

California Assemblyman (Ret.)
George Nakano.
Oil on canvas 40 x 32", 2005.



His Holiness Alexy II, Patriarch of Moscow
and All Russia (1929 - 2008).
Oil on canvas 34 x 28", 2004.



Sister Terrence Landini.
Little Company of Mary Hospital.
Oil on canvas 44 x 38", 2008.



Photo by Lili Miura



Photo by René Velli



Carolyn and Julian Elliott Honor Sister Terrence Landini, L.C.M., with Apopo Pukk Portrait.

In 2010, the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their ministry to the sick and the dying in the South Bay – Little Company of Mary Hospital first opened in 1960.

How fitting it is that this friendship between a caring benefactor, a masterful artist and a beloved Sister takes shape in a beautiful art form that will grace the halls of Little Company for years to come.

On April 30, 2009 Apopo with wife Helge joined Carolyn and Julian Elliott and Sister Terrence at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center in Torrance to view the masterpiece hanging at the entrance to the Centofante Family Chapel, near the Hannon Tower.



Presentation and signing of the paintings of His Holiness Alexy II, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia in Russian Federation Embassy Gallery in Tallinn, Estonia on February 18, 2004. Handing over the paintings in Moscow on March 24, 2004.

WEBSITE www.aapopukk.com



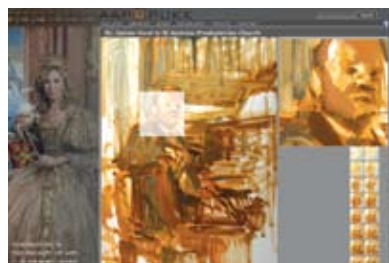
News



Gallery. Over 500 paintings



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Watch step by step

Face to Face with Portrait Art

ABOUT ARTIST



AWARDS



Portrait Society of America
Member since 1999

- 2010 Certificate of Excellence.
- 2009 Second place, Honorable Mention.
- 2008 Exceptional Merit, Best Portfolio, 2nd place, 4th place, Honorable Mention.
- 2007 First Honor Award, Best Portfolio.
- 2006 Certificate of Excellence.
- 2002 Award of Merit.
- 2001 Honors Award, Best Portfolio.
- 2000 Best Portfolio.



Art Renewal Center
2003 Honorable Mention.

international
artist
International Artist Magazine
2002 Finalist.



The American Society of
Portrait Artists
2002 Certificate of Merit.



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Inna. Venetian Melody. Oil on canvas 45 x 33", 2005.



In a world where nothing seems to last and traditions are often disregarded for the sake of expediency, there are those who work to preserve traditions and values that have provided inspiration and comfort throughout the ages. One of those traditions is the fine art of portraiture. Anyone who has seen a loved one's photograph side by side with a painting done by a skilled portrait artist understands that art is more than being able to replicate the obvious. A skilled fine artist can capture not only details but nuance and subtleties that lie beneath the surface. Such an artist communicates those subtleties via paint and canvas in a way that transcends language and time, providing inspiration and a sense of familial continuity for generations, even centuries.



2009

Second Place



Kelly. Pastel 24 x 20", 2007.

Honorable Mention



My Son Aaron. Watercolor 25.5 x 19.5", 2009.

Aapo's work Kelly won Second Place in the Pastel category of the Member Showcase Competition 2009. Additionally, work Aaron won Honorable Mention in the Watercolor category.

2010
Certificate of Excellence



Mr. Lawrence McCue. Oil on canvas 40 x 30", 2009.

Internationally acclaimed portrait artist Aapo Pukk has been chosen to receive the Certificate of Excellence Award for his oil painting of legendary R&B guitarist, Lawrence McCue.

More than 1300 paintings from all over the world were submitted for consideration at the 12th Annual International Portrait Competition, hosted by the prestigious Portrait Society of America. "Aapo's artwork was outstanding," said Assistant Executive Director, Kim Azzarito. "We are pleased to recognize his effort and skill with a Certificate of Excellence."

With more than 3000 members, the Portrait Society of America is the world's largest portrait artist organization, and its International Portrait Competition is one the most highly-regarded events in the world of portraiture. Each year the selected works reflect a unique combination of skill and cutting edge talent. Winners receive international publicity, honor and recognition.

The Genesis of Our Portrait

How did it all begin? Well, one morning my husband, Howard and I were lingering over our breakfast cup of coffee when he surprised me by saying he would like to have a portrait of me, similar to the one of his Aunt Bea who was displayed on the wall in our bedroom. His Aunt Bea was his mother's sister and was beautiful as a young women and it showed in her picture. The frame was oval and it especially appealed to my husband. If we decided to go ahead with this exciting project it would be done in an oval frame.

How would I appear in a portrait? Certainly not as a women in her eighties as I am today but not as a young women either.

We had our picture taken at our beloved daughter, Kathy's wedding twenty-five years ago and I looked radiant and happy and that seemed a good choice.

We decided to go ahead with our plan and there was no doubt that we would ask Aapo Pukk to consider doing it. Aapo is a portrait artist from Estonia and he had painted our granddaughter Jenny when she was fourteen and it was absolutely beautiful. Aapo visited us and we showed him the picture from our daughter's wedding. He saw that it showed both my husband and I looking happy, and he suggested we both appear in this painting. I was delighted with the idea of us both being together and the deal was made. Aapo worked from our picture and soon showed us his painting. It was stunning and with few minor changes it was complete and ready for framing. We met Aapo at the Gilt Edge framing shop and with his help and that if the owner we selected a lovely frame in silver tones with subtle ornamentation on the edges. After a long wait the portrait was complete. It was beautiful, the oval frame set off Aapo's painting perfectly.

We brought the painting home and it now hangs against a wooden wall in our front hall. Aapo came to see it and gave his approval on where we had placed it. We were all happy!

Mary Kehrl, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA



Mary and Howard Kehrl. Oil on canvas, 2010.

UNVEILING

Bernard W. Nurmsen
1907 - 1995



Bernard W. Nurmsen. Oil on canvas, 24 x 20", 2010.

Bernard W. Nurmsen was a leader of the Estonian community in Los Angeles from the early 1950's until his death in 1995. Bernie Nurmsen, or Ben to his Estonian friends, was the president of the Estonian Society of Los Angeles from 1955-65 and again from 1981-86. He was also a founding member of the Estonian League of the West Coast and its president in 1954-55. Extremely active in politics, he was a leading figure in many political organizations that demanded the restoration of freedom for the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. His life's work was achieved in August 1991, when a free and independent Republic of Estonia was restored after fifty years of Soviet rule.

Estonian emigré life in southern California revolves around a community center called Estonian House of Los Angeles, which was established on West 24th Street near Vermont Avenue in the early 1950's. An oil portrait of the founder and first president of Estonian House has a prominent location in Kungla Hall. Photographs of various dignitaries both from the Republic of Estonia as re-established in 1991 and from the pre-World War II republic are also on display.

The idea to commemorate Bernie Nurmsen's activities with a posthumous portrait was initiated in early 2009 after the highly recognized Estonian portrait artist Aapo Pukk had established himself in southern California. The Estonian Society of Los Angeles promoted the idea and raised the necessary funds from private contributions. Bernie's daughter, Linda Freeman, provided photographs from her collection to permit the artist to create the portrait. Friends and family members consider the likeness to be amazing, especially considering that Aapo did not ever meet his subject and worked only from photographs. The portrait was unveiled at the Estonian House in February 2010 and hangs at Kungla Hall as a memorial to Bernie Nurmsen's life.

Arne Kalm, Arcadia, CA