which features interviews with Alice Cooper, Kirk Hammett, Corey

Taylor, plus many other heavy metal stars, along with huge names in the horror industry.

5. **Phil Wilson** sent two scenes from the children's book he just completed, *Li'l Ben and a Day for Play*, written by Mary Ann Cogliano. The main scene is the opening spread of the book and the character piece is the inside title page spot of Li'l Ben, the pony. Both pieces are done with watercolor using airbrush.
6. Here's the program cover art Phil did for his 50th high school reunion this month.

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7. **John Blumen** recently finished this wraparound cover art for *Avalon Rising*, the third book in the Metal and Lace series by Kathryn Rose.
8. "Autumn Berries" is **Debby Giancola's** latest private commission.
9. **Amanda Zimmerman** has been breaking out the oil paint and brushing up on her costume and portrait studies.
10. **Bernadette Kazmarski's** Creative Cat Coloring Book is a 4.25"x5.5" spiral-bound booklet of 12 of her brush pen cat sketches printed on 120# card stock. A monthly Sampler Box program on her new website includes a matted print, another print, various cards and a new gift item exclusive to subscribers. A set of watercolor pencils was included with the book.
11. "Beauty at Phipps" and "My Hometown" are two more scented candles featuring **Linda Barnicott's** Pittsburgh theme paintings.
12. "Manticore Musing on A Mandrake" and "Legwarmers On A Llama" are from **Ilene Winn-Lederer's** *Alpha-BetaBestiary*, a new series of alphabet drawings based on the medieval bestiary model that includes beasts both real and imaginary. Alliterative texts for each of the letters accompany each image. Initially all 26 letters will be available as *giclee* prints at www.magicyegallery.com. These will eventually become a book with a section of commentary on the images.
13. "Merbaby" is a recent work in watercolors by **Rhonda Libbey**. Archival prints or the framed original are available in her [Etsy shop](http://etsy.com).