

Exquisite Miniatures ~ The Paintings of Wes Siegrist

Wes Siegrist and his artist wife, Rachelle, capture the attention of viewers not with outstretched canvas but with miniature paintings so exquisitely rendered that they are often mistaken for photographs. Miniature art has been in existence for centuries and the current revival in its popularity has given rise to miniature art societies that in turn have given the Siegrists a platform for international recognition among peers and collectors. Their tiny treasures typically measure less than nine square inches and appear even more detailed when viewed under magnification. Consequently, Wes and Rachelle Siegrist enjoy a dimension of interactivity with viewers that few painters of standard easel-size paintings enjoy. A hallmark of their work is the ability to convey the feel of larger canvases or the essence of the natural world in miniature. It is no small wonder, therefore, that the Siegrists have been referred to as “World Ambassadors for Miniature Art”.

Wes and Rachelle Siegrist are members of The Society of Animal Artists, the Miniature Art Society of Florida, the Miniature Artists of America, the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC, the Cider Painters of America and the Hilliard Society of England. In addition, they are the authors of the world’s first standard definition of miniature art adopted by the Association of Miniature Artists.

Their book *Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist* accompanies a solo museum exhibition, ***Under the Magnifying Glass: Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist***, which premiered at the prestigious R.W. Norton Art Gallery in Shreveport, LA in May of 2010. Their book *The World of Nature in Miniature; Paintings by Wes and Rachelle Siegrist* accompanied a solo museum exhibition by the same title which premiered at the West Baton Rouge Museum in Port Allen, LA in May of 2010 followed by a tour including the Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure in Salina, KS and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, AZ.

The artists additionally have another museum exhibition tour featuring fifty of their miniature paintings that will run from 2011 thru 2013 and will include the following museums: Dunnegan Gallery of Art, Bolivar, MO; Museum of the Southwest, Midland, TX; Yadkin Cultural Arts Center, Yadkinville, NC; Dennon Museum Center, Traverse City, MI; San Diego Natural History Museum, San Diego, CA; Nevada State Museum, Carson City, NV; ArtCenter Manatee, Bradenton, FL and the Museum of the Gulf Coast, Port Arthur, TX. A comprehensive overview of the Siegrists' 2010-2013 nationally touring museum exhibition of their miniature paintings may be viewed on their website.

The Siegrists are both actively involved in leadership with the Miniature Artists of America Society (MAA), holding several Board Offices between them. In 2010, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the MAA, Wes published the book *Modern Masters of Miniature Art in America* as a comprehensive overview of the history and modern scope of miniature art.

The Artists regularly exhibit in major wildlife expositions and shows in the United States and currently participate in numerous international miniature art exhibitions. They have exhibited their miniatures in museum venue exhibitions such as Birds in Art, Art of the Animal Kingdom and the Society of Animal Artists Annual Exhibitions. They reside in Townsend, Tennessee beside the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

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The Siegrists execute most of their paintings according to the **Association of Miniature Artists** guidelines:



- Minute in scale vs. life sized. For practicality following the general 1/6th scale for work sent to formal miniature exhibitions and shows.
- Delicate and painstaking technique that withstands magnification.
- Small in format and size: 25 inches or less for surface area.
- High in quality. The work should exemplify Fine Art ~ demonstrating a mastery of composition, color, values etc.

Wes Siegrist *Updated: August 22, 2011*

PERSONAL:

- b. 1/29/66 - Jeffersonville, IN
- Married 7/7/90 to Rachelle (Davis)- also an artist
- Resides: 322 Domar Dr., Townsend, Tennessee 37882-4108
- Website: <http://www.artofwildlife.com/>
- Blog: <http://underthemagnifier.wordpress.com/>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SiegristMiniaturePaintings>

EDUCATION:

- BA - Fine Arts: Evangel University, Springfield, MO - 1988
- BA - Graphic Arts: Evangel University, Springfield, MO - 1988
- Post Graduate self-study in the history of miniature art and the world's miniature art societies

CAREER HISTORY:

