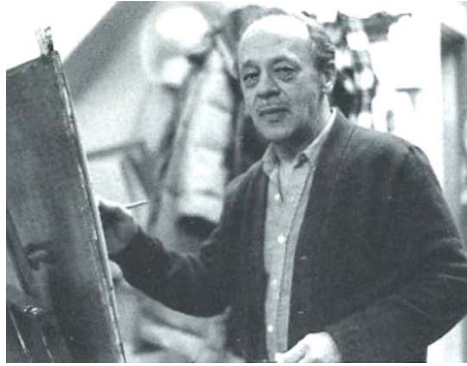


Artist Biography:



Zygmund Jankowski (American, 1925-December 31, 2009)

Zygmund Jankowski or “Zyg” as he was known was born in 1925 in South Bend, Indiana. While most of his family had little interest in art and aesthetics, his uncle fostered his artistic talent. Zyg expressed his passion for the arts during his time in the Navy and following his release from duty enrolled at the California College of Arts and Crafts.

At the time, California was particularly known for its watercolorists. At the California College of Arts and Crafts Zyg studied with Victor Dewilde, Otis Oldfield and George Post, taking a particular interest in Post’s simple and restrained working style.

Zyg used his art training to found a commercial art studio in South Bend, Indiana applying his talents commercially by, for example, painting highlights on engine screws, while creating his more serious, personal artworks at night. He also taught art studio classes at local universities, art associations and later in his life privately in his own studio. Teaching became a true lifelong passion. Some of the institutions which benefited from his teaching include Indiana University, South Western Michigan College, the Hilton Leech School of Art, the Bremen Art Center, the Niles Art Center, the South Bend Art Association and the Rockport Art Association.

In 1964 Zyg started summering in Rocky Neck, MA and opened a gallery there for the summer season. In the 1970’s when Zyg was in his late forties he gave up his commercial business and, in part due to the desire of his British wife at the time for living in an area of the United States reminiscent of her native Britain, moved to Gloucester, MA. Here he dedicated the remainder of his life to his art. During his time in Gloucester he moved from East Main Street where he resided from the late 1970’s to the early 1980’s to Center Street, and then in the 1990’s to Lanesville. Plagued by illness after 2000 his ability to pursue his art became more limited, yet he continued creating art to the best of his ability until his untimely death on December 31, 2009.

Photo excerpted from: Charles Movalli, “Remembering ‘Zig:’ Colleague recalls artist Jankowski in portrait of words,” Tribute, *The Gloucester Daily Times*, January 2010

Artist Biography Continued:

In his early twenties, Zyg considered the priesthood and therefore devoted his artistic talents to painting solely liturgical art for “the glory of god.” Following a change of heart about his future vocation he soon shifted his attention away from biblical subjects to figurative works and landscapes. The paintings of his early career in the 1960’s are characterized by a subdued palette featuring predominantly earth tones, by an interest in geometry and abstraction and by the noticeable stylistic influences of his teachers at the California College of Arts and Crafts. His style came into maturity during his Gloucester years, and particularly in the 1980’s and 1990’s, when he began creating his well-known, impressionistic and often expressive compositions bursting with vibrant, radiant, expressive colors. His vivacious palette has sometimes been compared to that of the French Fauvist artist Matisse while his generally wide, flat and expressive brushstrokes have been compared to those of the American Abstract Expressionist DeKooning. Associating Zyg with any specific American art movement and style such as Abstract Expressionism proves to be difficult, however, as pointed out by the artist and art critic Charles Movalli: “You don’t go to Zyg to be assured...you got to be surprised. Surprised by an interesting personality at work. The unexpected is what is expected of him...and isn’t that an enviable and liberating position for any artist?” (*Zygmund Jankowski: Ambiguity Confirmed*, March 3, 2007 Press Release, The Cape Ann Historical Museum)

Zyg saw endless possibilities in every subject matter, and throughout his career painted various interpretations of certain themes, each time emphasizing a different element, such as for example rhythm, space, shape, color, etc. He strove to analyze a subject using his brush and palette, searching for the most appropriate expression of his feelings at any given moment. In his own words: “You stand as referee between the scene, your emotion and analysis. Your goal is to experience a feeling of excitement from the first stroke to the last. (*Zygmund Jankowski: The Other Artist*, A.R.A. Gallery, South Hamilton, MA) In the words once again of Charles Movalli: “In front of a motif, he [Jankowski] can do fifteen paintings, one after another...all different. Each time, another facet of the material catches his interest.” (*Zygmund Jankowski: Ambiguity Confirmed*, March 3, 2007 Press Release, The Cape Ann Historical Museum)

