

The Miniaturist



SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

*The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers
Society of Washington, D.C.*

www.mpsgs.org

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The Vice President and Secretary positions are vacant. Volunteers are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear MPSGS members,

We continue to advance our annual show process, going forward with electronic documents. Last year, we used an electronic entry form, and the prospectus is available online. We believe these online documents make it easier for most of you, and it saves paper and postage. Also showing images of artworks online gives our buyers a sneak peek prior to the show opening, so they come ready to buy with their lists in hand! We had several online purchases, so this is a great addition to our show.

We hope that many of you will consider volunteering for MPSGS tasks this year, as Covid continues to subside. There are tasks that can be done at home, as well as show preparations beginning in August. I look forward to meeting new members and seeing many of our long-time members in September. Thank you for being a member of MPSGS!

Kind regards,
Nancy Still
President, MPSGS

*Please note that Nancy Still's email has changed to:
miniartsupply@gmail.com*

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest
members to MPSGS!



Allan, Paul
Arons, Amy
Atkinson, Sandi
Ayres, Richard
Branham, Sid
Dehejia, Mak
Dobrovolski, Kristi
Fiedler, Luc
Hathaway, Mary
Lehman, Margo

Lotfi, Kyle
Martin, Emma Lou
Moneymaker, Jon
Park, Rieta
Senall, Joanne
Syrova, Ludmila
Thola, Nadine
Thuermer, Karen
Yarbough, James

Welcome!
We look forward to meeting you and
seeing your beautiful artwork.



UPCOMING MINIATURE SHOWS

2022 The Hilliard Society of Miniaturists

Entries due - Monday 28th March to Friday 8th April 2022. Exhibition opens to the Public (to be confirmed) Friday 10th June or Saturday 11th June, 2022.

www.hilliardsociety.org

The 17th Annual Heartland Art Guild International Miniature Paintings & Sculptures Art Show, Paola, KS. Dates are June 27 - July 29, 2022.

June 20th is the deadline for shipped art to arrive. For more information call or email Jean Cook @ 785-521-0449 (cookijean@gmail.com) or Patsy Bortner @ 913-244-4587 (patsybortner@suddenlink.net)

2023 Miniature Art Society of Texas . June Holloway reports that they are still trying to find a venue for the first "Miniature Art Society of Texas" show in 2023. She met with some of the artists and patrons at the Florida show and they were very supportive and promised to support their efforts. If you want to contact June about upcoming possibilities in Texas, her email is

junerholloway@gmail.com

ASMA Australian Society of Miniature Art Exhibition: June 17-July 3, 2022. Ewart Gallery, 33 Laurel Street, Willoughby, Australia. More information at: www.asmansw.com

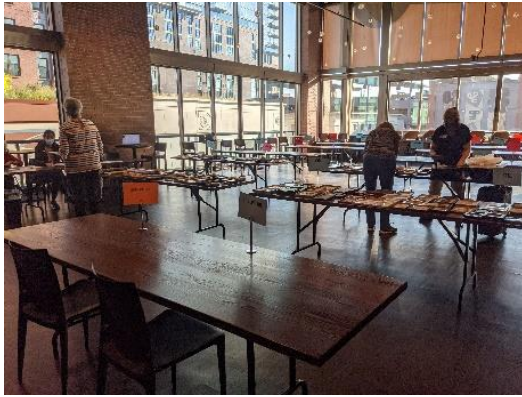
Seaside Art Gallery 31st International Miniature Show: April 30-May 28, 2022. Seaside Art Gallery. 2716 Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC. Deadline for receipt of art is April 22, 2022. More information at www.seasideart.com

Parklane Gallery 30th Annual Miniature Show: July 5 – 31st, 2022. Deadline for entry is May 5, 2022. <https://parklanegallery.org/miniature-show-prospectus/>



The Miniaturist

2021 Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature Behind the Scenes



*September 2021
Setting up for receiving the
works.*



Organizing all the entries



*Making sure each piece meets the
entry requirements.*



Sorting by medium



The Miniaturist

2021 Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature Behind the Scenes



Hundreds of entries – and many hours of preparation



Ready for the opening reception!



