



Tykie Ganz

Tykie Ganz has been a founding signature member of the Miniature Artists of America since 1985. An internationally known painter, Tykie is an ardent preservationist. She believes in nature and admires its creatures. Her painting, *Lookout*, depicting an Alaskan wolf was one of 200 selected from 2600 American and Canadian submissions for inclusion in the 1991 Arts for the Parks Competition. In 1992 and 1993, Tykie made top 100 in the Arts for the Parks representing birds of the Everglades National Park. She also made top 200 in 1996.

A painting of a Florida panther was commissioned and published by Lloyd Ellison Graphics, Jupiter, FL, with all proceeds benefiting the Dreher Park Zoo of West Palm Beach. For a better understanding of animal and bird anatomy, Tykie is an avid wood carver.

Recently, she was chosen to be an Artist in Residence at Isle Royale National Park (where the wolves are). It was an opportunity of a lifetime. One of the paintings she did while on the island, *Spirit of Isle Royale*, was chosen to be made into a poster with sales benefiting Isle Royale National Park.

Tykie is included in *Who's Who of American Women*, and *Who's Who in American Art*. She is a member of the Miniature Art Society of Florida, and the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, D.C. One of her miniatures is in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian.

Judge's Statement

This show represents the highest level of professional miniature painters, print-makers, sculptors and calligraphers from all over the world. I was honored to be asked to judge this year's exhibition which is extraordinarily beautiful and exciting.

Look closely when you view the show, it will delight your spirit. One work in particular, *Reconciliation*, I found unforgettable. It has such impact, composition and the detail is flawless. The originality of the work is enchanting and the artist's technique is excellent.

It was a challenge deciding on prize winners because of the excellence and diversity of the works. However, having an articulate and knowledgeable fellow judge made it a pleasurable experience. The MASF volunteer workers are to be commended for yet another spectacular show.



Bill Renc

A GRADUATE OF Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida, Bill spent much of his childhood immersed in the coastal landscape, fishing and drawing. He still loves marine life, and it creeps into his artwork quite often. Paintings of fish lurking in unexpected scenarios such as front yards, doorways and gardens have delighted collectors of his work. Other subjects include character studies of interesting people he has met. To preserve the quality of line, he reserves the artistic right to choose pencil as his favored media. Bill has also explored his subjects in intaglio, preferring the drypoint technique to express his sensitivity of line, similar to that of the pencil. His intaglio prints are individually printed on an etching press, then hand-colored in small editions.

Bill and his wife Linda formed their own cooperative gallery in 1995. The Painted Fish Gallery is located on the West Coast of Florida in downtown Dunedin. The gallery showcases art and craft works by several gallery associates and features occasional guest artists. *At Water's Edge: the Birds of Florida* by Bill Renc and Roger Bansemer is a coffee-table book by the two artists about their Florida environment. Bill exhibits the original bird paintings from the book.

As well as painting for the gallery, Bill paints on commission. His most recent commissioned work is a painting to commemorate the City of Dunedin's Centennial in 1999.

"I like to take my subjects from nature and approach them as abstract patterns, making every painting an experiment using the materials in broad gestures. The combination of the media and personal impressions create a new reality based more on how I feel about the experience than how my subject actually appears."

Judge's Statement

There can be no greater challenge for an artist who takes his own work seriously than to make the award choices from many finely qualified works of art.

The realm of miniature art and the artists who create them has all the criteria of other "normal" art forms: line, composition, color and balance; but there is the additional consideration of being able to handle it all in a format that covers just a few square inches.

The focus of attention all lies in an area that can fit in the palm of one's hand. This limited size requires more crucial consideration of both the artwork and the presentation. The frame and mat should enhance the artwork and lend itself to the direction of the art, whether it is contemporary or classical.

As it should be with all good competitions there is more worthy art than there are awards to be given out, and the choices become at first overwhelming, but then gradually, the quality and the artistic spirit of those few who excel emerge.