

## **Larry Forgard**

Born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, Larry Forgard was prompted to study and practice in both the commercial and fine art areas before moving to Florida in 1985. He was educated at both The Chicago Art Institute and The American Academy of Art, launching his career as a graphic designer, illustrator for many of Chicago's advertising agency's and studios. He gained this opportunity and used the city experience and education for over twenty years before his introduction in a new career as a college instructor in figure dynamics and other drawing disciplines at Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota.

Since 1985 Forgard taught first, second, and third year students in the college program plus continuing education, and workshops in North Carolina. He has given many lectures and television interviews relating to his journey through the creative process. Many galleries have shown and represented his artwork including Chicago, Washington D.C. Louisville, Atlanta, and Sarasota. Other works are represented in private collections around the country. He has exhibited his work at Lincoln Center's Cork Gallery in New York City.

Forgard says his paintings have all included the interpretation of the figure with abstractions and realism interwoven in vague compositions. Movement and flow of the figure in its surroundings, sometimes leave impressions to create ghost like forms. Many textures and small collage items intertwine with the figure form. The idea is to weave the environmental textures into the figure into the background. He continues to experiment using a variety of materials in his fine art exploration.

[larsart@verizon.net](mailto:larsart@verizon.net)

[www.larryfogard.com](http://www.larryfogard.com)

## **Ki Woon Huh**

A potter for over three decades Ki Woon Huh grew up in Korea always feeling a closeness to nature that reflects in his art. As a young boy he first became painter whose work drew national attention, but he wanted to be closer to his work and found his niche in pottery making which enables him a hands-on approach to art. He finished his apprenticeship in his teens in Korea and went on to win top honors including a "Golden Medalist" winner, and being designated a "Master Potter" and "Judge." In 1988 he was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Korean National Competition for the Olympic Games.

In 1991 Huh was invited by Ringling School of Art and Design to come to Sarasota and exhibit his pottery and serve as a special instructor. In 2000 he left his home near Incheon, and moved to the United States with his wife and two children, feeling that America would offer a greater market for him to create his artistic vessels.

His work will be seen throughout his home where walls are lined with his work which is unique and detailed and varies in color and shape. His studio, a workspace is where he develops his creations and teaches his pottery students, includes an outdoor kiln.

Starting with sketching and painting a design, he gives definition to his work. Huh's inspiration thrives from a natural style that and the environment. "There are all kinds of messages you can get from my work, but my main objective is to bring my pottery to life. I try to show it is alive."

[susansmith@comcast.net](mailto:susansmith@comcast.net)

[www.kiwoonhuh.com](http://www.kiwoonhuh.com)

## **Bill Buchman**

A lifelong student of Eastern and Western metaphysical thought, Bill Buchman's are bold and assertive yet their openness invites viewers to imagine their own story line. His work combines the principals of music, color and drawing in exciting abstracts.

At age 16 Bill decided that he wished to be an artist and studied painting at Cornell University. Later he switched to music and received his bachelors and masters degree from the New England Conservatory of Music, and became a full time jazz pianist. By 1980 he realized that visual art was his true calling and began a period of artistic development living for 20 years in Europe, primarily in Scandinavia, Paris, and Amsterdam. Then an invitation to teach at the Longboat Key Center for the Arts in 2001 brought him to Sarasota to be closer to his mother. He moved his Danish wife and child to Florida so that they could experience America.

An internationally represented American artist, Bill is both an artist and educator, who exhibits his work frequently, gives workshops and seminars around the country on abstract painting and figurative drawing, combining Zen and Modernist techniques. Writing Zen poetry has helped him develop the ideal of getting down to essentials to accomplish his art. His Zen method involves tracing the way nature “behaves” rather than just the way it “appears” revealing the music of body and spirit. Giving improvisational performances in paint are natural to his jazz training and background.

[art@billbuchman.com](mailto:art@billbuchman.com)  
[www.billbuchman.com](http://www.billbuchman.com)

### **David Wilson**

Sculptor David Wilson, has been intrigued by the concept of recycling metals and stone into art since a visit to a gallery in Soho in 1994. The theme of the exhibit was enviro-art and he realized he already had access to the raw materials needed to create this type of art. He decided to invest time into creating multi-media, sculptural collages constructed of scrap steel, metal, stone and other media.

About a year later he had a conversation with Alter Trading, a firm that manages scrap yards and they commissioned him to create the furniture for their lobby and conference rooms using items that they trade on the open market - copper, aluminum, brass, and milled steel. Twelve pieces were installed in their corporate offices in St Louis , Missouri.

The Parks Commission of Bellville, Illinois asked David to create a large outdoor sculpture that people could walk thru. “Waiting” is 15 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 9 feet tall. The St Elizabeth Hospital saw the sculpture and asked him for an outdoor sculpture for their heart unit. “Universal Hearts” is 1300 pounds and rotates when it is pushed. The success of these sculptures led David to create other – many of which have been featured in art shows and exhibits in the greater St Louis area.