The Miniaturist

2021 Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature **Exhibition - Nov. 21, 2021, through Jan. 8, 2022**

**Exhibit Venue:
The Mansion at Strathmore**

Below are some show statistics we'd like to share with you, a reflection of the diversity and talent of our organization.

- almost \$9,000 in awards
- 714 artworks in exhibit
- 23% of works sold (exact same percentage as last year)
- average price of art was \$309
- exhibiting artists from 9 countries
- 21 new artists entered



The Mansion at Strathmore



The Miniaturist

A Virtual class on July 20, 2021

In July, 2021, **Nancy Van Meter**, a member of MPSGS, gave an interesting and informative Zoom presentation on the art of miniature painting. The presentation was sponsored by the Labs at the DC Public Library, located at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. Nancy Van Meter's talk on miniature painting is now available in its entirety on YouTube: <https://youtube/Kowuk3c8D9o>

Miniature paintings, usually portraits of people, were popular before photography as an expression of love and were a means to hold loved ones near and dear. Nowadays, miniatures are adapted to all themes – animals, landscapes, still-lives. Smaller works have become more popular in recent years, especially for those whose living spaces have grown smaller. Nancy showed us how she showcases her miniature collection within a picture frame (see below).

Nancy is a 2013 graduate of the acclaimed Schuler School of Fine Arts where students learn multiple disciplines in techniques of classical realism. Nancy presently works as a full-time professional artist and art teacher. She works on animal portraits, landscapes and sculpture.



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MPSGS Member News



The Shoemaker's Dream

Eileen Bass: Eileen's painting "The Shoemaker's Dream' (A tribute to Abbo Hall) won first place in transparent watercolour at the MASF Show earlier this year.

Joy Kroeger Beckner: My 1:6 Scale bronzes, "Cozy" Smooth, "Sunnyside Up" Long, and "Life's a Ball" Long, together, earned the Bank of the West Award in the 2021 Annual International Juried Art Exhibition and Competition, Red River Valley Museum, Vernon, TX. "Cozy" Smooth, 1:6 Scale, earned Honorable Mention, 93rd Grand National Exhibition, American Artists Professional League, NYC. I love it when my miniatures earn awards in shows for "normal" sized works!



"Cozy" Smooth, "Sunnyside Up" and "Life's a Ball"



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MPSGS Member News

Celyne Brassard: I will be showing three paintings (Home Delivery, Mom Where Are You, Winter Meditation) at The 30th Annual Invitation Miniature Art Exhibition The Art of The Miniature XXX, taking place at The Snow Goose Gallery, from May 1 – June 12, 2022. Also, I will be showing one painting (Yuck a worm) at *The Animals of North America* by the Society of Animal Artists, taking place at The Customs House Museum & Cultural Center in Clarksville, TN from May 3 – June 26, 2022.



Home Delivery



*Mom, where
are you?*



*Winter
Meditation*



Yuck, a worm

Congratulations to Karl Brenders!

Karl celebrated his 100th birthday last year! Karl is an Emeritus member of MPSGS and is well-known throughout Europe. His wife Odette says that they also celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with their family in Belgium. In May they will have another ‘Retro-Expo’ of Karl’s work and expect a lot of visitors at the open-air exhibition. Karl and Odette sent a note saying: *“We wish you and all your new initiatives best of luck.”*



To Karl and Odette: Congratulations - you are an inspiration to us all!



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MPSGS Member News

Katherine Santucci Cimaglio: After some extended time off due to a hand injury I am finally back to my studio. I have been working with our local arts council, Berkeley Arts Council, Berkeley County, Martinsburg, WV, to create a venue, show opportunity for Miniature Painters and Artists in this area of the Eastern Panhandle of WV. There is a growing interest and because we are close to Washington, DC, Northern Virginia, and Baltimore, MD, we are realizing a growing interest in the Arts overall as an increasing number of artists and artisans are moving to this area. I am also planning on starting miniature art painting classes in the near future with the idea of introducing even more artists to this art form.



Mabel



Bird Bottle



Pals

Melinda Fabian: Paper Sculpture Illustrator. I'm working on two new miniature 3D paper sculptures – a bunny in a basket and a hen with lots of baby chicks. You can follow along with my work in progress on my Instagram page @melinda_fabian_illustrator



Bunny in a Basket

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MPSGS Member News

Jeanie Gordon: I was awarded Best in Oils for "Grandpa's Paints" at the Cider Painters of America in November. I also won second place in interior/still life for "Just a Lil Pitcher" at MASF in January.