- Intern for Gospel Publishing House 1988
- Taught college level beginning ceramics at Evangel University 1988
- Designer at advertising agency 1988-1989
- Freelance Illustrator 1987-2000
- Illustrated "The Realm of the Panther" - a Nature Conservancy Habitat Book 1999
- Teacher in various mediums 1988-1999 (adult and children's classes)
 - 2006 Instructor/Demonstrator for the Susan K. Black Foundation Workshop
 - 2010 Children's art classes in conjunction with the World of Nature in Miniature Exhibition venue at Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure, Salina, KS
- Lecturer 1990 to date including:
 - July, 2010 - R.W. Norton Art Gallery "The History of Miniature Art and the Scope of the Modern Movement"
 - July, 2010 - West Baton Rouge Museum "The History of Miniature Art and the Scope of the Modern Movement"
 - August, 2010 - Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure "The History of Miniature Art and the Scope of the Modern Movement"
 - May, 2011 - Woolaroc Museum "The History of Miniature Art and the Scope of the Modern Movement"
 - July, 2011 - Ward Museum "The History of Miniature Art and the Scope of the Modern Movement"
- 1999-2001 Career day speaker at Okeechobee High School (FL)
- Vice-President of the Highlands Museum of the Arts, Sebring, FL - 1995
- President of the Highlands Museum of the Arts and Highlands Art League, Sebring, FL - 1996-1997
- Judge and Juror for various art shows and exhibits 1990 to date including:
 - 2000, 2010 Juror of Selection for the MASF International Miniature Art Exhibition
 - 2005, 2009 Jury of Admissions for the Miniature Artists of America
 - 2009 Juror of Selection for the SAA Small Works Exhibition
 - 2010 Awards Juror for Parklane Gallery's 18th International Miniature Show
 - 2010 Awards Juror for the 77th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature, MPSGS
- Webmaster: (*See Website for Complete Listing*)
 - The Southern Wildlife Festival 2000 to 2007
 - The Society of Animal Artists 2001 to date
 - The Hilliard Society, Assistant Webmaster 2002 to date
 - The Susan K. Black Foundation 2004 to 2011
 - The Miniature Artists of America 2005 to date
 - The Miniature Art Society of Florida 2005 to date
 - The Association of Miniature Artists 2009 to date
- Moderator/Co-Moderator of the Yahoo Wildlife Art Forum (@1999-2000)
- Recipient of the AFC/WNAG Conservation Artist Award - December 2006
- Exhibition Coordinator for the Miniature Artists of America 2007 to date
- Archivist and Historian for the Miniature Artists of America 2008 to date
- Author:
 - Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist, 2008
 - The World of Nature in Miniature; Paintings by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist, 2009
 - Modern Masters of Miniature Art in America, 2010

PUBLISHED WORK: (*See Website for Complete & Current Listing*)

- Kentucky National Art & Wildlife Exhibit Catalogue - 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2010
- Birds In Art Exhibition Catalogue - 2000, 2004, 2006, 2010
- Society of Animal Artists Exhibition Catalogue - 2001-2011
- *Wildlife Art Magazine* - Various issues from 1999 to 2008
- MAA Traveling Exhibition Catalogue 2008-2012
- MASF Exhibition Catalogue - 2000-2005, 2007-2011
- MASF Catalogue of The Permanent Collection - 2000

- MPSGS Exhibition Catalogue - 2009, 2010
- The Realm of the Panther (book illustrated by Wes) - 2000
- Art of the Animal Kingdom Exhibition Catalogue - 2002, 2004-2010
- Arts for the Parks Exhibition Catalogue - 2005-2006
- Blossom ~ Art of Flowers Exhibition Catalogue - 2007
- Blossom II ~ Art of Flowers Exhibition Catalogue - 2011
- Paint America and Paint the Parks Exhibition Catalogues - 2006-2008
- Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (Cover Art) - August 15, 2010
- Endangered Species Exhibition Catalogue - 2008
- Art for Conservation Exhibition Catalogue - 2008
- Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachele Siegrist, 2008
- The World of Nature in Miniature; Paintings by Wes & Rachele Siegrist, 2009
- Modern Masters of Miniature Art in America, 2010

CURRENT ASSOCIATIONS: (See Website for Listing of Past Associations)

- The Society of Animal Artists - Signature Member
- The Miniature Art Society of Florida
- The World Federation of Miniaturists
- The Association of Miniature Artists – Founder
- The Cider Painters of America - Signature Member
- The Hilliard Society of England - Signature Member, assistant webmaster
- The Miniature Artists of America - Signature Member
- The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC - associate member
- The Susan Kathleen Black Foundation
- The Paint America Association – Signature Member
- The Gallery of Artists

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS: (See Website for Further Listing)

