



LAGUNA PLEIN AIR PAINTERS ASSOCIATION

LPAPA Plein Talk Q&As with Pamela Panattoni November 2018 Artist Member of the Month

What is your #1 tip or advice for the beginning plein air painter?

It is so valuable to learn from other artists through demos, workshops and critiques, but don't lose sight of the value of your own voice and experience. That's where you will find your passion.

If you could only have 5 colors on your palette, what would they be?

Ultramarine Blue, Cadmium Red Medium, Cadmium Lemon Yellow, Veridian and Titanium White.

Why do you choose to paint in the wild plein air rather than in the controlled environment of the studio?

The whole experience of being outside is exhilarating in itself. Add in the creative act of painting what I am actually looking at and it becomes challenging and satisfying endeavor, even if the painting is not that successful. It is a meditative process that astonishes me with its power to help me see the world more intensely.

What was your most hair-raising extreme plein air painting experience?

My "hair raising" experience was really the result of my overactive imagination. In October 2017 I was participating in the Point Buchon Paint Out on the Central Coast, which took place on a fairly remote coastal preserve. There were many signs warning of rattlesnakes. Yikes! I was overwhelmed with the fear of being bitten while engrossed in painting. I had no cell phone coverage on the preserve and could see myself dying in place. I bought some snake gators (plastic covers for the lower legs used by hunters) and was able to happily paint without further worry.

Living or not, which artists have had the most impact on your artistic journey?

Ken Auster has had a tremendous impact on my creative journey. My first plein air workshop was with Ken in 1997. It was so transformative, informative and inspiring, and I go back to his ideas on a regular basis.

Any closing comments or advice you'd like to share?

How lucky we are as plein air painters to participate in a creative pursuit that expands the whole of our existence. It can feed us intellectually, physically, spiritually and emotionally. We can continually learn, experiment, explore new painting locations, meet new people and foster our passion for life through our efforts.