Second Place in Interior or Still Life
Jeanie Gordon

Just A Lil Pitcher
2" x 1 1/2"



BEST IN OIL MEDIA AWARD
Jeanie Gordon

"Grandpa's Paints"
2 1/4 x 2 1/2"

Harold E. Hansen: has been included in a 464-page book titled A CREATIVE PLACE - THE HISTORY OF WISCONSIN ART. Hansen is mentioned as a stone lithographer as well as a watercolor artist. The book covers 13,000 years of art in Wisconsin, and was co-authored by Thomas D. Lidke and Annemarie Sawkins, published by the Cedarburg Art Museum.

Gini Harris: I was elected as a Signature member of Miniature Artists of America (MAA). I received several awards this past year, 2nd place for landscape at MPSGS for my painting "Medley of Green" and 1st place for oil at Miniature Art Society of South Africa (MASSA), for my painting "Green Peace". I also won 1st place in the Marine category at MASF, this one is called "After the Catch".

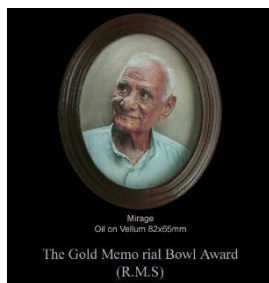


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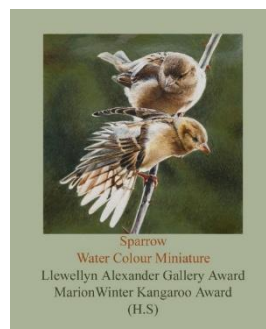
Ihtesham Hasan: The past two years have been really challenging for the whole wide world. In these crucial times it was really hard to keep pace with the things happening. It was quite a successful time for me. I continued my work in seclusion and participated in different exhibitions. My work was selected for display in all the exhibitions. My five miniatures were selected for display by the Royal Society of Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers. Three of my works were displayed at The Hilliard Society of Miniatures. I have received an award as well for one of my paintings called, “Hamda and Diana”.



Tent-Pegging Water Colour on Vellum
63x100mm
The Marion Winter Joey Award
(R.M.S)



Mirage
Oil on Vellum 62x65mm
The Gold Memorial Bowl Award
(R.M.S)



Sparrow
Water Colour Miniature
Llewellyn Alexander Gallery Award
Marion Winter Kangaroo Award
(H.S)

June Holloway: I was very surprised and happy that all three of my paintings sold at last year's MPSGS show. I am painting like crazy for next year.

Luann Houser: In 2021 Luann was awarded the Gold Memorial Award for “Parasol and Lace”, and the Anita Emmerich Award for “Pawnee Warrior” at the Royal Miniature Society of Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society. As an additional highlight to her list of awards, she was elected this year to an Associate membership in this prestigious organization. In the 2022 MASF exhibition, Luann was awarded the First Place in Human Figure for “Her Confidante” <https://luannhouser.com/wp/>



Parasol and Lace



Pawnee Warrior



Her Confidante

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MPSGS Member News

Debra Keirce: My biggest commission of my lifetime, 11 original paintings for the Langham Hotel in Boston, MA is ongoing. 3 are miniatures.

<https://www.debkart.com/blog/166091/my-story-of-my-langham-hotel-boston-commission>

I taught a workshop in West Jefferson, NC at the Florence Thomas Art School Sept 2 to 5, 2021. I reference ways for people to paint in miniature throughout my workshops, and this one in particular lent itself well to those discussions, as we were painting details.

I was also part of a show entitled "Women. Artists. Masters.: The Big and Small of It" through March 12th at the Mansion at Strathmore.



Campanello



Mani Pedi



Four Mile Run

Stephanie Kozemchak: I received "Best in Watercolor Award" at the 2021 Cider Painters of America Miniature Exhibit for my "Four Mile Run".



