



Sandra Carpenter

For the last four years, **Sandra Carpenter** has served as the editor of *The Artist's Magazine*. With a circulation of a quarter of a million readers, the magazine is the world's largest fine-art publication.

Carpenter has also served as the editor of two other art magazines at F&W Publications...*Watercolor Magic* and *Decorative Artist's Workbook*. She has just completed a new magazine called *Artist's Sketchbook*.

With her knowledge of the art field, Carpenter has served as a juror and speaker for art associations around the U.S., including a diverse range from the United Pastelists of America/Oil Pastel Association, the Colored Pencil Society of America, the Amarillo Fine Arts Association, the Florida

Watercolor Society and more. In addition to her duties, she is also the vice president of the National Acrylic Painters Association.

Although she has degrees in English Literature and Journalism, Carpenter considers herself a "perpetual" student of art as she regularly takes painting, drawing and art history classes at both the regional and national levels.

Judge's Statement

Judging the Miniature Art Society of Florida's show was a wonderful experience due to the many exceptional pieces of art in the exhibition. In fact, there were so many good pieces of art that co-juror Kathleen Cook and I quickly discovered that we had quite a job ahead of us. Luckily, we were in accord as to what makes up a winning piece of art: technical proficiency in terms of design and perspective, a general command and proficiency in the artist's use of their chosen medium, a well-balanced composition, good use of value and color, and fresh ideas. Combined with all of this, the top award winners took all this one step further and also elicited some sort of emotional response from us.

Kathleen Cook, PSA of Kerrville, Texas, is an elected signature member of the *Pastel Society of America* in New York, NY and has been a professional artist of the past 31 years.

Kathleen considers her work to be contemporary realism with an emphasis on the figure and the still-life. A painter of light and color, Kathleen explores many themes from humorous storytelling to deeper inquiries into human yearning. After receiving a BFA degree from Texas Tech University, her professional art career includes 14 years as a fashion illustrator and advertising art director and since 1981 she has been a full-time painter. Her work has been featured in *American Artist* and *Southwest Art* magazines and has won numerous awards in national competitions. As Grand Prize winner of the recent *Pastel Artist International* magazine's worldwide competition, Kathleen's pastel painting, *In The Studio*, will be featured on the cover of the November 2000 issue.



Kathleen Cook

Judge's Statement

What an enjoyable and challenging experience! From over 860 exceptional finalists, it was our difficult task to select those most extraordinary ones to receive the awards. We were very excited by the high quality of the entries and completely amazed by the incredible skill and attention to detail that working "in the little" requires.

I am grateful to have had Sandra Carpenter as my co-juror as we examined, discussed and considered the artistic and technical merits of each and every entry. Though our professional lives are different, we used the same criteria necessary to evaluate any work of art, regardless of its size. We first looked for competency in the basic art fundamentals and skill with media. Next we sought examples of originality and creative ideas. Finally, the award winners became those filled with that magic quality of artistic passion. Those that beckoned us to squint into their little world and to become lost inside it.

Entering competitions is both an exciting and a terrifying experience, because we are opening ourselves and our abilities to the critical judgement of others. But, entering competitions can also bring out the best in each of us. Probably more important than the awards or the honor of being selected, the juried show provides us with a unique opportunity to compare our works with others, to enjoy what our peers are doing, and above all, to be challenged to study, grow and improve.

To all who entered the MASF 2001 *Competition*, you have my sincere appreciation and applause.

Miniature Palette Awards

The Miniature Palette Award was established by MASF to honor a person who has made a significant contribution to the Society's program and goals in an activity other than the creation of art itself.

In honoring **Susan Palmer** with the Miniature Palette Award in 2001, she is recognized for her participation in the important area of editing and publishing. Receiving high praise from the co-editor of the *Catalogue of the Miniature Collection*, Susan rendered invaluable editing and proofing expertise which enhanced the quality of the *Catalogue*.

Susan also played a major role in editing and publishing the *Miniature Artists of America* brochure and catalogue which accompanied the *Traveling Exhibit* to Australia in the summer of 2000.

Her crowning achievement was her editorship of the beautiful *Silver Anniversary Show Catalogue* for the 25th Anniversary Show in January, 2000.