

Laura D. Poss

## WATERCOLORS BY LAURA D. POSS

April 2018

Hello, Friends!

Once again, I have lagged too long in my newsletter mailings. My apologies, and we'll just say that I've been saving up, because I have a lot of good news and a lot of new artwork!

First, with the News:

2018 has been a wonderful year for me so far—I'm thrilled to share with you that I have received several honors recently! On January 5th I received notification that my painting, *Hurricane Kids*, (which won 5th Place Award last October in the Watercolor Society of North Carolina's 2017 Exhibition) was accepted into the American Watercolor Society (AWS) 151st International Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club in New York, NY. This is a huge accomplishment for me, and one that I have aspired to for several years. The AWS is one of the oldest and most prestigious watercolor exhibitions in the world. More than 1,200 artists from throughout the United States and 27 foreign countries submit their work to a panel of jurors, and from these submissions (one per artist), the exhibition paintings are selected. In early February, I shipped my painting to NYC, where the 150 works that are in the show were judged for awards. Soon afterwards, I was informed that I will receive an AWS Award! The awards ceremony will be in NYC on April 27, where I will be presented with the Margery Soroka Memorial Award. A limited amount of paintings in the New York exhibition have also been selected for the AWS Traveling Exhibition, which will tour museums and galleries across the country during the next year. *Hurricane Kids* is one of the paintings that will be part of the traveling exhibition, which will visit 6 venues in 5 states. Details for the New York Exhibition, as well as Travel Show dates and venues are listed under 'Events' in this newsletter.

If all that terrific news from the AWS wasn't enough, on March 7 I received notification that a new painting, *Rainy Day in Manhattan* was accepted into the Southern Watercolor Society (SWS) 41st Juried Exhibition in Bradenton, Florida! For a point of reference, the SWS's Annual Exhibition is not *as* big of a deal as the AWS, but it is still one of the most prestigious watercolor societies in the United States, and acceptance into their show is a huge honor! Their annual exhibition is open to members from 18 southern states and Washington DC. Awards for this show will be selected on May 14. Wish me luck!

# NEW WORKS

I've done a lot of painting over the past few months! There's a little bit of something for everyone. At the end of a busy year in 2017, I needed some time to rest, so I painted a series of "small paintings with big skies" in November and December. In January I branched back out; this year I've painted people on a dreary day in the city, a bunch of new birds, some landscapes from my trip to Alaska last summer, and even a big, bright ornamental cabbage! All of the paintings in this newsletter are to scale with each other so you can get a feel for which paintings are large and which are small. I'll start with the skies...



*Moon Over the Blue Ridge,*  
6 1/4 x 8 3/4"



*Moon Over the Blue Ridge Panoramic,* 4 3/4 x 17 1/4"



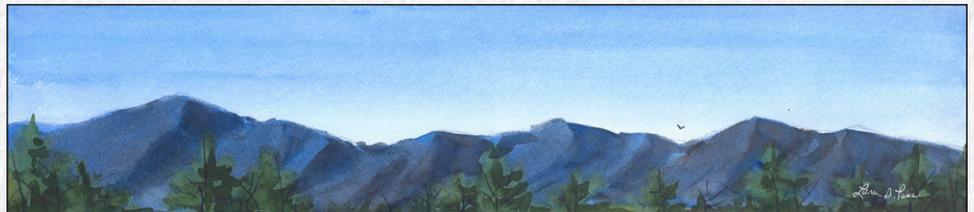
*Milky Way Reflections,* 7 1/4 x 10 3/4"



*Forest Under the Stars,* 5 1/2 x 10 3/4"



*Turquoise Sky,*  
6 1/4 x 10 1/4"



*Blue Sky, Blue Ridge,* 4 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches



*Rain on the Mountains,* 5 1/2 x 30"

## "Small Paintings with Big Skies":

Here are a few of my favorites! Click on any image to view more information and/or purchase.

One more big sky painting, but this one is sold!

If you're wishing you bought it, I'd like to remind you that I happily take commissions for custom work.



*Sunset over the Blue Ridge, 6 x 22"*

**Moving into January and February:** After painting so many relatively less-complex open-sky paintings, I was ready for another big challenge. I know that many of you started following my art for my landscapes and birds, but paintings like this force me to push myself to the limits of what I can do, which is very exciting. I call this painting, *Rainy Day in Manhattan*. I spent days planning almost every aspect of this painting—value, color, and technique—but a great thing about watercolors is their inherent spontaneity. Watercolor painting is all about timing and there will always be happy surprises (and unhappy surprises sometimes)!

An interesting tidbit- I was working on painting this Manhattan scene the moment I received my acceptance to the AWS Show in Manhattan! Coincidence? Yeah, probably... but a pretty cool one! I painted it using a reference photo when we had an overnight stay in the city.



