



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY

JOHN LANEY

Gallery of Portraits

**August 27 - October 28,
2021**



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY

JOHN LANEY: GALLERY OF PORTRAITS

special exhibition

A selection of portraits in oil by John Laney.



Introduction

John Laney has been a friend, an influence and a colleague for over 40 years. I met John in New York, although we grew up within 50 miles of each other, in Spokane and Sprague, Washington. We were introduced by a mutual friend, the artist Stan Taft. We share a number of interests; comic art and illustration; figurative painting; computers, especially Apple computers; music, movies, anime and more.

In New York we regularly attended drawing sessions at The Project For The Living Artist, held in a dank basement in Soho, and presided over by brutalist painter Joe Catuccio and his cat Linguini. These sessions often had 1 or 2 models, long and short poses, and many artists enjoying the fragrant bouquet of cat urine and body odor.

On Friday nights we would buy a 6 pack of beer and go to meetings of the Figurative Artists' Alliance of New York, held at the historic Educational Alliance in lower Manhattan. These meetings were often rowdy, with artists of various stripes and abilities weighing in on the state of the art world and figurative art's place in it. Figuration was understood in the formal sense, that is as a synonym for representational art that may or may not include figures. Often guests would present talks. I remember one memorable one where Rackstraw Downes discussed editing a book of the art criticism of Fairfield Porter.

The alliance meetings were followed by a trek to Mare Chiaro Tavern, where paintings by Frank Mason hung. Afterwards, we'd go to Fanelli's, which catered to amateur boxers during the week and artists on the weekends.

At this time John was involved in a cooperative gallery, one of the early artist run galleries from that period. The First Street Gallery had moved from its original location on the Lower East Side to a location in Soho, and included Lisa Zwerling, Altoon Sultan and other notables.

John was a pioneer in the field of computer art and graphics, and taught an early course in the subject at Marymount Manhattan College Huntington College in NYC. He continued this aspect of his work after moving his family to Seattle.

More recently John and I have been attending the annual Pacific Northwest Plein Air event at Maryhill Museum, painting the Columbia River Gorge. It has been an enjoyable time spent painting around the Laney's cabin on the Klickitat River, and overlooking the gorge, for two artists that have spent a lifetime as friends.

William E. Elston, 2021



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY

Gallery of Portraits: Artist's Statement



ARTIST'S STATEMENT

All of these portraits were created in weekly sessions over the last few years at various venues around Seattle. The group shares the cost of the model and one's location in the room is on a first come first served basis. The model has his or her choice of costume. Most sessions are once a week for 3 hours and sometimes the sitting is extended into the following week for a total of 6 hours with the same pose.

I would like to thank the legions of models who have lent their time, talents and creativity to these sessions and to the meeting places around town that hosted our gatherings. It has been a year and half since we have been able to meet due to Covid. I'm hoping we can resume in the near future.

John Laney, Seattle, 2021



ARTIST'S RESUME

Education:

Gonzaga University, Spokane Washington 1964-65

Tyler School of Fine Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, BFA 1968

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 1968-69

Selected Exhibitions:

One Person Show, First Street Gallery, New York, New York 1979

One Person Show, First Street Gallery, New York, New York 1981

Invitational, "The Image of Post-Modern Man in Painting, Drawing and Sculpture" Bayly Museum, University of Virginia,

Charlottesville, Virginia 1979

Group Show, "New York, Nieuw Amsterdam", New York, New York 1979

Group Show, "11 at MMC", Faculty Exhibition, Marymount Manhattan College, New York, New York 1979

One-Person-Show, First Street Gallery, New York, New York 1981

Group Show, "Realism", Diane Gilson Gallery, Seattle, Washington 1981

"New Faculty", Hunter College, New York, New York 1985

"Computer Graphics: Two Views", Parson's Gallery, Parson's School of Design, New York, New York 1986

The Fortieth Anniversary Show, First Street Gallery, New York, New York 2009

Northwest Plein Air Group Show, Maryhill Museum, Goldendale, WA, 2016

Northwest Plein Air Group Show, Maryhill Museum, Goldendale, WA, 2017

Group Show, Zen Sekai Gallery, Snohomish, WA, 2021



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY

Gallery of Portraits



JOHN LANEY

Danielle , 2010

20 x 16 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1600



JOHN LANEY

The Goblet, 2011

16 x 12 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 900



JOHN LANEY

Katrina, 2013

15 x 12 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

NFS





JOHN LANEY

Anna As Pirate, 2016

16 x 12 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 900



JOHN LANEY

Anna In Red, 2014

14 x 11 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 800



JOHN LANEY

Yma, 2013

20 x 16 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1500





JOHN LANEY

Erica, 2017

20 x 16 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1600



JOHN LANEY

Anna With Red Wig, 2013

24 x 18 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 2200



JOHN LANEY

Visiting Artist, 2012

16 x 12 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 900





JOHN LANEY

Olivia, 2012

18 x 14 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1200



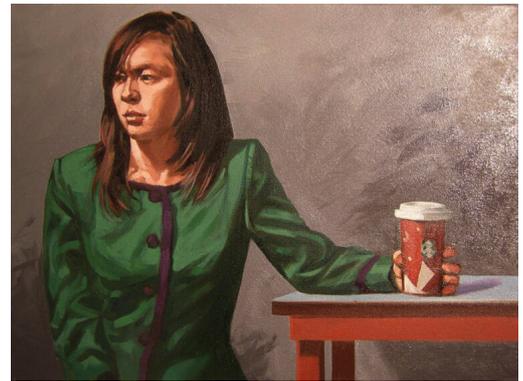
JOHN LANEY

Anna At Starbucks, 2012

12 x 16 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

NFS



JOHN LANEY

Maggie, 2014

18 x 18 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1600





JOHN LANEY

Maggie In Icelandic Costume, 2012

24 x 20 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 2200



JOHN LANEY

Emerald, 2019

20 x 16 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 1500



JOHN LANEY

Vanessa, 2011

16 x 12 x 1.5 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on canvas

USD 900





JOHN LANEY

Dee, 2019

12 x 9 x 1 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on paper

USD 800



JOHN LANEY

Elle With Horns, 2015

11 x 8 x 1 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on paper

USD 800



JOHN LANEY

E., 2017

10 x 8 x 1 inch (h x w x d)

Oil on paper

USD 800





“The reason some portraits don't look true to life
is that some people make no effort to resemble
their pictures.”

— *Salvador Dalí*



ZEN SEKAI GALLERY