

Welcome to my 1Q23 Newsletter!

Read below for the latest happenings with Frank in the art world. Latest work, travel painting, shows and gallery news.

New Work



It's been a busy Fall/Winter in the Studio. I've had a chance to complete several larger pieces that I'm quite happy with. First was a second go at the pond at Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve outside Buffalo, NY. I had painted a smaller version of this before, but wanted to do a larger, more impasto piece. Happy with how it turned out. What do you think? The second piece is based on a River cruise in New Orleans along the industrial waterfront a few years ago. The light at sunset was dramatic and I've been wanting to paint it ever since. I finally felt able to do it justice, and this is the result. Next up is "Hidden Garden", a 16x20 of the courtyard of a building in Sedona, AZ. And finally, "Loch Raven Outflow", a larger 16x20 version of a small Plein Air painting I did onsite in the Outflow area below the Loch Raven dam. This one was a bit of an experiment with painting thicker, laying on the paint with a palette knife and then moving it around to create the texture I was looking for

Shows and Gallery News

I'm excited to say that I am now showing my work in two Galleries. Both Galleries have Group Shows coming up in March. Stay tuned for announcements on these in the coming weeks.

[Arts By the Bay](#) in Havre de Grace, MD

[Harford Artists Gallery](#) in Belair, MD

Other News

I was excited to learn that two of my Plein Air paintings would be included in the Newsletter for the Bohemia River State Park under "Guest Photo Submissions". I had a a great day painting while my wife was kayaking on the Bohemia. [See the Newsletter here.](#)

Travel Painting - en Plein Air

In the fall we had the opportunity to travel around the mountains of Pennsylvania and Western New York. Stops in Eagles Mere, PA, covered bridges near Mt. Morris, NY and Letchworth State Park (the "Grand Canyon of the East") with many great subjects to capture en Plein Air.

We are looking forward to do this again this spring as there are many sites we've yet to hit. We are especially looking forward to staying at the charming inn at the top of the Middle Falls at Letchworth.



What's it all About?

You may have heard the term “en Plein Air” recently, but what does it mean? What’s it all about? “En Plein Air” is a French term for painting outside in the open air, from life. Artists have been doing this since the days of the impressionists. Monet, Renoir and many others painted “en Plein Air”. In the 1800s the Hudson River School painters Church, Bierstadt, etc. were Plein Air painters. In the early 20th century however, not many artists were following this approach. Abstract work had taken over. As Classical painting approaches and Realism have returned to at least some level of favor, particularly over the last 10 years, a resurgence of Plein Air has seen exponential growth in the number of painters, festivals and events featuring the practice. A Plein Air work can be anything from a small sketch done outdoors and intended solely as a study for a larger studio piece, or can be a finished piece in and of itself. Because of the need to work more quickly many Plein Air pieces are smaller in scale and completed in one sitting, but this is not necessarily the case. Just as with Monet and his contemporaries, some Plein Air painters are doing large scale works completed over a period of many days returning to the same spot at the same time. I hope this helps, but if you have questions or would like more information, contact Frank.

Feel Free to pass this message along to anyone who may be interested.

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Kind regards,
Frank at [Frank Martin Studios](#)

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