Zyg’s works range from abstract to more realist impressionistic and expressive oil paintings, watercolors and mixed media on paper, each bursting with color. Some of the themes he continuously revisited throughout his career include: Erotica works, Self-Portraits and Portraits, particularly of Myra Hall who became his companion and artistic muse, Floral and Water Lily Still Lives, Jazz Themed Images, Seascapes, Harbor Scenes, Landscapes and Farmscapes. A large body of his work features New England landscapes and seascapes particularly of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, for which he frequently took inspiration from his own photographs and slides of specific locales. Zyg was a prolific painter and at any time of the day could be found with a paint brush in his hands.

Biography Bibliography:

American Art Collector, "Zygmund Jankowski: Identifying Space," August, 2007,
p. 178-181.

Cape Ann Historical Association, "The Paintings of Zygmund Jankowski,"
January-March 2007, Volume Twenty-Nine, Number One.

Charles Movalli, "Remembering 'Zig:' Colleague recalls artist Jankowski in
portrait of words," *The Gloucester Daily Times*, January 6, 2010.

Myra Hall, Personal interviews conducted in person or via phone among other
dates on May 6, May 11, July 7 and July 22, 2010.

Watercolors by Zygmund Jankowski, O'Shaughnessy Galleries, The Snite
Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

Zygmund Jankowski Biography, Judi Rotenberg Gallery, Boston, MA.

Zygmund Jankowski on AskArt.com.

Zygmund Jankowski: Ambiguity Confirmed, March 3, 2007, Press Release and
Exhibition Brochure, The Cape Ann Historical Museum, Gloucester, MA.

Zygmund Jankowski: The Other Artist, A.R.A. Gallery, South Hamilton, MA.

Excerpt from Zygmund Jankowski's Artist Statement on Drawing:

"...I draw as a sensory and am totally aware of the responsibility to my subject and myself. I try and use every method at my disposal, technically and otherwise-and, I find attitude is all important.

Gesture is where it all begins, and probably ends-but, if in this gesture there is no feeling of life, then I have not drawn, I've only duplicated an image. Incidentally, conclusions we arrive at in gesture is different from one artist to another, some interpret in terms of line or shape, or value-I enjoy line and shape, combination of line and contour-there is no right way. Definition of gesture is, not what it is, not what it looks like, but what it is doing. This does not simply mean movement, it combines all the elements as shape, form, space, etc.

Many times the "finish" in a drawing is just what it sounds like; finished, dead-I say this as a warning to student and teacher alike.

Rembrandt knew this, and his drawing reflects this; his drawings always have an incompleteness, which is not always evident, but always there, reflecting an anticipation of the next breath.

Picasso, when he drew the flight of the bird, you never saw the bird-a more romantic idea, but one to consider.

Now, what does all this mean?

Perhaps, just the quality of life, that intangible of all intangibles. A spark of creating in a moment of time, that never begins and ends.

I make this point, so the next time you draw or look at great drawings, we will understand that we are seeing and experiencing the life force of great art-be aware that it is always there for more to record, respond to, in his own individual way-a very sacred gift-and one not to be denied."

Zygmund Jankowski Artist Résumé:¹

GALLERY REPRESENTATION:

Formerly Judi Rotenberg Gallery, Boston, MA (now closed and out of business)
Art Research Associates, Inc., South Hamilton, MA (open Part –Time only;
limited hours)

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS INCLUDE:

Cape Ann Historical Museum, Gloucester, MA
Demuth Museum, Philadelphia, PA
Fort Wayne Museum, Fort Wayne, TX
Mid-West Museum of Modern Art, Elkhart, IN
Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
South Bend Art Center, South Bend, IN

