



*Memory Lane* by Jonathan Knight

# MY CREATIVE JOURNEY

by Jonathan Knight, NWS, LHD, MOWS-HR

**L**ife as a professional artist is a journey, an odyssey of sorts, filled with a variety of nuances, some lows and a considerable number of highs or positives. The journey is a constant mirage of choices. These choices help to set your pace and establish your career as an artist who influences others on a continuous basis.

As an artist, I'm often asked, "How do you continue to find your inspiration and motivation?" My response is usually, 'There seems to not be enough time for me to paint all of the subjects and ideas that I have in my very creative mind and heart.' Blessed with this wonderful gift, I was born to create and to paint, I love it! Being an artist is my destiny, and I speak through my paintings. The paintings are visual extensions of that inner voice, and of my thoughts. Despite the many distractions from my weekly painting schedule, I am touched by a variety of subjects; a moment has to capture me before I can

create a work of art featuring the inspirational scenario. Artists whose oeuvres continue to influence my paintings unequivocally are Homer, Prendergast, Tanner, Whistler, Degas, and Chase to name only a few.

Painting people is one of my most important loves. Individually we are all made up of layers and facets that make us unique. Just a glance will help me to read a person's facial expression, which gives me as much information as I need. The mixture of human qualities makes for a very interesting and eclectic mix of life and subjects. There are many people who think that they should be painted, and they should not; and then there are those who should be painted, and yet they are clueless as to why they would make a wonderful model or subject, but the artist knows. Sometimes it is about the choices, "like keys on a piano." Choose wisely - it makes the journey that much more intriguing and exciting.

There is never a challenge as to what my next subject or painting will be, automatically and psychologically it screams at me, and I know instantly, and the choices thus far are numerous! When painting watercolor, the mistakes one happens to fall upon, during the execution process, are the spontaneous jewels an artist needs to create and complete a painting.

When I see an exquisite painting it stops time for me, and I psychologically zoom in. Then I proceed to examine it closely and indulge; the comparison would be similar to eating a wonderful and very tasty piece of chocolate that invigorates the taste buds. Every aspect of art, specifically painting, I seem to be obsessed by. I'm always observing.



*The Letter* by Jonathan Knight

“The Letter”, above, was featured in a major successful fundraiser in 2009, and was recently acquired by the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas. Dr. Knight would like to thank the private donors who were instrumental in helping the acquisition come to fruition.



*Hideaway* by Jonathan Knight

Music is also a wonderful influence that sometimes helps the creative process for me, yet it depends on where I am in the process as to how much it helps in my completion of a new work of art. The influence can be distracting as well, but you have to allow it when the time is perfect for you.

Color is its own entity and science, as it pertains to creating and mastering watercolor, the application thereof is equally as difficult. Color sets the mood, and it is that mood that I enjoy examining in depth.

My dream is to one day start a foundation to help artists in the funding of their creative projects and ideas. Being a fellow painter who exhibits nationally and sometimes internationally, I know how difficult it can be to fund and complete projects in the making. I am truly thankful to my many patrons and clients over the years who continue to support my career and creative endeavors. Most importantly, I thank God for my many blessings. Please visit my website at [www.jmknight.com](http://www.jmknight.com) to view more of my works.



*Fallen Legacy , Rising* by Jonathan Knight

“Art transcends all boundaries” - it has since the beginning of time. Yet within those uninhibited boundaries there exist the visual magic and uniqueness of our individual contributions to society. The culmination of being an artist is passion, discipline, drive, opportunity and love. The journey continues, and the painting must go on and on.

*Dr. Jonathan Knight is an accomplished artist in watercolors, oils, pastels and printmaking. His work has been featured in many national and local publications, including on the covers of Watercolor Magazine and Artist’s Magazine. He is a signature member of eight art organizations, and has won roughly 1000 awards in his career. He has also served as juror for several prestigious national exhibitions. Dr. Knight’s paintings are included in many important corporate and private collections nationally and internationally, including JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Jenkins House Museum via Artist Showcase of the Palm Beaches, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Hallmark Fine Art Collections, Sprint-Nextel Corp., Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art, and Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale. His fine art coffee table book, The Creativity of Jonathan Knight, A Visual Dialogue, is available on Amazon.com, and via his website, www.jmknight.com.*



*Lily Pond VII* by Jonathan Knight

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