*Rainy Day in Manhattan, 22 x 30 inches*

**Next, some birds:** I love birds and watch them daily. My office and studio are both in our big sunroom, and sometimes I have to close the blinds so I can concentrate on my work! Winter usually inspires me to paint my backyard birds, especially when it's snowing. The birds are so cute and puffed up in the cold and their colors stand out so beautifully against the white snow and bare trees in the background. This year we had several big snows in Greensboro.

These birds are all ready to find new homes! Links for prints and originals are beside the images.



*Carolina Chickadees*  
8 1/2 x 10 1/2"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*Downy Woodpecker*  
8 1/2 x 10 1/2"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*Tufted Titmouse*  
8 1/4 x 10 1/4"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*Eastern Bluebird*  
8 1/4 x 10 1/4"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*Ruby-crowned Kinglet*  
8 1/4 x 10 1/4"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*White-breasted Nuthatch*  
8 1/2 x 10 1/2"  
ORIGINAL PRINT



*Carolina Wren*  
8 1/4 x 10 1/4"  
ORIGINAL PRINT

**Two more bird paintings**, but these are clearly not winter-inspired. I just wanted to paint them!



*Barred Owl*  
8 1/2 x 10 1/2"  
ORIGINAL  
PRINT

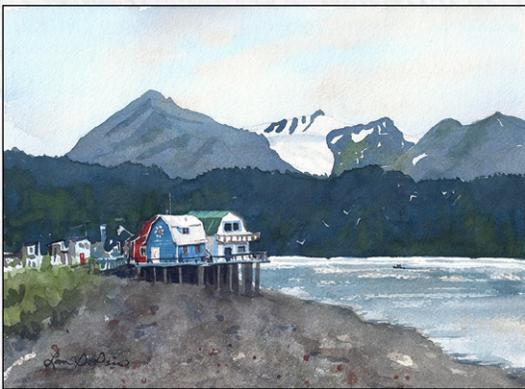


*Willetts*  
8 x 11 1/4"  
ORIGINAL  
PRINT

**Alaska:** Last August my husband, son, and I went on vacation and to visit my mother-in-law in Alaska with my husband's brother and sister and their spouses. It was a fabulous trip! I've been to Alaska three previous times, but the most recent was in 2006 and was before I started painting with watercolors or had a good camera. So far I've painted a handful of smaller pieces to kind of "warm up"; the Alaskan landscapes are much different than the ones here in the south! The painting seen below, with the colorful buildings, is from a little fishing town called Homer—my favorite place in Alaska. I think my next large piece will be from a similar vantage point.

As with all of the other painting images in this newsletter, these are to scale with each other and the other images in the issue, to help get a feel for which paintings are larger or smaller without having to read every measurement. I painted all of these in March.

Click any image to see larger pictures, information, and purchase some of my original Alaskan art!



*Homer Shops*, 8 1/4 x 11 1/4"



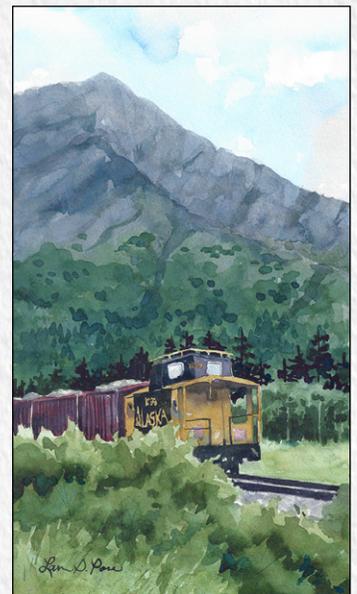
*Kachemak Bay Glaciers II* 5 1/2 x 30" (sold)



*Kachemak Bay Glaciers II*, 5 1/2 x 30"

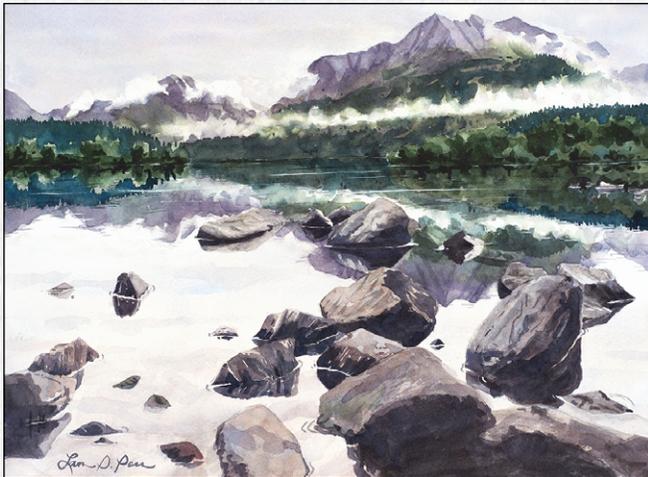


*Fishing in Resurrection Bay, Seward*, 8 1/2 x 30"



*Alaskan Railroad*, 12 3/4 x 7 1/2"

**Two more from Alaska:** The first painting I did from our trip to Alaska (not counting sketchbooks) was actually a fairly large painting of an ornamental cabbage. Why, you ask? It's not my usual type of subject, but it was so pretty with the dew in the sunshine and I just wanted to paint it! The painting below is from our last day, driving back to Anchorage from Seward