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MPSGS Member News

Judith T. Krauthamer: During the pandemic I spent my time in essentially one of two places: the woods or the studio. Immersing myself in nature over two years influenced the content of my paintings. Trees, marshes, and flowers became the focus of the content I tried to capture. Spending even more time in the shop with my oil-based ink pens, I began to experiment with a new medium: alcohol-based inks, applied with paint brushes. Expanding my horizons in this way has been the highlight of 2020 and 2021. I recently purchased a mat cutter, so I am also experimenting with designing even smaller pieces! Attached are three of my more recent paintings, all roughly 3.25 inches by 2.75 inches, made with both oil and alcohol-based inks.



Margo Lehman: Two of my miniatures, “Moonlight in the Beech Forest” and “Golden Hour Provence”, were juried into the Gallery North Annual Small works exhibition in Edmonds, WA.



*Moonlight in the
Beech Forest*



Golden Hour Provence



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MPSGS Member News

Cathleen Martinetto: I entered the MPSGS show and happily, all 3 submissions were accepted. I also entered the MASF show and was pleased to get notice that all 5 submissions were juried in. Sales were wonderful at the Seaside Art Gallery show. Two of my three entries went home with happy buyers. So, it's farewell to "Tiger Love" and "The Sea Is Calling," both prior award winners have gone to new homes!

The highlight of my art news arrived with notice from Cider Painters of America. I was thrilled to receive the "Judges Award" for Excellence in Painting for "The Ballerina."



Ballerina



Tiger Love



The Sea is Calling



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MPSGS Member News

Judy Lalingo: I've been busy trying to keep my miniature painting inventory up, as well as working on larger oils, but at the end of the year, I only had enough work for 4 miniature shows in all, as several sold before I could submit them to any shows. It's a really nice problem to have! Two of my paintings won awards; an honorable mention in the MPSGS show and 2nd place in Acrylics at the MASF show.

Speaking of the MASF exhibition, I was also one of several artists who helped with the "mock show" for MASF, as it was their first time to launch the entire exhibition online. It certainly gave me an added appreciation for all the work that goes on behind the scenes to launch a website show. So a big thank you to both MASF & MPSGS!

And finally, I was most honoured to be selected as the Artist in Focus for the International Community of Miniature Art. This beautiful website is dedicated to the world of miniature art and has been created and maintained by Marion Winter. My story can be found here: <https://internationalcommunityofminiatureart.com.au/judy-lalingo/>



Joy of Assateague

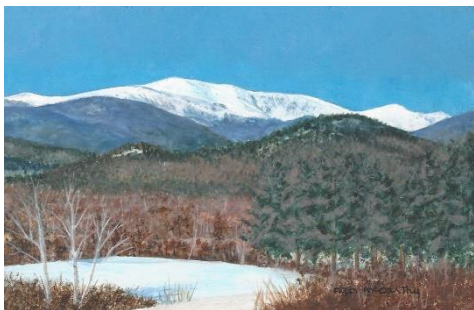


Assateague Magic



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MPSGS Member News



Mount Washington from Conway

Nan McCarthy: 2021 was a good year for me. I had a record number of commissions, several of which were for miniature paintings, and my paintings sold well at the shows I participated in, all of which featured miniature work. In the spring my work was in the miniature show at Seaside Art Gallery, Nags Head, NC, a show I have done for many years. In the fall, I again exhibited paintings at the Chambersburg, PA, Council for the Arts Annual Miniature Show. In addition to the MPSGS show, I ended the year with the 2021 Winter Show of Miniatures and Small Works at the Parklane Gallery, Kirkland, WA, where one of my small works won the Curator's Award.

Jeanne Mitchell: This project helped fill some downtime during these Covid times and let me share my art while also benefiting a good cause. I've always been an artist of miniature works and years ago marketed wild bird design handpainted glass ornaments to specialty bird stores and also painted ornaments of many subjects on commission. But I still support animal and bird groups and this year, I donated a dozen animal themed ornaments to the Virginia Wildlife Center. With time on my hands, paints at the ready and inspiration flowing, I painted a few ornaments for their annual fall fundraiser auction. The center is located in Waynesboro, VA and provides medical care and treatment for injured wildlife including bears, deer, birds, turtles, foxes and other critters brought to them. I followed the auction bidding online and was pleased to see it raised \$450 from my ornaments with one bear cub ornament going for \$250! I hope to be able to send more this year.



