

From Observation to Imagination with John P. Lasater IV

You're invited to explore the possibilities with John P. Lasater IV, taking outdoor painting reference into your studio to make something even better using memory and imagination. Two days will be spent outdoors gathering reference, and the other two days in the studio starting a larger comprehensive painting.

John encourages and helps you to look beyond the beautiful qualities of a motif to determine its pictorial usefulness and imaginative potential, thereby adding new excitement to your painting experience. This in turn helps viewers of your work to sense additional thoughtfulness and sophistication.

A familiar name in the national plein air scene, John excels at design, sophisticated color mixing, paint application and edge-control. And now, with years of teaching under his belt, expect to be encouraged and challenged by his demonstrations and hands-on help. John has been influenced by many artists: directly through workshops with Israel Hershberg, C.W. Mundy, Carolyn Anderson and John Budicin, and indirectly through self-study of historical sources such as Charles Hawthorne, Giorgio Morandi, James Whistler, Edgar Degas, Andrew Wyeth, Corot, El Greco, Serusier, Piero Della Francesca, Francesco Di Giorgio Martini, Picasso and many others.

Workshop Objectives

1. Encourage you to see conceptual or design potential in outdoor motifs.
2. Teach you how to gather reference from outdoor painting.
3. Explore composition and design ideas using multiple references.
4. Tap into the power of our memory, and the visual ideas that come from it.
5. Demonstrate outdoor painting, and painting larger canvases indoors.
6. Expand your purposes beyond the basics of shape, color, value and edges, into more outlying principles and elements of design.
7. Develop your knowledge of wet-on-wet oil painting, and ways to use your tools.
8. Teach you more about the history of representational painting, and how you fit in its current manifestation in the United States.

Agenda

Day 1

Opening Lecture
Plein Air Demonstration
Plein Air Class Reference Gathering

Day 2

Plein Air Demonstration
Plein Air Reference Gathering
Discussion and Critique

Day 3

Homage to Great Representational Painters
Slide Lecture
Studio Demonstration
Studio Painting

Day 4

Studio Demonstration
Studio Painting
Final Critique

Here's what students of John have said about his workshops

"I felt that after you got to know our individual abilities, you really fine-tuned your comments for each of us. I also appreciated how open you were in answering questions...and your humor. Your workshop left me feeling prepared, motivated and inspired to continue my own practice. Thanks, again, for being so generous with your talent and knowledge."

—Jenny W, Arkansas

"You taught me something more than 'how to paint what I see' more effectively, although I did learn that. I came away from the workshop understanding more about creating art. Every person in the workshop produced work that seemed to reflect their own spirit and their own journey. It was a pretty special learning experience."

—Kathryn F, Missouri

"Watching John demonstrate is very inspiring. He is a master at mixing oil paint; beautiful brilliant colors vibrate out of rich, subtle shadows. His "touch" with the brush on the canvas is so gentle. You need to see it in person to really appreciate his style."

—Dolores B, Missouri

John's top recent awards

Best of Show 2017 and 2014 – Plein Air Southwest Salon

Third Place – 2017 Olmsted Plein Air Invitational

Best of Show – 2016 and 2014 Easels in Frederick Juried Invitational

Artists Choice & Collectors Choice – 2016 Maui Plein Air Invitational

Best of Show – 2015 Sedona Plein Air Invitational

First Place – 2015 Door County Plein Air Invitational

Still Life Excellence Award – 2015 Oil Painters of America National

First Place and Artists' Choice – 2015 Plein Air Rockies

Recent Articles by or about John

[Lori Putnam Blog - John's article about calling yourself an artist](#)

[Oil Painters of America Blog - John's article about the state of art in the 21st century](#)

[In The Artists Studio Blog - Interview about painting nocturnes](#)

[John Pototshnik Blog Interview](#)

[2015 Southwest Art Article](#)

[Parka Blogs - Art Tools Interview](#)

[Artists Helping Artists Radio Interview - about John's 24-hour events](#)

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