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2007 "With Love, Zygmund Jankowski," Judi Rotenberg Gallery
2007 "Ambiguity Confirmed," Cape Ann Historical Museum, Gloucester
2006 "The Many Layers of Zygmund Jankowski", Judi Rotenberg Gallery
2001 "Zyg:Unseen", Judi Rotenberg Gallery
2000 "Zyg", Judi Rotenberg Gallery
1999 "New Works", Judi Rotenberg Gallery
1998 "Oil and Water", Judi Rotenberg Gallery
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island
Great Lakes Naval Station
Friedman Art Gallery, Berkeley
San Jose State Teachers College
Xavier University
Marymount College
Philadelphia Art Alliance
South Bend Art Association
Sarasota Invitational
Indiana University
Lafayette Art Center
Bremen Art Association
Niles Art Association
Southwestern Michigan University
Eastern Connecticut State College/ Willamatic College
Lasalle Union, Philadelphia
Quincy College, Quincy
Marymount College, Salinas

¹ The Résumé was compiled with the help of the Judi Rotenberg Gallery, Boston, MA..

Zygmund Jankowski Artist Résumé Continued:

SOLO EXHIBITIONS Continued:

George Washington Carver Museum, Tuskegee
Mobile Art Gallery
Virginia State College, Petersburg
Erie Public Museum, Erie, PA
Art Gallery, Cortland, NY
Callaway Education Association, Lagrange, GA
St. Anselm's College, NH
Andrews University
American Watercolor Society (Traveling Show)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2005 "From A to Z", Judi Rotenberg Gallery, February
1975 Art International/Switzerland
1973 Republican Club of Massachusetts
1972 Rockport Art Association*
Ninth Union League of Chicago Art Show
1970 Sarasota Art Association Show
Anderson School Art Gallery, New York
National Arts Club, Gramercy Park, NY
Allied Artists of America, National Academy
1969 Union League of Chicago Art Show
Sarasota Art Association Figure Painting
Water color USA
1968 Hoosier Salon
1967 Allied Artists of America, National Academy
South Bend Biennial
Ft. Wayne Artist Exhibition
Indiana Art Salon
Creative Gallery, New York
Southern Shore's Annual, Gary Art Center
1966 Gary Art Center, Southern Shores
Hoosier Salon
Tippecanoe Regional
Indiana Art Salon
1965 Fourth Biennial Michiana Show
Academic Artist Association Show, Springfield
National Jury, Springfield Art League
22nd Indiana Art Salon
Ft. Wayne Art Museum
1964 58th Indiana Artists Exhibition

Zygmund Jankowski Artist Résumé Continued:

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS Continued:

Ft. Wayne Art Museum
Lafayette Art Center
21st Indiana Art Salon
57th Indiana Artist, John Herron Museum
South Bend Art Center
1963 Gary Art Center, Southern Shores
Chesterton Art Center
South Bend Art Center
Third Biennial Michiana Show
Northern Indiana Art Salon
Ft. Wayne Art Museum
John Herron Institute
1962 Second Biennial Michiana Show
South Bend Art Center
Indiana Artists, Ft. Wayne
Northern Indiana Art Salon
Upstairs Gallery, South Bend
1961 St. Mary's College, Notre Dame
1954 Fifth Annual Michiana Regional Show
Northern Indiana Artists
Indiana Artists, John Herron
1953 American Watercolor Society
South Bend Art Center
1952 Third Annual Michiana Regional Show
South Bend Art Center
Indiana Art Salon
Dunes Arts Foundation
1951 Second Annual Michiana Regional Show
South Bend Art Center
St. Mary's College, Notre Dame
Philadelphia Watercolor Society
St. Joseph Watercolor Society
Union League of Chicago Art Show
Art International/Switzerland
Copley Society
North Shore Arts Association
Square Circle Gallery, Rockport, MA

Zygmund Jankowski Artist Résumé Continued:

SELECTED PRESS:

American Art Collector, "Zygmund Jankowski," August, 2007

Cape Ann Historical Association, "The Paintings of Zygmund Jankowski," Jan-March 2007

Gloucester Daily Times, "Historical museum awash in color," March 3, 2007

Gloucester Daily Times, "Local Artist Shines at Historical Show," February 22, 2007

The Literati Scene with Smoki Bacon & Dick Concannon, March 2006

Gloucester Daily Times, "Fresh perspective" by Gail McCarthy, March 2006

House Beautiful, "Boston Beacon," January 2002

Gloucester Daily Times, "Jankowski show set," September 19, 1991

Gloucester Daily Times, "Jankowski show set for Boston," April 1988

American Artist Magazine, "Zygmund Jankowski," August 1975

Artist Magazine, London, England

40 Watercolorists and How They Work

Palette Talk, "Who Are You"