

The 26th Annual Carmel Art Festival May 17 – 19, 2019

NEWS RELEASE
May 9, 2019

The 26th Annual Carmel Art Festival will take place Friday thru Sunday, May 17 -19, 2019 in Devendorf Park in beautiful downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. This three-day event celebrates Carmel's rich history of being an artist community and provides a rich cultural and educational experience for locals and visitors.

Founded 26 years ago by a group of gallery owners in Carmel-by-the-Sea, the **Carmel Art Festival** is one of the most prestigious plein air events in the country, attracting art collectors year after year. Each year, 60 juried artists immortalize the beauty of the scenic Monterey Peninsula and Big Sur Coastline.

“And our annual donation to the Youth Arts Collective in Monterey encourages talented young artists to continue this tradition into the next generation,” according to Hella Rothwell, festival promoter.

Highlights of the Carmel Art Festival

Devendorf Park: Venue for all activities

Sculpture-in-the-Park exhibits, an opportunity to see works by some of the most highly acclaimed sculptors of our time carried by local art galleries in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

[Steven Whyte](#), internationally acclaimed figurative sculptor whose work is displayed at the **Smithsonian**, will be creating a large sculpture of a famous person in Devendorf Park over the course of the festival. Only on the last day will the subject be identified formally. Attendees enjoy watching the progress of Steven's work and come back repeatedly.

Besides sculpture displayed throughout the park, live bands will entertain crowds who often bring picnics and end up spending time with family and friends on the lawn.

A sales booth with festival t-shirts, posters, totes and hats will also be in the park.

On Saturday afternoon, "**Kids Make Art Day**" let's children have an opportunity to create something special to take home. The **Youth Arts Collective** of Monterey assists these budding artists. Participation for youngsters is FREE.

On Sunday morning, the last day of the festival, a "**Quick Draw**" will be held. Winning festival artists will have 2 hours to paint and this will be displayed and then offered in a silent auction at 11AM.



Carmel Art Festival Plein Air Daily Events:

Wednesday & Thursday, May 15-16, 2019– 60 juried plein air artists in the competition can be seen all over the Monterey Peninsula painting as they capture the images of the area’s natural beauty and history.

Note, no formal Carmel Art Festival functions will be held in Devendorf Park. Set up only.

Friday, May 17, 2019 – Starting at 2 PM, artists bring their newly painted plein air paintings to the Carmel Art Festival tent in Devendorf Park. Come and see these still-wet paintings that have been created during the past three days.

2 – 4 PM, 60 juried artists hang their paintings.

4 - 6 PM, Judging of the paintings.

6 – 9 PM, Opening Night Festivities with Live Entertainment. View exhibition paintings. FREE

6 – 9 PM, VIP Wine Event for past buyers FREE with RSVP in a roped-off area.

Others, \$20 donation.

NEW THIS YEAR: “BUY NOW.”

From 6 PM – “BUY NOW” and AUCTION of exhibition paintings starts and through Saturday at 6PM. **Come early to BUY or BID on your favorite painting(s).**

“We found that not everyone could stay in town or come back for the finale on Saturday when the Silent Auction historically closes at 6 PM.”

“I have no clue how this will go over, but I think art buyers who fall in love with a painting, given the opportunity, will ‘buy now’”, according to Hella Rothwell, organizer.

Saturday, May 18, 2019 – Exhibition paintings can be viewed all day.

The **Silent Auction** and **“Buy Now”** feature throughout the day until 6 PM.

“Meet the Artists”, artists tend to hang out with their exhibition paintings. Come meet them.

5PM -**“Artist Awards Ceremony”**,

6:00 PM – **Auction ends for those paintings which have not been purchased by “BUY NOW”**.

During the early afternoon, attendees will be asked to vote for their favorite **“People’s Choice”** artist and painting, and the winner will be the 2020 Carmel Art Festival poster!

Absentee purchases - 12 NOON – 4 PM: Can’t be at the festival but want to purchase a painting? At 12 NOON all 120 paintings will be shown on the Carmel Art Festival website www.carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com and “Buy Now” feature is available until 4 PM.

Sunday, May 19, 2019 – Featured event in the morning between 9 AM – 11 AM is the **Quick Draw**. Winning artists of the festival have two hours to paint a painting in and around Carmel-by-the-Sea. These will be displayed in **Devendorf Park** and auctioned off between 11 AM and 11:30 AM.

Artists in the festival normally paint more than the two paintings submitted for judging into the festival. These will be hung in the tent for purchase on from 7PM Saturday evening through Sunday until 3 PM. These are straight sales at a specific price.