- The Miniature Art Society of Florida
- The City of Orlando, Florida
- The Daytona Beach Museum of Arts & Sciences
- Cox Media, Tulsa OK
- South Florida Community College
- The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum

SOLO MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS:

*Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C.
David J. Wagner, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director*

- “UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS: Exquisite Miniatures by Wes and Rachele Siegrist”
The R.W. Norton Art Gallery, Shreveport, LA, 4747 Creswell Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71106
Tuesday, May 4 through Sunday, July 25, 2010
- “THE WORLD OF NATURE IN MINIATURE: Paintings by Wes and Rachele Siegrist”
The West Baton Rouge Museum, 845 N. Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, Louisiana 70767
Sunday, May 16 through Saturday, July 31, 2010
Tour Venues:
 - The Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure, 625 N. Hedville Road, Salina, KS 67401
September 4, 2011 - November 28, 2011
 - The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, 2021 North Kinney Road, Tucson, Arizona 85743
December 11, 2010 - March 13, 2011
- “EXQUISITE MINIATURES BY WES AND RACHELLE SIEGRIST” Fifty Miniature Paintings
 - The Dunnegan Gallery, 511 North Pike, Bolivar, MO 65613
Saturday, April 16 through Sunday, May 15, 2011
 - The Museum of the Southwest, 1705 West Missouri Avenue, Midland, TX 79701-6516
Friday, June 10 through Sunday, August 28, 2011
 - The Yadkin Cultural Arts Center, 226 E. Main Street, Yadkinville, NC 27055
Saturday, September 17 - Sunday, October 16, 2011
 - The Denno Museum Center, 1701 E. Front St., Traverse City, MI 49686
Saturday, November 5, 2011 through Sunday, January 1, 2012
 - The San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101-1624
Saturday, January 21 through Wednesday, March 21, 2012
 - The Nevada State Museum, 600 N. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada 89701
Wednesday, August 15 through Monday, October 15, 2012
 - The ArtCenter Manatee, 209 9th St. West, Bradenton, FL 34205
Thursday, January 10 - Sunday, March 10, 2013

- Museum of the Gulf Coast, 700 Procter St., Port Arthur, TX 77640
Sunday, April 7 through Sunday, June 2, 2013

GROUP EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS: *(Includes Pending Current Year: See Website for Awards and Full Listing)*

- 1998-2011 International Miniature Art Show (MASF) (FL)
- 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 Kentucky National Art & Wildlife Exhibit (*Biennial*) (KY)
- 1997, 2006, 2011 LSU International Exhibition on Animals in Art (LA)
- 1998, 1999, 2002-2011 Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival (GA) - Featured Artist in 2008
- 1999-2011 Cider Painters of America Exhibit (PA)
- 2000, 2004, 2006, 2010 Birds in Art (WI)
- 2000-2011 Hilliard Society Exhibition, England
- 2000 2nd World Federation of Miniaturists Show, Tasmania, Australia
- 2000-2011 MPSGS Miniature Exhibit (DC)
- 2002-2011 Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (SC)
- 2001 (Tour), 2002, 2003-2011 (Tour annually since 2003) "SAA Art and the Animal" (Various Museums)
- 2002, 2004-2010 Art of the Animal Kingdom (VT)
- 2002-2011 Waterfowl Festival (MD)
- 2003-2011 NatureWorks Wildlife Art Show & Sale (OK)
- 2004 3rd World Federation of Miniaturists - Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC - Wes demonstrated to the public in the International Gallery (DC)
- 2005-2008 Art of the Rainforest Exhibition (Museum Venues)
- 2007-2010 Art of Canines Exhibition (Museum Venues)
- 2005 Arts for the Parks Top 200 (WY)
- 2005-2006 Arts for the Parks Mini 100 (WY)
- 2006 Blossom ~ Art of Flowers Competition, Exhibition & Tour (Museum Venues)
- 2007-2009 American Art in Miniature - Gilcrease Museum (OK)
- 2008 4th World Federation of Miniaturists - Burnie, Tasmania, Australia
- 2008 Endangered Species: Flora and Fauna in Peril Exhibition (Various Venues)
- 2009 Royal Society of Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Annual Exhibition, England
- 2010 Blossom II ~ Art of Flowers Competition, Exhibition and Tour (Various Museums)
- 2011 Art of the Dive: Portraits of the Deep (Museum Venues)
- 2013 The Sea of Cortez (Museum Venues)