



Vadim Levin
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*Lake House at
Spruce Run , NJ*
oil: 16h x 20w



John Sandstedt
Dayton
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*Old Tennent Church
and Cemetery*
photography
12h x 16w



Lynn Cheng Varga
Yardville
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Trenton Makes Bridge
watercolor
16h x 20w



South Brunswick Arts Commission

Historic New Jersey

JANUARY 31– MARCH 31, 2014

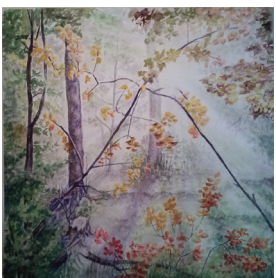
THE GALLERY

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After reviewing the entrants for this *Historic New Jersey* exhibition, my knowledge and feeling of “This is where it all started” was wonderfully spiked by the amazing work submitted. I applaud all the artists for their work and talents!

Each photograph or painting evokes people, events and battles that gained the liberty that we so dearly protect today. In Valerie Williams’ amazing photograph *Fire!* you can almost smell and hear the Battle of Trenton, while Joan Wheeler presents us with a haunting portrait of an American patriot - I kept coming back to it with goose bumps! An original American *Lenni Lenape* portrait executed in oil by Stephanie Barbetti reminds us there were Americans here in our state before *us*.

The mélange of work depicts places we now know and see and touch, but ignite magic moments reenacted to entice us to imagine what it was like. Mary Leck’s detailed photographic images of bricks used to build The Bowman Hill Mansion capture the weathered surfaces, cultivating images that could be as important as a Pollock, or earth seen from the Hubble Space telescope. Then Joseph Gilchrist brings us back to earth with a night image photograph of *CRR of New Jersey Terminal Liberty Park*, reminiscent of René Magritte’s. Another night scene, *A Midsummers Night at Nassau Hall Princeton University*, by Rhonda Goodwin evokes the same feelings.



Olga Prokopenko
Dayton
732.438.0953
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*Light in the Forest,
Davidson Mill Park*
watercolor: 11h x 11w



Nancy Scott
Lawrenceville
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Aftermath, Jersey Shore
collage: 7h x 5w



Joan Wheeler
Shamong
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Battle of Trenton
inkjet print: 20h x 16w



Louise Reeves
North Brunswick
732.718.3171
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Restrooms
photography
11h x 14w



Jerry Spielman
West Windsor
609.448.9061
jerryesc21@verizon.net
Schenck House
photography
16h x 20w



Valerie S. Williams
Ewing
609.529.1769
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Fire!
photography
14h x 11w

New Jersey is referred to as the diner capital of the world, and the poignant diner interior photograph *Restrooms* by Louise Reeves conjures up my dear friend John Baeder’s paintings of diners and Hopper’s *Nighthawks*. Catherine Gowen’s lovely small color pencil piece *Mercer Oak 2.0* brings us back to nature with a tree grown from an acorn of the oak that bore witness to the Battle of Princeton. Barbara Hochberg presents us with a lovely watercolor titled *Historic Trenton*.

Not all historic sites consist of buildings or reverent monuments. Olga Prokopenko presents us with a moving watercolor, and reminds us of the surrounding landscape, that is still just as it was in our Revolutionary period. Jerry Spielman’s photograph brings us back to another famous landmark building *Schenk House 1750*; he waited for the correct time of day for the light, to keep the feeling of nostalgia. Lynn Cheng Vargas oil painting *William Trent House*, a sensitive treatment of the oldest house in Trenton. Lakshmi Durga gives us a watercolor *Old Door* reminiscent of a Georgia O’Keefe painting of her beloved Ghost Ranch home. John Sandstedt brings us two photographs that are opposites. *Desolate Shore* portrays the continued efforts to keep the natural state of our centuries old watershed areas, and preserve the habitat and wildlife, while his excellent eye gives us *Reflection*, a scene at the Tuckerton Seaport, to remind us of our state’s maritime heritage. He continues to remind us of who came before us with *Tennant Church and Cemetery*.

Branch Brook Park, Newark, a gem of color in gouache by Indrani Choudhury depicts a joyous color filled day in a landmark park. Vadim Levin shows *Lake House at Spruce Run NJ*, a sun drenched abstract oil image. Nancy Scott’s amazing collage *Aftermath, Jersey Shore* reminds us of new threats to our historical heritage by natural forces.

I end with two images by Gerry Feldman *Colgate Clock*, a landmark that looks out over the Hudson, spattered with the new modern language of graffiti but standing still and solid in the past. Artist Feldman then anoints us with a most uplifting and memorable twilight depiction, *Paulus Hook* a view from Jersey City that calls out for you to look into the distance, to the statue of Liberty, lifting her torch to welcome the new Americans.

—Professor Maurice Mahler, juror



Stephanie Barbetti
Kendall Park
732.297.2637
Nanaticoke Leni Lenape
acrylic: 19h x 23w



Gerry Feldman
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Remembrance
photography



Sue K. Green
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Battle of Monmouth
photography
13h x 19w



Indrani Choudhury
Edison
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Branch Brook Park, Newark
watercolor
18h x 24w



Joseph Gilchrist
Hamilton
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CRR of NJ Terminal Liberty State Park
silver gelatin print
20h x 24w



Barbara Hochberg
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Historic Trenton
watercolor: 21h x 15w



Lakshmi Durga
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Old Door
watercolor: 12h x 9w



Rhonda Goodwin
Monmouth Junction
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A Midsummer Night at Nassau Hall
photograph: 16h x 20w



Catherine Gowen
Princeton
732.245.1113
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Mercer Oak 2.0
colored pencil, graphite
16½h x 13½w



Mary Alessio Leck
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Bow Hill Mansion (1787) Brick Detail I
Chromira print
18h x 24w