

## OAA Today

The Ogunquit Art Association is a community of over ninety professional artists who live and work within 100 miles of Ogunquit. Some of us are year-rounders who draw inspiration from the local seasons or travel to find new possibilities. Others summer here bringing in new ideas and imagery from away. Some are at the end of long and illustrious careers. Others are just beginning. All have been selected by a jury of OAA artists to exhibit as painters, graphic artists, sculptors or photographers in our ancestral home, Barn Gallery.

Established in 1928, the OAA is run by the artists for themselves and for the delight of their friends and the art-loving public. Members serve on the Board and various committees. They plan exhibitions, hold workshops, gallery talks and participate in policy decisions ranging from changing the wall color to establishing the Ogunquit Arts Collaborative, an independent, not-for-profit, 501 (c) 3 corporation that owns and administer Barn Gallery itself.

Our day jobs range from carpentry and advertising to museum directorships and teaching. We teach at every level from pre-school to graduate school. Our work appears in galleries worldwide, on websites and in various publications. We are members of arts organizations ranging from the local, open art association to the National Academy of Design, the American Watercolor Society, Boston Printmakers, American Society of Media Photographers and the National Sculptors Society.

One size does not fit all as we discovered when we began to reduce each richly detailed artist resume into a brief statement and four tiny categories – Education, Awards, Collections and Exhibitions.

Artist Statements reflect lives spent in the arts and describe a wide variety of subject matter, media and aesthetic approach. Many of us are excellent writers and musicians as well as visual artists.

We list our educational experience as self-taught artists, BFAS, MFAS and PhDs but we omit the places and people we teach. We do not mention how much we teach each other, fulfilling a major goal of the original OAA.

Our awards range from First Prize at the local open art association to Gold Medals at the National Academy of Design and MacDowell and Fulbright Fellowships for future study. The category says nothing about the many exhibitions we curate and the prizes we award as jurors.

Collections that contain our work include our best friend's living room and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Our own collections, the work we buy and cherish, are not mentioned.

Our Exhibitions take place in local banks, the Whitney Museum and everywhere in between. We make no mention of the exhibitions we arrange in galleries, museums and alternative spaces.

This catalog is a sampler, a brief enticing glimpse of the work and backgrounds of the artists who make up the Ogunquit Art Association community in 2017-18.

Nancy R. Davison

OAA Member