

The Noyes Museum of Art of Richard Stockton College
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For Immediate Release – 2010

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Splash: *The New Jersey Watercolor Society*

Exhibition Dates: June 18 - August 29, 2010

Summer Opening Reception - Friday, June 18, 2010

OCEANVILLE – Masterful watercolor paintings represent the finest examples of works in watercolor from across the State of New Jersey. Watercolor is one of the most elegant and versatile painting mediums. Today the medium has evolved to encompass a myriad of exciting styles and techniques. Included in this exhibition are realistic paintings with a great amount of descriptive detail. Other paintings are created with loose brushwork and a combination of many layers of washes and textures offering a more impressionistic view. Light is the single most influential element of a painting. Radiant energy spills from technically exquisite watercolors, while transparent colors illuminate the surface in this exhibition.

Watercolor painting has an extensive and diverse history. From the beginning of early man to today's modern art, watercolors have been used for artistic expression. Ancient Egyptians used water-based paints to decorate the walls of temples and tombs and created some of the first works on paper, made of papyrus. German Renaissance artist Albrecht Durer, who painted botanical, wildlife, and landscape watercolors, is generally considered among the earliest western artists to utilize the medium. It was, however, the cultures of the Middle and the Far East that implemented watercolors as a true art form and still use watercolor extensively today. Chinese and Japanese masters painted on silk as well as handmade paper. Throughout western history watercolors were mostly used for quick paint sketches or preliminary painting and their integrity as a true artistic medium wasn't realized until the mid 19th century.

The New Jersey Watercolor Society (NJWCS) is a distinguished group of artists from throughout New Jersey who work specifically with aqueous mediums. The NJWCS is dedicated to preserving the art of working with watercolors, and are also involved in engaging the public interest in watercolor painting.

Starting with 12 members in 1938, the NJWCS has grown to over 150 elected members who have been accepted by the society's Board of Directors through means of a rigorous selection process. Their thorough selection of artists has led them to become one of the most honorable watercolor societies in the country and among them are some of the best watercolorists in the nation such as, Walter M. Bill, Jeff Clapp, Mark deMos, Tim Mullen, Ted Hamilton, Carol Staub, Theresa Troise Heidel, Marie Natale, and Tom Valenti.

The Noyes Museum of Art- The Noyes Museum of Art was founded in 1983 to collect, preserve and exhibit American fine art, crafts and folk art. An emphasis is on New Jersey artists and folk art forms, reflecting the area's long history, traditions, landscape and culture. General funding is provided by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Arts; the Mr. and Mrs. Fred Winslow Noyes Foundation; The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey; the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; the Odessa F. and Henry D. Kahrs Charitable Trust. Please call 609-652-8848 or visit our website for more information.

Image Attached

- 1) Marie Natale, "Tally-Ho"!

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