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MPSGS Member News

Linda Rossin had a very busy 2021 with miniature commissions filling each month from February to December. Despite this time devoted to her customers, she managed to submit a variety of works to 11 miniature shows and received the following awards: 2nd Place for Landscapes “*Autumn in the Barrens*” and 3rd Place for Animals “*Golden Boy*,” both from Miniatures in Mariposa; 1st Place for Animals “*No Way*,” Seaside Art Gallery; Honorable Mention for “*Bright Eyes*,” Heartland Art Guild; Merit Award to “*I Love You Man*,” Mountainside Art Guild; CPA Americana Award for “*Flying High*,” MPSGS; Honorable Mention to “*Swing King*,” Chambersburg Council for the Arts; Best of Acrylics to “*Autumn in the Barrens*,” Cider Painters of America; 2nd Place to “*Golden Boy*,” Parklane Gallery; 1st Place for Still Life “*Odd Man Out*,” MASF; and lastly 1st Place to “*I Love You Man*,” MonDak Heritage Center. Yes, it was quite a busy and rewarding year for Linda!



Blackberry Season

Claire Russell: To develop the techniques of verre eglomise still further I have been experimenting with coloured leaf. Using a mixed background of moon gold and Egyptian gold then drawing the Robin and 3mm blackberries. Adding tiny mosaic pieces of vibrant heat-treated leaf to create a more 3-dimensional effect. This is the first in a new series of miniatures I intend to produce this year.

The Miniaturist

MPSGS Member News

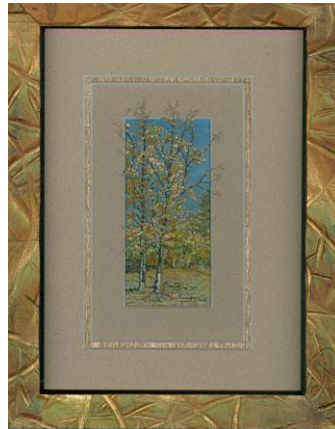
Linda Sepelak: Linda's move to Florida interrupted her painting but she is so glad to be where it's warm and sunny with the occasional rain. NO SNOW OR FREEZING TEMPERATURES! This year I plan to get back involved with not only MPSGS, but all the other shows as well. The list could be long, but since I am now on fixed income, I will probably limit it to MPSGS, Florida Miniature Society, Cider Painters and Creed shows. Gotta save some money for the other fun stuff, charities, landscaping and gas for the motorcycle. (!!)

Mary Serfass: One of my works, *October Blue*, was recently awarded First Place in Mixed Media at the Miniature Art Society of Florida's exhibition in Dunedin.

Also, last fall, another piece, *In the Gloaming*, was awarded Best of Show at the Australian Miniature Arts Society, Tasmania.



In the Gloaming



October Blue



The Miniaturist

MPSGS Member News

Paula Smith: I won a Jurors Award at the 36th Cider Painters International Exhibit of Miniature Art held at Mainstreet Galleries in Kingston, PA. Jim Rogowski and the Cider Painters Committee in conjunction with the Mainstreet Art Gallery put together a wonderful opening reception. Just FYI I started showing with MPSGS in the 80's and have been with you on and off for quite some time!

Christian Rzycki: Won the Prestigious Art Award "HERMES" 2021 at the Italian Academy of Art in the World. He won the BEST OF SHOW Award at the Cider Painters of America exhibition and was a Member of the International Jury for the Prestigious Art Competition and Exhibition "TORSO-INDIA" at the City Art Factory in India.

He also won the People's Choice at the Seaside Gallery show. He took First Place in Opaque Watercolor at the MASF show in Florida. He also won the First People's Choice in "L'art d'ici et d'ailleurs" at Huy, Belgium. In addition to these shows, Christian participated in shows in Paris, France, Lecce, Italy, the MPSGS exhibit in Washington, DC, and the Snow Goose Gallery in the USA.



