

# ARTIST NEWS

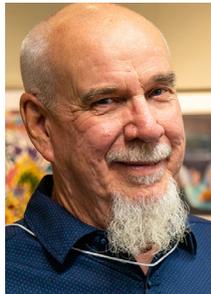
CONTEMPORARY WATERCOLORISTS OF ARIZONA

November 2018

## CWA Artist Highlight of the Month: Stan Kurth

### 1. How long have you been a member of the CWA?

I've been a CWA member for a little over ten years. I remember this because the very first motivation I painted that summer won Best of Show in the Fall CWA Exhibition at Fountain Hills in 2008. The juror was Betty Braig.



### 2. When did you begin painting?

I painted my first oil painting when I was four. It was May of 1954 when my aunt gave me a canvas, paints, brushes and lots of encouragement. My mother and her sister were very close. So, they spent lots of time together which meant I spent lots of time with my aunt and cousins. My aunt was an artist, instructor and my biggest source of encouragement for many years. In those days of my youth her studio was in her living room and whenever I walked in, the smell of damar varnish, linseed oil and turpentine hit my nostrils full force. I loved the smell and still do. But far exceeding those odiferous delights, I was enthralled by what she was doing on that canvas. I know for sure now it was during these days in my young life I knew what I wanted to do.



There have been many bumps in the road since then but I've endured.

### 3. What motivates you to keep painting?

I don't know the answer to that question for sure. I just know I have to. Maybe it's a compulsive need or perhaps a mixture of all the visual input and thoughts I've ever had, and the need to express the minutest fraction of them in a manner not spoken.

### 4. How would you describe your style?

My style has evolved. Undergraduate formal education most often requires one to paint and draw in a more

classical style which I continued for some time after. At this time in my journey, I'm an intuitive painter which means anything is possible but because I draw from the totality of my life experience, repetition in the application of design elements, design principles and certain archetypes may indicate a style that is Stan Kurth. I paint feel not real. I suppose if one needs a label, expressionist would suffice.



### 5. Who influenced your work the most?

There is no single influence, but rather a chronological flux of artists and movements from Mother Goose illustrators to the Bay Area Figurative painters and Neo Expressionists.

### 6. Do you listen to music when you paint?

Yes, here are two of my favorite groups and two of their albums.

Solar Fields: Movements

Solar Fields: BLUE

Carbon Based Life Forms: Hydroponic Garden

Carbon Based Life Forms: World of Sleepers

### 7. If you could invite any artist to dinner, who would it be and why?

Most of the deceased artists who I admired throughout my life I've studied and feel I know them to a certain degree and to imagine having dinner with any one of them is a fun thought, but after all it's just hypothetical. I enjoy socializing with my current artist friends. I do that as often as I can, not just dinners, but a variety of social gatherings including openings and other art related events. That being said, I wouldn't mind sitting with David Salle or Frank Stella and enjoying a good conversation and cigar. Both of these guys are alive and both are cigar smokers...