60 JURIED ARTISTS:

www.carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com/entrants2019.html

These artists, some local but many travel to Carmel from around the country, can be seen during the festival painting outside. Many can be seen on the beach but they can paint anywhere throughout Monterey County. As a result, the paintings feature a wide variety of subjects. And yes, all the paintings are wet, so don’t go touching them! Festival planners laugh about how visitors react to this by reaching out to touch the wet canvas. *“It really is a unique experience to come and see these wonderful paintings and meet the artists who just painted them hours ago”* says Hella Rothwell, overall organizer and festival board member.

“Not only are the paintings wet, I remember once when an artist quickly brushed a favorite pet onto a beach scene to please a buyer. Getting to meet the artist who painted the scene and have them sign the purchased painting is really special. Oh, and when you purchase one of the award winning paintings, you get to keep the ribbon.”

And all around Carmel-by-the-Sea during the weekend:

In addition to the official functions happening in Devendorf Park, there are gallery receptions and demonstrations taking place in a variety of galleries. Times and locations will be listed in the **FREE Carmel Art Festival program** distributed at the festival and locations such as **Carmel Art Association** and the **Chamber of Commerce**.

The Carmel Art Festival is a non-profit organization. Proceeds from the Carmel Art Festival benefit local youth art programs. For the past several years, this has been:

Youth Art Collective www.yacstudios.org

See their letter of appreciation from 2018:

<http://www.carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com/docs/YouthArtsCollectiveThankYou2018.pdf>

Organizer contact information:

Hella Rothwell, Board Member and overall organizer of the event

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26th Carmel Art Festival – Opening Night Festivities
Friday, May 17, 2019 – 6 PM – 9 PM
Devendorf Park, Carmel-by-the-Sea CA

Opening Night Entertainment

Attendance is FREE.

Pacific Repertory Theater:

Playing a variety of popular music and accompanying singers and performers:

- **Malinda DeRouen – singing “That’s Rich” from “Newsies”.**
- **Lydia Lyons – singing “All That Jazz”, “Desperado”, and “Natural Woman”**
- **Bri Slama – singing a song from “Beauty and the Beast”**
- **Gracie Poletti – “Hello Dolly”**

Also performing will be:

- **Reija Massey – piano & voice**
- **Arthur Wu – piano & voice**
- **Shane Smit – singer, formerly from the Overtone Band of South of Africa**

VIP Wine Buyers Wine Event –

6 – 9 PM, VIP Wine Event for past buyers FREE with RSVP in a roped-off area.
Others, \$20 donation.

This 3rd Annual Friday evening event was started by Hella Rothwell, organizer of the Carmel Art Festival, to thank the hundreds of past art buyers who keep coming back year after year to support the Carmel Art Festival. *“It was quite a project to go back over our sales lists dating back to 2013 and find viable email addresses.”* And our past buyers were very enthusiastic at the personalized reminders of the festival.

And at the reception itself, the beautifully etched wine glasses that are handed to these buyers as a gift, have become collector’s item. *“Not even empty, used glasses are left behind.”*

Wine is donated once again by Albatross Vineyard and small bites by Rich Pepe, restaurateur

Artists Juried into the 2019 Carmel Art Festival:

Nikol Aghababyan
Mike Allison
Michael Bailey
Rolando Barrero
Stacy Barter
Don Biehn
Liz Bonham
Brooke Borcharding
Ken Christensen
Suma CM
Mark Farina
Catherine Fasciato
Tatyana Fogarty
Phillippe Gandiol
Carole Gary-Weihman
Vesla Greenwood
Susan Elwart Hall
Scott Hamill
Coraly Hanson
Vivian Healy
Laurie Hendricks
Michael Hill
Sterling Hoffman
Sibyl Johnson
Sally Jordan
Steve Kell
Sheryl Knight
Wei Zhong Koo
Paul Kratter
Po Pin Lin
Gretha Lindwood
Sergio Lopez
Rolf Lygren
Joe Mancuso
Michelle Marco
Kate Martin
Marie Massey
Annette McGowan
Wayne McKenzie
Mark Monsarrat
Suzanne Morris
Donald Neff
Boon Heng Pang
Lilli-Anne Price

Robert Sandidge
Lynn Sanguedolce
David Sallevano
Julia Munger Seelos
Michael Situ
Birgit Spaulding
Randall Stauss
Nancy Takaichi
Joaquin Turner
Marti Walker
Laura Wambsgans
Robin Weiss
Cindy Wilbur
Geoffrey Wolf
Lu Yu
Xiao Yu

Total: 60 Juried Artists as of 5/9/2019