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MPSGS Member News

Marion Winter: Marion won the Gold Medal, (Still Life, Floral & Abstract), ASMA TAS, for “Eve of Destruction” and Honorable Mention, Parklane Fine Art Gallery, Kirkland WA, for “Calm Afternoon”. She also won CPA Landscape Award, The Cider Painters of America, for “Waltzing Mathilda Waterhole” and 2nd (Landscape), MASF 2022, for “Forest Mood”.



Forest Mood



Eve of Destruction



Calm Afternoon



*Waltzing Mathilda
Waterhole*

Yvonne Wright: 2021 was a very rewarding artistically and creatively year for me. I participated in several miniature art exhibitions, so I feel truly blessed. In addition to winning First Place in Acrylic category for my painting “Destiny,” awarded by the MPSGS in October, I also won First Place in Portraiture for my



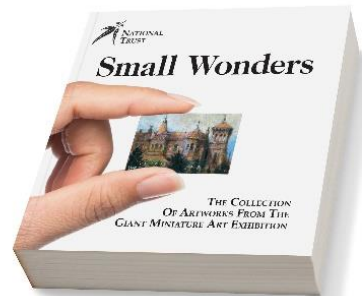
Oliver

painting “Oliver” (acrylic on board), awarded by the Miniature Art Society of Florida in November. I also participated in the 30th International Miniature Art Show, held at the Seaside Art Gallery in Nags Head, NC, and the 29th Annual Invitational Miniature Art Exhibition (The Art of Miniature XXIX), held at the Snow Goose Gallery in Bethlehem, PA.



Looking for inspiration?

Here is a note from Wayne Degenhardt, the Director of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). Just released, a limited-edition book **Small Wonders - The Collection of Artwork from the Giant Miniature Art Exhibition.**



Over 300 miniature artworks by 85 artists from around the world have been captured in this delightfully compact 320 page limited edition book. Reproduced at their actual size in full colour, each page is dedicated to the display of an artwork from the Giant Miniature Art Exhibition held at the historic Como House in Melbourne during 2021/2022. All works are faithfully reproduced in full colour at their actual size of 25mm x 38mm (in either portrait or landscape format).

The book can be purchased for AU\$14.95 per copy from the National Trust online shop at:

<https://shop.nationaltrust.org.au/collections/books/products/small-wonders-the-collection-of-artwork-from-the-giant-miniature-art-exhibition> .

Alternatively, you can purchase books by sending an email request to miniature_exhibit@marketwise.com.au . They will then be contacted directly to complete the transaction using the National Trust EFTPOS system. Books ship same day. Prices include postage and handling and start at AU\$24.90. **NOTE: Favourable prices for overseas orders available on request.**



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The following is an excerpt from an article written by Nora McGreevy for Smithsonian Magazine in December 2021. Read in Smithsonian

Magazine: https://apple.news/A1MI_sqGRRE-rbpsrMq29Cw

“Miniature by Sarah Biffin, 19th-Century Artist Born With No Arms or Legs, The painter forged a remarkable career as a disabled woman artist in 19th-century London”

Born to a poor family in Somerset, England, in 1784 with no arms or legs, celebrated 19th-century miniaturist Sarah Biffin forged a successful artistic career in a society that often ostracized both women and people with disabilities. At 10 years old, Biffin taught herself to draw, paint, make dresses and sew using her mouth, teeth and shoulders. She studied at the Royal Academy of Arts, painting high-profile commissions for King George III, Prince Albert, George IV and the Duke and Duchess of Kent, completing a portrait of Queen Victoria in 1848.

A small study of feathers has sold at auction for \$12,023/£9,000 according to Sworders Auction House. The 4x5 watercolor dates to 1812 and bears a signature in ink: “Drawn by Miss Biffin, 6th August 1812.” In 2019, a self-portrait sold for \$183,726 at Sotheby’s, reported Laura Chesters for Antiques Trade Gazette.



Sarah Biffin self portrait.
Public Domain via the Wellcome Collection



Sarah Biffin, Study of feathers, 1812.
Courtesy of Sworders Auctioneers

In Memoriam

Sadly, MPSGS lost some of our members over the past year. They had all contributed so much to the organization over the years and will be missed.

- Gail Hayton died 9/18/21.
- Connie Boland died 11/3/21.
- Linda Wacaster died 11/4/21.
- Helen Higgins died 12/22/21.
- Robert H. Menzel died 1/18/22.