David’s work encompasses everything from practical and useful pieces including furniture, lighted pedestals, and the “Door Man” a more fanciful piece, using materials that “speak to him.”

With the ongoing encouragement of Patricia Mathews, David’s wife and art critic (Pat was President of the Board of Art St Louis) his enviro-art takes two steps forward and one step back into reality.

[metalenvironart@aol.com](mailto:metalenvironart@aol.com)  
[www.metal-enviro-art.com](http://www.metal-enviro-art.com)

### **William Kelly**

Artist William Kelly’s work has been called reminiscent of Matisse and Cezanne, as well as Derain, according to art historian and public television art critic Sister Wendy Beckett. Using brighter than average oil paints his paintings reflect expressionistic paintings of the past. Rows of trees stand like upright purple and pink feathers; flowers explode in a rainbow of vivid hues.

During the 80’s and 90’s Kelly had the opportunity to spend time traveling in Asia and Europe. His work from that time reflects the people and places he loved to visit: pub scenes from Dublin, Galway, and London as well

as brightly colored street scenes from places like Bangkok, Chiang-Mai and Kyoto. For the past several years he has devoted his time to painting the dazzling Mediterranean light and hypnotic colors of Tuscany. His method is to go out into the countryside and work up small canvases on sight, along with sketches and photos, and then return to the studio for further refinement. There he may finish the smaller canvases or use them or the photos as memory guides to start on larger and perhaps more complex rendition.

Kelly's studio is in a condominium tower on the corner of Main Street and 301 where many of his canvases which are in the three to five foot range hang on two-story high walls. Larger canvases challenge and inspire him because of the conceptual challenges the artists sets for himself. His canvases are sold in galleries in Denver and New York. William, along with his author-wife Susan, split their time between his studios and their homes in Sarasota and Florence, Italy.

[Wk19901@comcast.net](mailto:Wk19901@comcast.net)  
[www.williamkellygallery.com](http://www.williamkellygallery.com)

### **John Seerey-Lester**

Wildlife artist John Serrey-Lester prefers to paint wildlife he has seen first hand, and has traveled all over the world in search of the magnificent wildlife he portrays on canvas. He has traveled to most parts of Canada, Alaska, China, Africa, Antarctica, South and Central America, India and Nepal. John has received many awards for his achievements in the field of wildlife art and has been commended by England's Prince Phillip for his work in conservation. His art can be seen in museums, exhibitions, and in permanent collections

Born in Manchester, England, sketching as a child, he received his first commission at age 13. During the 60's he was a freelance writer, edited magazines, and worked in advertising and public relations in the U.K. He became a professional artist in 1974, and in 1980 made his first trip to East Africa painting images of the natural world, which was a turning point in his career. In 1982 he moved to the United States, signed with Mill Pond Press and in the following years painted and wrote books. He has also been a teacher working along with his students in the classroom and out in the field.

### **Suzie Seerey-Lester**

Internationally acclaimed wildlife artist Suzie Seerey-Lester carried around crayons, colored pencils, and paints as a child, and as her enthusiasm for oil painting grew her desire to study intensified. Her first art class in 1990 sharpened her skills and expanded her knowledge through several internationally acclaimed artists.

Suzie traveled the world as a diving instructor working for the CIA, FBI and other law enforcement agencies teaching their personnel to dive. This gave Suzie the opportunity to see extraordinary creatures up close which she has captured with her paints. She has painted in the rain forests of Guatemala, Alaska and Africa expanding her artwork to include aquatic mammals, African birds and mammals, and landscape and figurative work. She has won numerous awards, exhibited, and had her artwork published in books, and sold pieces at Christie's and Sotheby's Art Auctions.

In 2000 John and Suzie were married and they now live, work, and play in Florida.

[seereylyster@msn.com](mailto:seereylyster@msn.com)  
[www.seerey-lester.com](http://www.seerey-lester.com)

### **R.O. Woody**

R.O. Woody was trained as a classical realist, but soon decided that he could say more about the essence, the inner beauty, nature and core of a subject by approaching it more abstractly. He has worked on different themes that have reoccurred throughout his life: children on swings or jumping rope, dance, the female nude,

jazz, birds, and the Everglades in combination with other themes. He starts with very realistic drawings and/or photographs and abstracts, and combines these for a united concept and feeling.

Woody received his first degree in Journalism from the University of Miami, Florida, with a minor in art and photojournalism. Deciding he could express himself better visually than verbally, he returned to get a degree in Fine Arts, and then a Masters Degree in Painting from Mexico City College, Mexico City. Woody was almost killed by the use of synthetic paints, and so he completed his Masters thesis on the use of synthetic media which led to his writing one of the first books published on the synthetics. As a result he became a consultant to several top art firms and lectured on art materials and color theory at over 450 schools throughout the U.S. and Europe. Woody also taught a Graduate Color Course at the University of Illinois, Normal, and has written books and made videos on acrylic techniques and color theory. He currently shows with the Dabbert Gallery.

[rowoodystudio@msn.com](mailto:rowoodystudio@msn.com)

[www.rowoodystudio](http://www.rowoodystudio)