



LAGUNA PLEIN AIR PAINTERS ASSOCIATION

LPAPA Plein Talk Interview with Kathleen Lanzoni 2021 August Artist Member of the Month

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

Trust your instincts when it comes to subject matter. Choose what you like to paint! Paint and draw as often as possible. No matter whether the results are good or not, we learn and improve every time we paint and draw.

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

New Gamboge, Permanent rose, Cerulean Blue, French Ultramarine Blue, Burnt Sienna

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

Painting plein air is a joy; Being out in nature is my happy place! I do also enjoy the challenges and excitement of finding a great subject to paint.

Seeing real life scenes, be it a field or an urban scene, offers so much inspiration. I could never make up all the unique shape relationships, colors, lighting, and subjects that is seen when we are painting from life. It allows us to be absorbed in a moment of time with nature and weather.

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

Plein Air painting is not for the faint of heart!

I have had birds land on my easel, been stared down by elk, and had ducks walk across my board and palette. But weather is almost always the toughest element to deal with: wind, rain and snow. When we were at the large group paint out with the plein air convention in Santa Fe the wind and sand were howling! I had to sit on the ground with rocks holding down the palette. And looking around, many artists were so involved in their paintings that artist's did not leave! A hardy bunch!

It wasn't hair raising but quite heartwarming!

While painting in the shadows at a lake in Rocky Mountain National Park, a couple came around the corner of the rocks. I could not hear what was said but it was obvious what was happening when The gentleman kneeled down on one knee and the woman began to cry; he proposed to the woman! It was a wonderful unforgettable moment!

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

Charles Reid, John Singer Sargent, N. C. Wyeth, just to name a few

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

Enjoy the process as well as the results.