*Moose Pass*, 10 x 14 1/4 inches



*Cabbage*, 14 x 21"

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **American Watercolor Society (AWS) 151st International Exhibition**

Historic Salmagundi Club, Upper Gallery, 47 5th Avenue, New York, NY

April 9 – April 28 • Open Daily, 1 – 5 pm

Reception: April 10, 6 – 8 pm

Awards Ceremony: April 27

[www.salmagundi.org](http://www.salmagundi.org) • [www.americanwatercolorociety.org](http://www.americanwatercolorociety.org)

### AMERICAN WATERCOLOR SOCIETY TRAVEL EXHIBITION SCHEDULE:

(My painting has been accepted into the Travel Exhibition and will be on display on the following dates and locations.)

June 4 – June 30, 2018

Sacramento Fine Arts Center  
Carmichael, CA

September 7 – 30, 2018

Kerr Arts & Cultural Center  
Kerrville, TX

January 11 – February 17, 2019

Art Center Manatee  
Bradenton, FL

July 13 – August 25, 2018

California Center for the Arts, Escondido  
Escondido, CA

October 5 – November 4, 2018

South Arkansas Arts Center  
Eldorado, AR

March 1 – March 31, 2019

Tullahoma Fine Arts Center  
Tullahoma, TN

**Note-** Since I have been participating in Cary, NC's Spring Daze for several years, I wanted to point out that I will not be there this year. The date overlaps with the AWS Awards Ceremony on April 27, and I will be in New York. However, I hope to see all my Cary friends at Lazy Daze in August!

### **Southern Watercolor Society (SWS) 41st Juried Exhibition**

ArtCenter Manatee, 209 9th Street West, Bradenton, FL

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 19, 5 – 7 pm

Gallery Hours: Monday, Friday, Saturday, 9 am – 5 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 am – 6 pm • Closed Sundays

[www.southernwatercolorsociety.org](http://www.southernwatercolorsociety.org)

### **46th Annual Village Art & Craft Fair, Biltmore Village, Asheville NC**

Saturday, August 4th & Sunday, August 5th, 2018

Saturday: 10am – 7 pm • Sunday: noon – 5 pm

The 46th annual Village Art and Craft Fair continues a long tradition of bringing high quality crafts to Biltmore Village. This outdoor art festival is on the grounds of the Cathedral of All Souls in Biltmore Village, 9 Swan Street, Asheville, NC. The fair features 114 artists from 16 states, with full spectrum of craft media available to purchase in all price ranges - jewelry, ceramic, wood, fiber, metals, two-dimensional art and more.

### **42nd Annual Lazy Daze Arts & Crafts Festival**

Cary's Town Hall Campus, 316 N Academy Street, Cary, NC

Saturday, August 25th • 9 am – 6 pm

Sunday, August 26th • 12:30 – 5 pm

The last lazy days of summer beckon us as we celebrate the coming of fall by joining our friends and neighbors in a celebration of art, music and food! Proceeds are used to produce the annual arts festival and are distributed back to local non-profit arts organizations as part of the Lazy Daze Grant Program.

### **The Valle Country Fair, Valle Crucis, NC**

Saturday, October 20, 2018 • 9 am – 4 pm

NC 194 across from Holy Cross Church (122 Skiles Way, Banner Elk, NC)

Set in the center of one of the most picturesque valleys in the North Carolina mountains at the peak of the fall color season, The Valle Crucis Country Fair has 135 juried artists, homemade jams and jellies, apple cider, homemade foods to eat such as brunswick stew and barbecue and chilis and mountain music. All monies raised go to fund High Country organizations which serve people in need. There is a \$5 parking fee for each car.

\*These shows are the ones that I have already applied for and been accepted to this year.  
I will probably be adding more for the fall.

Find me on  
**Etsy**

If you haven't heard of Etsy before, let me introduce you now. Etsy is an online marketplace for handmade and vintage goods. I've had a shop on Etsy since 2010, and you can find it at [etsy.com/shop/lauraposs](https://etsy.com/shop/lauraposs). Many of the links for my artwork in this newsletter will take you to items for sale in my Etsy shop. I don't usually list larger paintings or prints on Etsy, so if you are ever shopping for something more than 11 x 12 inches or so, please contact me at [laura@lauraposs.com](mailto:laura@lauraposs.com). As always, you can view many more of my watercolors at [lauraposs.com](https://lauraposs.com).

And just to thank you for subscribing to my mailing list—please use coupon code SPRING to save 10% off of your order until May 15 (which is also just in time for Mother's Day)!

So this has been a long issue! I hope that's been an enjoyable one for you. Please remember not to hesitate to contact me anytime. My home is open to you if you would like to view or discuss any of my work in person, and I'm always happy to hear from you by email, [laura@lauraposs.com](mailto:laura@lauraposs.com) or by phone, (336)239-9061.

Best wishes for a happy spring!

*Laura*